

MINERS' & FARMERS' JOURNAL.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY NOBLE & HOLTON, CHARLOTTE, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH-CAROLINA.

I WILL TEACH YOU TO PIERCE THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH AND BRING OUT FROM THE CAVERNS OF THE MOUNTAINS, METALS WHICH WILL GIVE STRENGTH TO OUR HANDS AND SUBJECT ALL NATURE TO OUR USE AND PLEASURE.—DR. JOHNSON.

VOL. I.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1831.

NO. 40.

THE Miners' & Farmers' Journal

Is printed and published every Wednesday morning at *Two Dollars and Fifty Cents* per annum, if paid in advance; *Three Dollars* a year, if not paid until after the expiration of six months.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at *Fifty cents* per square (not exceeding 20 lines) for the first insertion, and 25 cents for each succeeding week—or \$1 for three weeks, for one square.—A liberal discount will be made to those who advertise by the year. On all advertisements communicated for publication, the number of insertions must be noted on the margin of the manuscript, or they will be continued until forbid, and charged accordingly.

All communications to the Editors must come free of postage, or they may not be attended to.

THE SUBSCRIBERS

HAVING Associated themselves in the Practice of MEDICINE, are now prepared to attend to calls in the different branches of their Profession. From assiduity to business, and moderation in their charges, they hope to merit a liberal patronage.

JOHN M. HARRIS,

RUFUS A. WALLACE,

June 9, 1831.

M'Comb's Store.

N. B. Cases requiring consultation, no extra charges shall be made.

Watches, Jewellery, &c.

TROTTER & HUNTINGTON

ARE receiving their Spring Supply of the above articles, consisting in part of

Gold and Silver Patent Lever WATCHES;
Gold and Silver Lépines do.
Plain English and French do.

With a general assortment of JEWELLERY.

Which will be sold low for Cash. In a few days will have MILITARY GOODS of all kinds;—Britania WARE, Walking CANES, &c. &c.—Also, a fresh supply of Watch Materials.

Watches repaired at their Shop, will be warranted to perform well.

May 2, 1831.

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THE SATURDAY COURIER,

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

OF NEWS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, &c. &c.

The Largest Newspaper printed in Philadelphia, and the cheapest in the United States.—Terms, only \$2 per annum, half yearly in advance.

PUBLIC ATTENTION is respectfully invited to this popular weekly publication—furnishing, as it certainly does, one of the most acceptable vehicles of information to persons whose occupations will not permit them to enjoy the advantages of perusing the daily Journals, and also for those who reside out of the city, and desire (for a moderate equivalent) an acquaintance with the earliest and current News.

The SATURDAY COURIER is printed on the patent SATURDAY PRESS and comprises Twenty-Eight columns of the largest class, which is REVENUED every week, and includes

Light Reading, in all its departments,
INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS,
COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE,
DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES,
FINANCIAL CURRENTS OF STOCKS,
THE GRAIN AND FLOUR MARKET,
PUBLIC SALE OF GROCERIES, &c. &c.

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE, received during the week.

And all other subjects of an interesting nature.

The publishers have already received the most flattering assurances of complete success—and it is their intention to keep up corresponding efforts to make their Journal deserving the popular character it has obtained.

The publishers have the advantage of very extensive facilities of obtaining information at Home and Abroad—which is afforded by an abundant exchange with all the principal papers in the United States, besides which, their office is furnished with the best London and Liverpool papers and Magazines of the most interesting nature.

The Publishers intend to devote annually a portion of the profits of their work, to the promotion of the cause of Literature.—As soon as proper arrangements can be effected, a premium of

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS

will be awarded for the best American Tale. The gentleman who shall be selected to decide the award, shall be named at the time of offering the premium.

The publishers are aware of the difficulty of furnishing their paper in due season to subscribers residing at a distance—this obstacle will be remedied in the course of a few weeks, when such arrangements will be made as cannot fail to be perfectly satisfactory.

The Publishers request their country brethren to give the above notice a few insertions in their respective Journals.—The same favor will be reciprocated.

