

The Charlotte Observer.

BETTER THAN COTTON.

\$500 AN ACRE FROM SILK CULTURE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

\$40,000 Worth of Cocoons Raised in the South last Year—50,000 Persons Already Engaged in the Business—\$3,000 an Acre can be Made—Cost of the Trees, Cocoons and Implements—A Silk Farm in New York—Painstaking and Perseverance will Insure Success.

GREENVILLE, July 2. Some five or six weeks ago an article on silk culture appeared in the News and Courier, in which it was claimed that the mulberry trees and silk worms could be grown with profit in upper South Carolina, and especially in Greenville and Pickens counties, where the climate so closely resembles that in the silk producing provinces of France.

The object of the present paper on this important subject is to show that South Carolina can grow silk more profitably than anything else, provided the work is done on the proper scale and proper attention is given to it. It is only a question of time when America will produce more cocoons than any country on the globe—unless, perhaps, China is excepted.

The United States government has already appropriated \$15,000 to encourage silk culture. Philadelphia has seventy four silk manufacturing establishments employing 6,000 hands, and the value of fabrics turned out exceeds \$7,000,000 per annum. At Allentown, Pa., and at Hawley, in Pike county, Pa., are two gigantic silk mills employing 1,000 hands, while Patterson, N. J., has six or seven mills that turn out \$10,000,000 of ribbons and broads every year.

From the New York Herald of May 20, 1884, is taken the following: "About a year ago a little group of people who knew the value of silk culture—especially as an employment for women and children—formed a plan for placing within the means of a few intelligent women the necessary requirements of silk culture, knowing that it could become in time one of the centres of industry in this country. They purchased a piece of ground which they deemed best fitted for the experiment, where a number of old mulberry trees were found already flourishing high above the meadow lands that render the food unfit for healthy worms, and where the pure water and productive soil would make a permanent home agreeable, and strips of woodland, running brooks, and a view for ten miles around added to the attractions for those who find pleasure in the beauties of nature.

Having become quite interested in this matter I have taken the trouble to obtain the views of some of the leading silk culturists in the United States. Among these are Mrs. Nellie L. Rossiter, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Peter Larrabee, of Ripley county, Indiana; Mrs. J. Zeigler, of La Porte county, Indiana; Mrs. Clara F. Slough, of Volusia county, Florida; Mrs. Sarah Malcolm, of Moore county, N. C., and S. A. Randall, of Polk county, Oregon. These people are all enthusiastic and are doing well. They agree that from \$300 to \$3,000 per acre can be made when the silk worms are grown as they should be, and they say the work is one especially suitable for ladies. Mrs. Rossiter says, from her statistics, that "50,000 persons are engaged in silk culture in this country today, and in Iowa, Indiana and the States of the Northwest has become quite a craze on account of the large profit it yields and the small amount of time it takes."

ing. The ground should be rich and well pulverized, and the seeds sown in drills and covered lightly. They must at first, if the weather is dry, be watered every other day, and can be transplanted when the size of lead pencils. Except in the far South, one cannot feed from these seedlings the first year, but the next year they will be trees two three feet high, and can then be clipped from freely. Once the trees are well established the additional expense should not exceed \$14. Worms can be bought—unhatched, of course—for about a dollar a thousand. The silk growers need for the first 1,000 worms the following articles:

Capradell's Guide to Silk Culture, one tray and two frames, tarriate, frame covers for first age, mosquito net frame-covers for second age, handmade net frame-covers No. 1 for third and fourth ages, perforated paper frame-covers for third, fourth and fifth ages, boxes for mailing and preserving eggs, (patent), two camel hair brushes, two pruning knives, leaf cutting shears, leaf chopper, thermometer, one magnifying glass, two mating boxes, (patent,) steam stiffer, holding 8 pounds cocoons, 12 gallons. (patent).

These articles are all furnished by the Model Silk Farm, Park Ridge, New Jersey.

