

Our Farm Department

Devoted to the Interest of Those Who Till the Soil

CONDUCTED BY J. M. BEATY

The Proper Cultivation of Corn.

The South has failed to raise her quota of corn on account of two things—first, we do not give corn the same attention in preparation and manure as we give to our cotton, and secondly, we injure it seriously by plowing too deep at "laying by time." We should plow our corn at least four times, and the last three times should be with cultivators and sweeps or very broad scrapes set on the heel of the plow to run very shallow. You injure the corn every time you break a root. You had as well argue that cutting the small veins in a man's limbs does not injure him, since he does not bleed to death, as to contend that you can break these small rootlets of the corn-stalk without impairing its vitality and inflicting serious injury. We can never agree with any stunting or set-back theories in the cultivation of corn. We want the most perfect stalk we can secure, and this alone can be obtained by a full root development. Many of us farmers who have tilled the soil all our lives have very little idea of the wonderful, rapid and extensive root development of our plants. We haven't been trained to technical and close observation. We never care to run things into extremes. We have a most wholesome reverence for practical common sense that goes to work and secures visible, tangible results, while many are drawing out or unraveling fine-spun theories. But there is such a thing which we have often seen, where a man trains and enlightens this common sense until he knows the "how and why" of a thing, so that his work is done both at the time and in the manner that will give the best results. Such men we most honor, and would encourage others to attain their high estate. Coming back to corn root formation, you can readily see from the pictures that it will require very shallow cultivation not to disturb or destroy many of them. Instead of breaking a single one we want so to cultivate that we will encourage the putting forth of every rootlet possible and secure its full growth, then the cornstalk and the ears will receive the maximum quantity of moisture and food. Every good farmer will see that his plows are set to run light. Not one hand in a dozen can set his plows to run right or use any piece of machinery to best advantage until trained to it. We are often surprised to see how different the work of the same tool in different hands. We should study to do shallow but effective cultivation.

Many people "lay by" their corn too early. They argue that it injures it to plow any later. The reason it does often injure it very materially to plow later is the fact, so many break the roots every time they plow their corn. When a rain comes immediately this damage is rapidly repaired and hence many will tell you of certain times when large yields were made by "laying by" with deep plowing. But if it remains dry the corn yield will often be reduced half and all the cause attributed to the drought instead of the plowing. David Dickson said he could raise good corn with two rains.—Southern Cultivator.

The Stand Of Corn In The South.

While the farmer is thinking about corn these days as he turns the furrow and runs the disk and planter, and is wondering whether ten thousand stalks to the acre is about right, it may interest him to know how they do things down in Georgia. We quote as follows from one of the Georgia bulletins giving the results of careful experiments for a number of years:
"On uplands capable of producing, in a good year, 25 to 40 bushels of shelled corn per acre, and when planting ordinary field varieties common in the south, there should be about 3,630 plants to the acre. This number would be secured by planting in rows 4½ feet wide and spacing the plants 32 inches apart; or 4 feet by 36 inches; or 3½ feet by 3½ feet.

"If the soil is of a capacity to produce from 15 to 25 bushels, greater distance should be given, say 16 square feet to the plant, or 2,722 plants to the acre. The number would be secured by spacing the rows and hills 5 feet by 38½ inches; or 4½ feet by 32 inches; or 4 feet by 4 feet.
"On soils of still less capacity, say from 10 to 15 bushels per acre, the distance should be still greater, say 18 to 24 square feet to the stalk, or from 2,420 to 1,815 plants to the acre. Eighteen square feet to the stalk would be secured by spacing 6 feet by 36 inches; or 5 feet by 43 inches; or 4 feet 3 inches by 4 feet 3 inches. A soil that would produce less than 10 bushels per acre, with good seasons and very light manuring, is not fit to plant in corn."

In other words, their best land carries a little less than one-third of the number of plants to the acre that the best lands in the corn belt carry. The number of plants to the acre decreases with the fertility of the soil; and in this way they are doing exactly the wise and right thing.—Wallace's Farmer.

When the baby talks, it is time to give Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. It's the greatest baby medicine known to loving mothers. It makes them eat, sleep and grow. 35 cents. Tea or Tablets.—Hood Bros.

The Use of the Weeder.

One of the most useful implements on the corn farm is a good horse weeder. It enables the farmer to cover twenty-five to thirty acres a day without difficulty. There are limitations, however, on the use of this implement. It should not be used on a damp or cloudy day for the reason that weeds and grass are killed advantageously only when there is sun enough to kill them after their tender roots have been exposed.

The weeder is practically useless on very lumpy or cloddy ground. It is of no use at all if the ground is wet. Neither is it of any use among deep-rooted weeds; it simply cultivates such weeds.
We do not know of any more useful implement on the farm than the weeder, provided the farmer understands how to use it properly. We don't know of any more useless article in the hands of a man who has not mastered its use and does not understand the principles of soil cultivation.—Wallace's Farmer.

The Definition of "Friend."