All orders for the Saturday Courier, (regarding the price of subscription,) must be addressed to WOODWARD & STRONG,

May 29,

Philadelphia.

Who is there, who in the sanctuary of his hidden thoughts, would balance a moment, in forming a partnership for life, between a flimsy belle, though robed in the finest silks of Persia, and tinted over so brightly with native or apothecary's vermillion—and a plain young lady, neat, modest, intelligent, instructed with a full mind and regulated heart!

We should give as we would receive, cheerfully, quickly, and without hesitation; for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers.—Seneca.

"I have lived," said Dr. E. D. Clark, "to know that the great secret of human happiness is this: never suffer your energies to stagnate. The old adage of 'too many irons in the fire,' conveys an abominable lie. You cannot have too many: poker, tongs, and all—keep them all going.

[From the Southern Agriculturist.]

On the culture of Corn, Sweet Potatoes and Oats, and the management of Cattle; by a Rice Planter.

Cooper River, Jan. 25, 1831.

Dear Sir.—In compliance with your request, that I should give you some account of the manner in which I cultivate my provision crop, and the management of my cattle, I will now endeavour to do so, by merely giving you a plain matter-of-fact statement of what has been my practice for ten or twelve years past, and the result of it, and if you should be of opinion that any portion is of sufficient importance to occupy a place in your useful journal, you are at liberty to select any part you please.

I plant provisions altogether upon high land, it is, however, all contiguous to my rice land; a portion of it is a red or yellow clay, but the greater part a light sandy soil, all of it was exceedingly poor and sterile, when I turned my attention to it. It was impossible at that time, to get from it more than six or eight bushels of corn per acre, potatoes, peas, and oats in proportion. The previous plan had been to change the fields every two or three years, and little or no manure was used. I enclosed only so much as was necessary to be planted—say an acre and a half to each hand. As the treatment of the clay differs so much from the sandy land, I will give you both in detail, doubting exceedingly, whether your patience will be sufficient to enable you to find the end of the chapter.

Early in the winter, the rice stubble was hoed off in the fields adjoining the clay land, and was carried out and spread in proportion of about an acre and a half of stubble to an acre of clay land. The plough (Davis) then turned it in deep. In March, all the winnowing from the rice crop was spread over the same field, and the plough again turned it in, but very shallow. In June, this field was planted in slips upon large beds five feet apart, the season was favourable, and the yield was far beyond my expectation. The same course was adopted the second year, with the exception that the winnowing was put upon the field the first of February, and immediately oats were planted in drills, fifteen inches apart, and two bushels of seed to the acre—a good crop was produced. In June, the oat stubble was hoed in, and slips planted as before, the production was far better than the year preceding, and the quantity nearly double what it was before this mode was adopted. I have continued the same method ever since, and the land which was at first considered not worth planting, is now an excellent soil, yielding abundant crops, and from being stiff and unmanageable, is now completely loose and arable. Not having the means of saving my rice chaff, I have not, to any extent, used it as manure, but I am satisfied that, for clay land, it would be preferable to the winnowing. I must here observe, that two acres of this field have been regularly planted in Guinea corn until last year, when they were planted in slips, and there was scarcely any difference in their production and that of any other part of the field. The two acres planted in Guinea corn were never manured with stubble or winnowing after the first year. The corn was planted in April, pretty thick, on beds five feet apart, and in the fall, before a frost, the stalks were cut down, and listed in the alleys, five or six inches deep. I have mentioned this circumstance that you may see how valuable the Guinea corn stalks and blades are as manure on clay lands.

Upon the sandy land, I plant corn, root-potatoes, peas, and oats. The old plan was, to plant the corn in hills, five feet apart each way, and two stalks left to each hill; the plough was used in both directions, or rather, it was ploughed and cross ploughed.—The cornstalks were burnt in winter, and the only manure used was what came from the stable, and that was put into the corn hills before planting, but it was never enough to go over half the field.

