

## ORPHANS' FRIEND.

Wednesday, June 6, 1877.

### NOT A HOME.

The Orphan Asylum is just what its name purports, and nothing else. It is a school for orphans, and its object is to rescue them from spoil and oppression, and prepare them to earn an honest and honorable living. The ignorant and friendless are generally cheated by, and driven before, the wicked, with rights denied and wrongs inflicted, till goaded into desperation they enter the fields of vice and crime. The Orphan Asylum offers protection and instruction to poor and friendless orphans until they can learn to read the Commandments of their Maker and the laws of their country; to keep accounts and manage any ordinary business in which they may engage. It is therefore strictly an Asylum, in the sense of the Greek word from which it is derived. It is not a home. The orphans do not expect to remain here long, nor feel that the establishment belongs to them. A home indeed! Why, thousands of "homes" are already open to every orphan who is without kin and can be made to work. The Orphan Asylum is not merely a place to live till a place of servitude can be found. But this is the error of hundreds who send us orders for cooks, nurses and house-girls. Generally they offer no wages, and require a large measure of capacity, integrity, intelligence and industry. But even when we offer the orphans and ask them to send money to pay traveling expenses, they are generally as silent as the grave, and we hear from them no more.

### DR. HAYGOOD.

The book entitled, "Our Children," is exceedingly interesting to us, and when we learned that its author, the President of Emory College, Ga., would deliver the Address at Greensboro Female College, we took special care to be present. He is a low, stout man, impressive in his face and figure. His subject was "Character." After clearly stating the metes and bounds of his subject, he severely rebuked the mad ambition merely to excel others, and counseled the young to be exact and faithful in the performance of their whole duty, in whatever sphere Providence should assign them work. Mere time-servers and self-seeking politicians were handled with unflinching severity. Dr. Haygood so well understands the scope and design of human life that he has no patience with those who pervert it to ignoble ends. We are sure that many of the wise and good men, who heard him, were greatly refreshed in their hearts, and encouraged in their lives of toil and trial.

### NEVER BE AFRAID.

Some people are deterred from sending contributions to the orphans, because what they have "will not go around." But they are mistaken. We have learned to "cut short." Miss Victoria Hunt sent the orphans a single cake for Christmas, and every orphan had a good slice. Mr. S. R. Hunt of Kittrell, sent sixty quarts of strawberries and they went around twice, and many were left. Never be afraid to send small contributions. They can be divided.

Rutherford College has rededicated Dr. Grissom with a L. L. D.

## GRANVILLE BOYS AND GIRLS.

We are glad to learn that the teachers of various schools purpose to visit Granville during the summer vacation with a view of inducing a larger number of boys and girls to seek more thorough education. Let us give them a hearty welcome. The farmers of Granville are prosperous and are able to educate their children. They are also disposed to do right, and when the path of duty is made plain before them, they gladly walk therein. Granville is already represented in most of the prominent schools of the State; but hundreds of boys and girls in every way promising, are still at home, while youth's golden opportunities are gliding swiftly by. Come on, then, Presidents, professors and teachers of schools, form a personal acquaintance, deliver addresses and preach sermons on education, and fill every temple of learning with glad and grateful votaries.

### AS SOON AS WE CAN.

We are still receiving letters of inquiry in regard to those appointments for Orphan Entertainments which were unfortunately published in our absence, and without our knowledge or consent. We intend to follow the general line indicated, but we are not able to start at present, nor to name the time exactly. As soon as we can do so, appointments will be published and posters forwarded.

### GERMAN MILLET.

Col. Polk advises those farmers who have lost their cotton to plant millet in its place. The advice is good, because in rich soft land millet grows well, makes good food for stock, and matures before frost. But it does not follow that millet will compare with rye on poor rough land. Rye sowed in summer or fall will be ready to cut for stock early in April, just when long forage is scarce, and it gives also a second crop in June. Our experience is that, on poor land, and with poor cultivation, rye surpasses all other crops. It gives most food for the least work.

In this paper, on December 27, 1876, we reported \$31.55 collected by a supper at Mrs. Brodie's, near Louisburg.

As there has been some inquiry concerning this money, we now state that it was received at a time of need and was used to fortify the orphans against the severity of a very uncommon winter. All who contributed towards it, may rest assured that their contributions rendered important service to needy orphans.

Prof. Frederic Augustus Bohlmann has been spending a year with the most famous musicians of Germany, and practicing seven hours a day. He now proposes to return next session to his former position in Raleigh Female Seminary. He is a competent and faithful teacher, and in every sense a gentleman. In his public exhibitions, he exhibits specimens of his work, keeping himself in the background. We have seen some school-exhibitions in which the teachers were the principal actors.