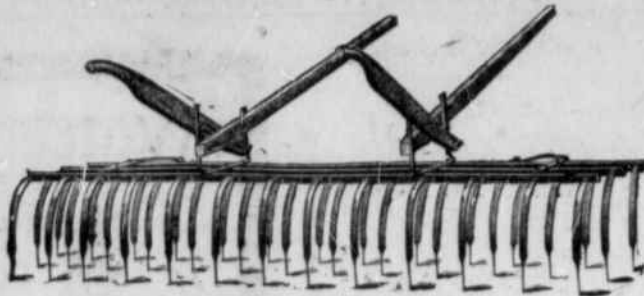
A harbor of refuge from the stormy waves of adversity.
One who considers my need before my deservings.
A jewel that shines brightest in the darkness.
A stimulant to the nobler side of our nature.
A volume of sympathy bound in cloth.
A diamond in the ring of acquaintance.
A star of hope in the cloud of adversity.
One truer to me than I am to myself.
Friendship—one soul in two bodies.
An insurance against misanthropy.
A link of gold in the chain of life.
One who understands our silence.
The essence of pure devotion.—Selected.

What's the good of keeping from him
Any good things you may see,
That will lift his load of labor
Like Rocky Mountain Tea,
Hood Bros.

Not a New Idea.

"What is your idea of true love?" asked the romantic maid
"True love," answered the practical young man, "is the art of saving nothing and trading kisses."—Ex.

A. H. Boyett, the Druggist, wants to see you in Smithfield, N. C.



CUT OF A WEEDER.

Above we give a cut of a weeder, an implement which has been extensively used in this section this season. It costs only ten to eleven dollars and is a great help in starting the cultivation of the crop. As will be seen it is a light, long-toothed harrow measuring seven and a half feet wide. The very implement to run over corn and cotton about the time it is coming up or a little before and once or twice after it comes up. It is run directly across the rows or diagonally across them. It works the middles as well as the other parts of the rows and destroys the young grass where no other implement except the hoe could reach it.

MARRIED IN MONTGOMERY, ALA.

Miss Carrie Young, Daughter of Mr. Y. E. Young, of Wake, Weds an Army Officer.

The following from the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser, will be of interest to many people in this county:

At the beautiful home of Mrs. Margaret White on Clayton street yesterday afternoon occurred the marriage of Miss Caroline E. Young and Mr. Martin Novak, First Lieutenant 22nd Infantry, U. S. A. It was a beautiful home wedding and for the occasion the three apartments in which the guests were entertained were with charmingly effective result decorated with Southern smilax which was draped on the stairway rail, potted palms and ferns and a profusion of sweetpeas. In the drawing room where the ceremony was performed a bank of stately palms formed an attractive background before which the wedding party stood during the ceremony and the informal reception which followed. The hour appointed was 5 o'clock and when it arrived the wedding party descended the stairway. Mrs. B. J. Weil, matron of honor, leading the way. The bride and groom together followed. When they reached the place arranged for the ceremony they were joined by Rev. Father Eaton, who officiated.

Her wedding gown was fashioned in Princess style of white crepe de chine with bodice elaborately trimmed in Duchess lace. Her veil was caught gracefully to her hair with a cluster of orange blossoms and her bouquet was of white sweet peas. She is a piquant brunette beauty and her bridal attire enhanced her loveliness.

An honored guest at the wedding was Mr. Y. E. Young, of North Carolina, father of the bride.

Mr. and Mrs. Novak left at 9:30 o'clock for Fort McBowell, Angel Island, San Francisco Harbor, where he is stationed with his regiment, and where they will reside. Her traveling gown was of gray chiffon cloth and her hat was white with blue and pink trimmings.

"Loving interest and earnest wishes for their happiness go out to this couple from numbers of warm friends in Montgomery. The bride, who has lived here for seven years, has endeared herself to all with whom she has been associated socially or through her profession, that of trained nurse, in which she excels. Those who have been under her tender care have learned to look upon her as a ministering angel and the physicians with whom she has worked regard her highly as a co-worker.

"Mr. Novak holds a high place in the esteem of his fellow officers in the U. S. Army, and no doubt a warm welcome from them and their families awaits his bride. He is a member of a prominent family of Cleveland, O."

New York Commercial: Every part of the hog is now utilized; the packing houses used to pack all but the squeal, and now they are certainly putting up the squeal.

The False and the True.