For ten years, my mode has been the following:—early in the winter, the cornstalks are pulled up, and put in the alleys, the peas, vases, grass, &c. are all listed in—a portion of rice straw is carried out daily, and spread over the corn land, until it has been done all over the field—the cattle are allowed to feed on it every day. In the spring, the cattle are removed, and the well-rotted manure from the stable and farm-pen is now carted out, and an equal quantity put to each task, or half acre, in three or four heaps, for the convenience of putting it to the corn, when top-dressed. The straw left by the cattle, is bedded in upon the list; the beds are made wide and flat, but not high. I seldom plant corn before the first of May; the beds are five feet apart, and the corn planted two feet and a half apart on the bed; the plough is used as soon as the corn is all well up, putting four or five furrows. Stirring the ground at this time is very beneficial in keeping off the cut-worm. When the corn has four or five leaves, it is thinned, and only one stalk left to a hole; at this time the rotten manure is put around the corn, and touching it; the earth is hauled up with the hoe, making a pretty large

bed. The plough is frequently used, making as many furrows as will break up the alleys thoroughly—peas are planted on the middle of the bed, between the corn, as soon as it is large enough. Pursuing this plan, I generally average from eighteen to twenty bushels to the acre, and an abundant crop of peas; no great yield to be sure, but certainly triple the production made by the old plan.

Root-potatoes and oats.—I keep two lots, about twelve acres each, which are alternately planted, in root-potatoes and oats:—for instance, the lot on which potatoes were planted in 1820, was in January, 1821, planted in oats, in the same manner as the lot in 1821, before they are quite ripe, to prevent their shelling. These oats are not threshed, but hoed in the straw, to be used for horses and mules, after they have been cut up in one of Messrs. Stclair and Moore's straw cutters, (certainly the best I have ever seen,)—as soon as the oats are taken off, the stubble is ploughed in, and the cattle are penned every night upon it, moving the pens every two or three weeks, taking care to turn in the manure with the plough whenever the pen is moved. In this way the whole lot is well manured, before the cattle are put into the farm-pen in winter. This lot remains fallow, till the month of March, when it is broken up by the plough. About the first of April, the beds are made up, in wet weather; they are five feet apart, very large, and pretty high; the potatoes are immediately planted, while the ground is wet; the seed is all planted whole, and about ten inches apart. To make a full crop of root-potatoes, it is indispensably necessary to keep the field perfectly clean from grass—the plough and hoe are therefore frequently used,—no crop suffers so much from grass as the potatoe. I never permit more vines to be cut than what is absolutely necessary to plant the slip crop; the production will be much lessened if the vines are cut, for as long as you continue to cut the vines, the growth will be above ground instead of below. Many persons cut the vines all summer to feed hogs and other stock, whereby the potatoes are much injured. In this manner both lots are kept in good condition, and generally yield very full crops of potatoes and oats alternately.

Respecting the management of my cattle, I must say, that until within a few years, they have been very much neglected, but by attending to the following system, I have found the stock increase very much, both in number and size, and I am satisfied, that notwithstanding the range about me is very inferior, they will be very profitable within a few years, independently of their great value in manuring the fields.

Early in the fall, I select six cows, which are regularly stalled, and well fed, until May; for these I have a rye lot upon which they graze a few hours every day. They afford a sufficient supply of milk and butter for a large family, while the calves become very fine. As stated before, the stock of cattle feed upon the straw of the corn-fields all the winter; they are, however, put into the farm-pen at night. From May till November, they are penned every night upon the oat land. The calves are put only at night, and go all day into the woods with the cows; it is important to have the cows milked, and turned into the woods early in the morning. To milk late, part the calves during the day, and keep them in a small, hot pasture, is the most effectual mode to injure stock. The calves will not feed when apart from the cows, and the cows hang about the pasture fence and do not go sufficiently distant to get on the best range. I am so perfectly convinced of the advantage of milking only a few cows that are stalled and fed well, that I shall hereafter adopt it in summer as well as in winter, and never separate the calves of the general stock from the cows. I have done so in a few instances, and the calves have always sold for eight dollars. Oxen that are worked should be housed, and well fed—they will improve, although worked every day, and will be in better condition than those that are out, and never worked. I frequently give my cattle salt.