As we were not able to visit the Chowan section during the Spring, Prof. James A. Delke has kindly received and forwarded subscriptions for us. We hope he will continue to do so.

## FIRST READINGS.—(George Sand.)

I am of that class to whom acquaintance with a book becomes a real moral event. The few good books with which I have become familiar in my day, have developed the few good qualities I possess. I know not what effect bad books would have had on me; such I have never read, having had the good fortune of being properly directed in my childhood. I inherit then, in this respect, only the sweetest and dearest remembrances. To me a book has ever been a friend, an adviser, an eloquent and gentle comforter, whose sweets I was unwilling to exhaust too soon, and which I laid aside for leisure moments. Oh! which of us does not recall with delight the first works he has greedily devoured or leisurely dabbled with? Has not the dusty cover of an old volume which you find in after years on a shelf in the closet, never brought back to you the pleasing picture of childhood's happy hours? Have you not imagined you saw rising up before you the broad prairie bathed in the evening's reddish tints, where you read it for the first time? the old elm and the hedge which sheltered you, and the ditch whose bank was to you a couch of rest and a table for work, while the thrush was signaling the retreat to his mates, and the call of the cow-boy died away in the distance? Oh! how soon the shades of night fell on those sacred pages! how cruelly the twilight blended the characters on the darkening leaf! You must put up; the lambs are bleating, the sheep have come home to the stall, and the cricket installs himself in the stubble of the field. The shapes of the trees are undistinguished in the dim light, just as are the letters in the book. You must go; the road is rocky, the mill-dam is narrow and slippery, the foot-way is rough, and you are wet with perspiration; but you will have to hurry, you will be too late, supper will have begun. It is in vain that the old servant who loves you, delays ringing the bell as long as he dares; you will be mortified on entering the last, and grandmother, who carries her etiquette with her, even in her remote estates, will reprove you very mildly, even lovingly, in a sweet-grieved tone, which you will feel more than a severe reprimand. But when at night she shall ask you how you have passed the day, and you in confusion acknowledge that you had forgotten all else while reading in the meadow, and when required to produce the book, with some reluctance and the fear of its being tabooed before you had finished it, you tremblingly draw from your pocket, what? *Estelle and Nemorin*, or *Robinson Crusoe*. Oh! then grandmother smiles. Be comforted, your treasure will be restored you; and hereafter you need not forget the supper hour. Happy period! O my shady valley! O Corinne! O *Iliad*! O *Millevoie*! O *Atala*! O ye willows by the river! O my vanished youth! O my old dog that never forgot the supper-time, and that answered the distant sound of the bell by a mournful howl of regret and of hunger.

### UNCLE AL.

The Boston Y. M. C. A. have begun a series of Sunday breakfast for the homeless poor. After the meal, a brief service of song and prayer is held.

## TO THE COTTON PLANTERS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

RALEIGH, June 1, 1877.

[CIRCULAR NO. 10.]

The reports made to this office, by special correspondents from various cotton producing counties in the State, agreeing as they do on the almost unprecedented failure to secure a stand of cotton, as well as the generally unfavorable prospect for a corn crop induces me to suggest the policy of planting the German or Golden Millet, with the view of supplying as far as practicable, the losses likely to be sustained by these failures. This recommendation is based on the following reasons:

1st. The universally gratifying results obtained, wherever under favorable circumstances, it has been tried in our State, thereby demonstrating its adaptability to our soil and climate.

2nd. Its rapid growth, early maturity and heavy yield in hay, and seed.

3d. Its excellent qualities and value, as a substitute for other forage, either hay fodder or grain, especially for horses, cattle and sheep.

4th. The comparatively small amount of labor required to produce and harvest the crop.

Ordinarily it may be planted as early as it is safe to plant cotton seed, but it may be planted with success as late as the first of July. For hay it should be sown broadcast, using three pecks to one bushel of seed per acre, and if sown on good ground, properly prepared, early in the season, two crops may be obtained. The yield in hay is from 6,000 to 8,000 pounds per acre, greatly relished by stock. For seed it should be planted in drills and covered lightly, using about one-half bushel of seed per acre, having rows from 24 to 32 inches apart and cultivated with sweep or shovel plow. The yield in seed is from 50 to 60 bushels per acre, which are very nutritious for stock and poultry. It should not be planted on wet lands, but if practicable at this season of the year, damp or moist rich soils should be chosen. A good commercial fertilizer, compost, leached ashes stable or barn yard manure should be applied. It will mature in about 60 days from planting, and if cut for hay, it should be when the heads begin to turn yellow, but if for seed, let the heads get a full yellow cast.