Having received his machinery and the eggs, the silk culturist can begin work—just as soon as the mulberry leaves reach the size of a silver dime. The worms have been cultivated for so many centuries on trays or shelves that they never evince any desire to wander away, like the common "horrid worms." The moths cannot fly and do not eat, living but fourteen days. It takes from three hundred to one thousand cocoons to make a pound, "stuffed and dried." Small lots of cocoons should be held to go with the next year's crop. They may be put in burlap bags and shipped as freight. They should be sorted before shipping, according to directions given in all the guides to silk-growing. One acre of ground containing three hundred trees will supply food to 40,000 worms. One thousand worms will scarcely pay for the trouble of raising, but the experience gained by raising one thousand the first year will enable the farmer to grow 20,000 the next year, and then he can make it pay handsomely. Beginners should devote themselves the first season to studying and recording the habits and characteristics of the worms from the hatching to the spinning. The prices of eggs are: Japanese, white and green, \$5 an ounce; Turkish, white, \$5.50 an ounce; Italian, yellow and green, \$5 an ounce. An ounce of eggs yields 40,000 worms, and they yield from ninety-five to one hundred and fifty pounds of cocoons, worth from one dollar to two dollars a pound. It takes eight weeks to hatch the eggs and secure the cocoons. In upper South Carolina two broods can easily be raised each year. All that is required is perseverance.

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The secretary of the association thus described writes, under date of May 26, 1885: "We are doing splendidly—the venture is a complete success." Now the question arises, "Why would not a similar enterprise pay equally well in upper South Carolina, where land is cheaper than in New Jersey, and where the climate is greatly superior to that of the Garden State?" The Textile Record says: "The model silk farms of Australia, comprising fifty acres, yielded the first year a clear profit of \$445 per acre, (\$22,289 in all.)" The first cost of raising silk works is very trifling compared with the profits of the near future. Due caution is necessary, however. It will not do to apply the present "slipshod methods" of farming to silk culture! The man who attends to this business must give it his whole time, and the work must be done with great painstaking or the result will be a failure. With every advantage in the way of climate, soil, and railway transportation, why should not "Palmetto State" rank with her sisters in the production of this valuable article of commerce!

STOP THAT COUGH. By using Dr. Frazier's Throat and Lung Balsam—the only cure for coughs, colds, hoarseness and sore throat, and all diseases of the Throat and Lungs. Do not neglect a cough. It may prove fatal. Scores and hundreds of people owe their lives to Dr. Frazier's Throat and Lung Balsam, and no family will ever be without it after once using it, and discovering its marvelous power. It is put up in large family bottles, and sold for 50 cents a bottle. Sold by T. C. Smith & Co.

A Farmers Excursion and Picnic.

To the Editor of THE OBSERVER. It is not often that a farmer can find time from the toils and arduous of this world, to ask his wife and children to join him and his neighbors in a holiday rest, but when he does his mind is in that mood of merriment that generally crops out in the realization of the happiest dreams of rustic life, and last Friday was no exception. Soon after sun rise, in the dewy morn, the procession moved down the old Taskasege road, increasing in length with each succeeding house until last but not least, and that nothing should be wanting Dr. Sandifer was taken from off a stump where he was giving some direction to hands in his cotton field. At 9 o'clock we drew up to the east bank of the Catawba where we soon learned from the man who had gone on the evening before to fish, that a good catch had been made, about 300 in all. Soon those that knew best how, were busy preparing a feast of fish, while us boys and girls went gathering flowers, grass and pebbles, of which we soon had a fine collection. Now, here and there reclining on the sweet scented grass, may be seen in groups of half a dozen, with face looking out over the rippling waters, it may be in silent meditation. However Dr. Sandifer soon became the central figure and, and right well did he amuse us with incidents of his own experience in the good old ante bellum days forty years ago. The result of our early ride as the smoke curled up from the coals fire, and the sweet savory of condiments wafted out on the air, our stomachs yearn for frying fish this was not long entered, for soon the welcome "dinner's ready" rang out, and we found ourselves confronted with a festal board, laden with the richest viands of earth, with all the eye could wish, or the heart desire. Now dear reader you can draw on your imagination for the hour that followed. Dinner being over the unfinished part of the programme was to visit Rhynes' factory. Now if there are any of our city cousins who want to get the true gist of riding on a wagon, just let them place a plank across the bed, just over the fore axle, throw out his tobacco, take his seat and launch out for the Gaston side. Once over the river a short drive brought us to the factory hill. The first sight that greeted us was two rows of neat conveniently filled up dwelling houses. The factory is a handsome two story brick building with an observatory. After getting permission to go in and standing amid the click and buzz of the machinery, there came a whisper "the world moves" and it looked from the rapidity and despatch the hands executed their work that they intended to move with it. It is not our purpose to give a description in detail of the factory at this time, but allow us to say in a brief conversation with a gentleman with whom we were told was Mr. Geo. Davis, that they are now working 50 or 60 hands, and consume three or four bales of cotton a day, and ship to northern markets ten thousand pounds of yarn a week. The success of the enterprise can't even be questioned. Our visit must be short, but it must have been pleasant, especially little farmer Sam and Willie May, and Katie and will be recalled among the pleasant episodes of their life. Once again on the home side of the river where we had left some of our party who had saw more of the world than we had, soon began to gear up. The sun sinking beneath the Gaston hills, casting long shadows across nature's grassy lawn, was the signal that we must hie to that dear, dearest place on earth—home, sweet home, and again our party was in line on the homeward march. The first to drop out was Mr. Sandifer, next came the Misses Wilson, and with each "good bye" our party dwindled and dwindled until there is none left save your humble correspondent, and now he wraps the drapery of his couch around him and lieth down to dream off a pleasant time on the banks of the picturesque Catawba. J. N. B. Lodo, N. C. July 3rd, 1885.