You will perceive, sir, that I have not only given you a prolix account of my mode of managing the provision crop, but the mode previously pursued—I thought it best to do so, although it makes a long story of it, that you might see wherein I differ from the old system, by following which we sell down-bought less than five months provisions; and by the present mode I seldom buy a bushel, and support a much larger stock than formerly. In speaking of Guinea corn, I forgot to say, that I found it very productive on the clay land, and a most excellent and nutritious food, not only for stock and poultry, but for negroes.

I consider it equally important in a provision, as in a rice field, to have the low, slobbed places well drained.

I sincerely hope, that your efforts to promote the agricultural interests of our native state, may be amply rewarded.

Yours, &c. A RICE PLANTER.

From the Raleigh Register.

There is nothing more difficult to conquer than the prejudice of Education.—Our predilection for the customs of our progenitors is so great, that we, not unfrequently, close our eyes against improvements, the most beneficial. We take it for granted that there can be no better manner of executing certain things, than that which we have been accustomed to. To this circumstance we attribute the blindness which is manifested by our planters. Towards availing themselves of the great improvements which are constantly developing in the science of Agriculture, impoverishing their lands with successive crops of the same kinds of produce, and then desert them for more fertile fields. They introduce no new article of culture, but content themselves with doing as others have done before them, even though the most judicious farmer cannot make legal interest on his Capital invested. Is not the culture of Cotton, at the present time, an unprofitable one. If so, would it not be prudent for farmers to turn their attention, seriously to the introduction of new crops, such as the Sugar Cane, the Grape Vine, the Silk Worm and the raising of Sheep? In Georgia and Alabama, the spirit of enterprise has gone forth, and we are glad to learn, has met with a suitable reward. But will the planters of North-Carolina leave all to be attempted by others and be mere lookers-on?—Have they determined that they will persevere in the cultivation of Cotton at any price, and quietly wish for better times? We hope not—we trust rather, that they will arouse themselves and enter with spirit into the contest, and endeavor to ascertain whether there be not many valuable articles which will afford them a better remuneration for their labor than Cotton.

AMERICAN COINS.—With the exception of the Coins of Maria Louisa, Duchess of Parma, ours particularly of the late emissions, are probably the handsomest in the world. As the mint is now very busy, both with gold and silver, it may be deserving of inquiry whether an improvement in the stamp cannot be introduced. From time immemorial, it has been the practice of all nations to engrave on their coins the head of their rulers, by way of honor and compliment. When the charge of engraving was brought against us for having no Monument of Washington, it is the habit of Americans to say his image is on their hearts. We should certainly have as little to do as possible with things that have not utility for their basis. This principle, however, would still be adhered to, if, instead of the unmeaning head on our coins, neither man nor woman, with the bust of a mermaid, and the face of a simpaton, we were to substitute the august and benign features of the Father of our country. His face is one easily copied, and already universally known.—This would be a just, pervading, and perpetual tribute to his memory; and foreigners, although they might smile with incredulity at the flourish about "his image engraven on our hearts," would hourly perceive that it was stamped on that which they say is nearest to our hearts.—*Mercury.*

Fifty years hence!—The increase of population in the United States within ten years, appears by the last census to have been upwards of three millions, which is something more than the entire population of the Colonies at the commencement of the Revolutionary war. This shews with what rapid strides our country is advancing in physical strength and political importance. Those are now born who will in all probability, live to see this Republic the most powerful among the nations of the earth, as well as the most free and happy. In half a century more, our population may reach from forty to fifty millions, and be equal to that of France and Great-Britain united. If improvement in the useful arts for the next fifty years keep pace with the progress they have made in the last fifty, there will be scarcely any part of the country so remote as not to be penetrated by canals and rail-roads—that will not be brought near to market by the newly discovered power of steam, or rather by the new application of that power to propelling boats and carriages. The present generation has witnessed wonderful discoveries, and political revolutions of incalculable importance to the freedom and happiness of the human family. The succeeding ones—our children and children's children—are destined perhaps to witness occurrences not less extraordinary. Judging by the past, who can pretend to say what will be the extent of future discoveries! The man who had ventured to predict a few years ago that carriages could be impelled by steam, with safety to passengers and cargo, at the rate of thirty or forty miles an hour, would have been viewed as a visionary. But this has been realized, and from its frequency, so extraordinary a performance has ceased, in particular places, to be a novelty.—*Sou. Rev.*