Our girls have suffered no little from the spurious and silly ideas that have largely prevailed in the minds of some people, that the main purpose of a college for women is to polish and refine its students as to fit them to enter polite society and move among the "leading people." Unfortunately some of our colleges have strengthened this notion among the unthinking, because it brought them patronage. By that craft they have their living. Unable to compete with the strong and thorough schools that have been established in the State, they fall back on the assumption that a diploma from their institution is a passport into good society. We are obliged to give the Normal and Industrial College credit right here for doing a great deal to shatter this false sentiment into fragments. It opened its doors to girls from all classes and conditions and made mind a test of merit rather than manners. Since it began its great work for the womanhood of North Carolina the colleges that take their models from Paris have been steadily declining. Their glory is gone. They must come down off their stilts and give good, honest service, rather than spurious splendor. If they do not, lechabod is written over their doors. But there is yet much of the folly of the past, with regard to the education of women, lingering in the public mind. Food mothers, viewing life from the superficial standpoint, and really wishing to do their best for their daughters, do the worst by sending to the schools they imagine can bestow upon them the highest social favor, without for one moment thinking of the effect the influence of the school will have upon the moral nature of their girls. The very fact that the social, with them, outweighs the mental and moral, shows the low and groveling view they take of the dignity and worth of womanhood and the shallow conception they have of what education really is. The truth is, a college has the least in the world to do with the stand a student shall take in the social world in after life; that is a matter with the individual and no college can bestow it. A worthy, cultured, consecrated woman will pass for her worth anywhere among men of sense, and nobody cares anything about the opinion of a lot of fools. There is no telling how many rich and promising lives have been wrecked by sacrificing the genuine to the spurious,—the true to the false. The college that can do the most to develop and enlarge the moral and spiritual life of your child is the college for you. You may say a college should not teach religion, but it should, and will, if it is worthy of the name. A trained heart is what you want in your child and not a trained heel. Life is too serious and precious a gift to be frittered away. In casting about for a school do not choose a spectacular and showy school; decide on one that addresses itself to the brain and heart of its pupils.—Charity and children.

A. H. Boyett, the Druggist, wants to see you in Smithfield, N. C.

CHUFAS FOR SALE.

I have several bushels seed chufas for sale. Write me or come to see me.

A. G. POWELL;
Smithfield, N. C.
R. F. D. No. 2.

Gent's if you wish to buy a nice hand welt shoe in patent calf or veal, at living prices, call at W. G. Yelvington's store.

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher.* and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

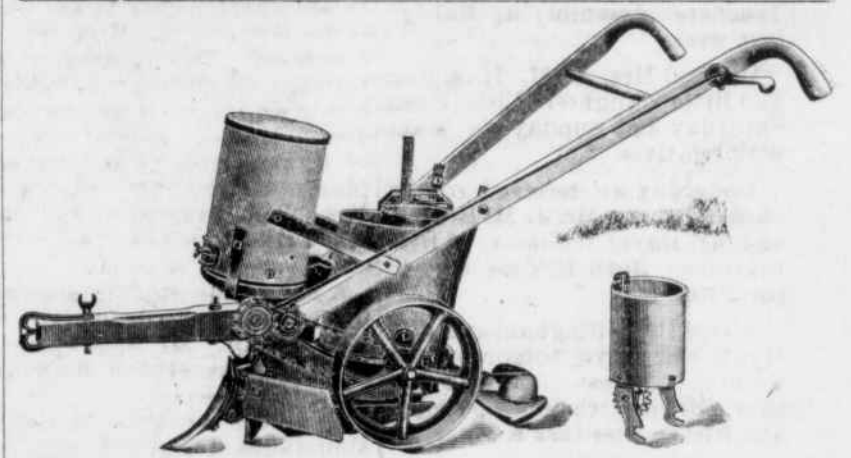
What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS

Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
In Use For Over 30 Years.
THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 117 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.



To The Farmers:

We have just received a lot of American Wire Farm Fence; see us before you buy. We have in stock a large lot of Cole Corn and Cotton Planters and Guano Distributors. If you haven't a Planter or Distributor get the "Cole" for they are guaranteed to work satisfactorily. Be sure to see us when you need anything in the Hardware Line.
Your friends

E. L. HALL & BRO., Benson, N. C.

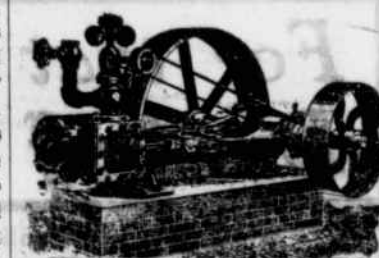
Seasonable : Goods

We have a good stock of White's and Stark's Dixie Plows and Castings, Lynchburg Steel Beam Plows, Majestic Washing Machines, Star Corn, Cotton and Pea Planters with fertilizer attachments, American, Elwood and Barbed Wire Fencing, Kurfee's Ready Mixed Paint, Pure Linseed Oil, White Lead and anything else wanted in our line. Call and see us.

Clayton Hardware Co.,
C. W. CARTER, Proprietor.

THE JOHN A. MCKAY MFG. COMPANY
Dunn, N. C.

Machinists, General Iron and Brass Founders



We Repair all kinds Machinery

We manufacture Swing Saw Machines, Lumber Trucks, etc. etc. We sell all kinds of Machinery. Good stock Machine Fittings, Belting, Saws, &c. always on hand.

INSURANCE!

Home People!! Home Company!!

The North State Fire Insurance Co., of Greensboro, N. C., is backed and managed by North Carolinians, with—

ASHLEY HORNE, President.

A policy in this home company is a guarantee of Protection. Let me insure your property at once in this strong, conservative company.

Sam T. Honeycutt,

Hump Back

SCOTT'S EMULSION won't make a hump back straight, neither will it make a short leg long, but it feeds soft bone and heals diseased bone and is among the few genuine means of recovery in rickets and bone consumption.

Send for free sample, **SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,** 409-415 Pearl Street, New York, 30c. and \$1.00; all druggists.