Foreign Commerce of the United States.

The exports of merchandise of the United States for May, 1885, are valued at \$49,012,880, which is less than the valuation of any month since May, 1884. The imports exhibit a value of \$45,659,623. For the first five months of this year the imports of merchandise exhibit a value of \$231,679,140, a decrease of \$48,924,221 when compared with the same period of last year. The exports during the same time are valued at \$287,852,935, which is but a slight falling off from the figures of 1884, the difference being but \$2,329,002. Gold exports for May amounted to \$1,393,975 and the imports to \$564,735; silver exports amounted to \$2,150,849 and imports to \$637,244. Of the merchandise imports New York is to be credited with \$28,101,855, or about 62 per cent. Boston follows, with \$5,400,801; San Francisco, with \$3,356,620; and Philadelphia is fourth, with \$2,665,835. In exports however, the latter city leads San Francisco.

Section Fourth

(AND LAST) OF WHEELER'S REMINISCENCES OF North Carolina IS READY. These who wish to have the work will please let us know and we will get it for them. TUDY & BRO. Left Over From the Holidays. A FINE STOCK OF WATCHES, CLOCKS, Silverware, and Jewelry. Of all sorts, for sale cheap now, at Make's New Jewelry Store, Next to Nisbet and Selig.

Cancer Cured.

I have had a cancer on my face for many years. I have tried a great many remedies, but without relief. I almost gave up hope of ever being cured. Dr. Hardman, my son, recommends Swift's Specific, which has given me great relief. My face is now well, and it is impossible for me to express my thanks in words for what this medicine has done for me. Mrs. OLIVE HANBERRY, Monroe, Ga., Sept. 2, 1884. Swift's Specific has cured a cancer on my face, and has almost made a new man of me. T. J. DAVIS, Wallace, Fla. I have had a cancer in my right ear for three years. I tried every remedy the physicians practiced, to no permanent good. Swift's Specific has wrought wonders for me. It is the best medicine in the world. JOHN S. MERRICK, Florence, Ala. Swift's Specific is entirely vegetable, and seems to cure cancers by forcing out the impurities from the blood. Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Drawer 3, Atlanta, Ga., or 160 W. 23d St., N. Y.

The Poison of City Wells.

In many towns and cities the privy vaults and leaching cesspools of every house drain really into the sheet of ground-water. The soil arrests the coarse material, the grease and slime, but the swarming bacteria diffuse with ease, as much as the soluble chlorides and nitrates, and follow the flow wholly unobstructed. Into the same soil are sunk or driven the wells, and the water that is drawn for use is polluted in proportion to the number and proximity of the vaults and cesspools, on the one hand, and the thinness and sluggishness of the water-sheet, on the other. In the worst wells in daily use the water is distinctly colored with sewage; but the most deadly water may carry only the germs of typhoid fever or of dysentery, and be otherwise sparklingly clear and so pure as to pass unchallenged through the most searching chemical analysis. \* \* \* The story is essentially the same as may be told of any compactly built city, especially of the older parts, where the same houses have been occupied for hundreds of years. Of a hundred and fifty wells examined, less than ten per cent. furnished water really good enough to use, and only two or three water which was above all suspicion.

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Are as they should be, your desire, Go find some drug or coffee store, And then you're only to enquire For SOZODONT—It's all you need To make your mouth a joy indeed.

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