This millet was introduced from Germany just after the close of the late war, and has been thoroughly and satisfactorily tested in the States of North Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama. As late as 1875 the seed sold readily for five dollars per bushel, but it is so prolific that they can now had at a cost of about two dollars per bushel. It is all important to get the genuine German or Golden millet, and to do this, the safe plan is to order only from first class, reliable dealers.

L. L. POLK.

Commissioner of Agriculture.

### THE SOUL'S PROGRESS.

The spirit or soul of man knows itself to be capable, I will not say of unlimited, but of continuous progress and development. However vigorous the tree or the animal may be, it soon reaches the point when it can grow no more. The time comes when the tree has borne all the leaves and fruit and buds which it can bear, when its vital force is exhausted, and it is no more. The animal may have done its best, it may have reached a high condition of strength and beauty, but when its limit is reached it can grow no more. With the soul of man as a living and thinking power it is far otherwise; he has never exhausted himself. When the man of science has made some noble discovery, when the literary man has written a great book, when the statesman has carried a series of important measures, we cannot say that he exhausted himself. The spiritual man is indeed dependent on the material man, and as the body moves on towards decay and dissolution it extends something of the influence of its weakness and incapacity to its spiritual companion; but even then the soul resists this and asserts its separate existence; the mind of man knows that each separate effort, instead of exhausting his powers, tends to strengthen them, and so he will go on continually making larger and nobler and more vigorous efforts. So, too, is it with conscience and duty; with these there is no finality. One great act suggests

another, one sacrifice makes another easier; the virtuous impulse in the soul is not like the growth in the tree, a self-exhausting force, but it is always moving on, always advancing. "Be not weary in well-doing"—this is the language of the Eternal to the human will; but never is "Be not weary of growing" said to the tree or the animal, because organic matter differs from spirit in this, that it does reach the limit of its activity and then it turns backwards towards non-existence.—*Canon Lidden.*

## ANTIQUITY OF THE SPANISH MERINO.

The Romans were nothing but wool-en goods. They had no cotton; they had a little linen, which was worn as a material of luxury; they had no silk. They cultivated the sheep with great care, and some of their richest possessions were in sheep. But there was one breed of sheep which they cultivated with great care, and by that system of selection which Darwin speaks of as the source of perfected forms of our domestic animals. It was called Tarentine sheep, from Tarentum, a city of Greek origin, situated at the head of the Tarentine gulf. The fleece of this sheep was of exceeding fineness; it was of a great delicacy, and the prices paid for it were enormous. The sheep were clothed in cold weather to keep them warm; and the result was that they were very tender, and their wool was very fine. They were a product of Greek civilization transmitted down to the Romans. Columella, the great Roman agriculturist, says that his uncle, residing in Spain, crossed some of the fine Tarentine sheep with some rams that had been imported from Africa; and the consequence was that these animals had the whiteness of fleece of the father with the fineness of fleece of the mother, and that race was perpetuated. Here we see an improvement of the stock, an increase of strength and productiveness given to the fine-wool sheep of Spain. At that time the sheep of Spain were of immense value; for Strabo says that sheep from Spain, in the time of Tiberius, were carried to Rome, and sold for the price of talent (one talent being 60,000 sesterces). In the time of our Saviour, a thousand dollars was given in Rome for Spanish sheep. When the barbarians invaded Italy, these fine-wool sheep were all swept away; but they remained in Spain. They were cultivated by the Moors in the mountains of Spain, which were almost inaccessible, and were not reached by the hordes of Huns and other Northern barbarians, which had laid waste the greater portion of the Roman possessions. They continued to be raised there by the Moors, who were very much advanced in arts, and further on were found there as the Spanish Merino. So that the Spanish Merino which we now have, if not the only, is at all events by far the most important relic that we have to-day which has come down to us from Greek and Roman material civilization. We have here a direct inheritance from the material wealth of the Old World civilization.—*J. E. Hays, in Live Stock Journal.*

—The people of Madagascar are taking strides in the matter of education, and pay three-fourths of the expenses of all the schools.

—The Egyptians represented the year by a palm tree, and the month by one of its branches; because it is the nature of the tree to produce a branch every month.

—Rev. Dr. Iræneus Prime thinks dancing less objectionable than cards—prefers the Reel to the Deal.

—A man's temper is most valuable to himself, and he should keep it