Thunder Fatal to Goslings.—A writer in the American Farmer says, in a late thunder storm the lightning descended in a field, within less than half a mile of my dwelling, and killed two labourers and laid prostrate and injured three more. But the effect in my fowl yard was very remarkable. I had two broods of goslings, one nearly a week old, on the ground, and another, two days, in a basket in a house. At the instant when the thunder fell, which it did with the most astounding force, the woman who had the care of the fowls happened to be looking upon those in the basket, and saw them expire. All that in the yard, and in the house after, were found dead also; a nest of eggs under a goose, then in progress of hatching, were all killed. You may rely on the correctness of this statement. Though goslings are easily raised, and live more than a century, they seem to be endowed with nerves of uncommon sensibility, or to have systems peculiarly favourable to electric impressions.

[A respectable gentleman in a neighboring town informs us that during the cannonading at the battle of Bunker-Hill, he was feeding a brood of goslings about six miles from Charlestown, and that all the goslings turned on their backs and died. The gentleman was then a boy, and was much puzzled by the mysterious occurrence.

Salem Gazette.]

A correspondent of one of the New-York papers communicates the following key to the pronunciation of Polish Words:

"To put an end to the general complaint of the impossibility, or, at least, the difficulty, of pronouncing some Polish names, I will make the following brief remarks.

"As we have learned from a French paper the name of the brave Sczynecki to be pronounced Skerjineteki, I will only add that this, expressed with English characters, would be written Skerzhineteki, or Skerzhineteki, the accent resting, as in most Polish polysyllables, on the penultimate.

"In a similar manner pronounce the c in all Polish names like ts in English (as Plock, read Ploctsk); the Polish sz like the English sh (as Kahliz read Kahlsh); and lastly, the Polish cz like ch in church (as Lovicz, read Lovich or Lovitch).

"This is all that is chiefly to be noticed about pronouncing Polish names."

Intelligence of Birds.—A gentleman a few doors from us, relates the following:—A son of his, in the early part of the season, put up a cage in his garden, intended for the blue bird. Soon after it was completed, a pair of wrens paid it a visit, and being pleased with the tenement, took possession, and commenced building a nest. Before, however, the nest was completed, a pair of blue birds arrived—laid claim to the cage, and after a hard battle, succeeded in ousting the wrens, and forthwith completed a nest on a plan of their own. But the male wren was a bird of spirit, and not disposed to submit tamely to the injury, some days after, watching his opportunity, when his antagonist was away, he entered the cage, and commenced rolling the eggs out of the nest. He had thrown out but one, when the blue bird discovered him, and with loud cries made an immediate attack. The wren sought safety in a neighbouring currant bush, and by his activity in dodging about among the branches and on the ground, succeeded in eluding his enraged adversary. The blue bird gave up the chase, and returned to examine the condition of his nest. The egg had luckily fallen on a soft bed, and was not broken. After a careful examination, he took it in his claws and returned it safely to the nest.

The Coat of Mail.—Just before Napoleon set out for Belgium, he sent to the cleverest artisan of his class in Paris, and demanded of him whether he would engage to make a coat of mail, to be worn under the ordinary dress, which should be absolutely bullet-proof; and that, if so, he might name his own price for such a work. The man engaged to make the desired object, if allowed proper time; and he named 18,000 francs as the price of it. The bargain was concluded, and in due time the work was produced, and its maker honoured with a second audience of the Emperor. "Now," said his Imperial Majesty, "put it on." "The man did so." "As I am to stake my life on its efficacy, you will, I suppose, have no objections to do the same." And he took a brace of pistols, and prepared to discharge one of them at the breast of the astonished artisan.—There was no retreating, however, and, half dead with fear, he stood the fire, and, to the infinite credit of his work, with perfect impunity. But the Emperor was not content with one trial; he fired the second pistol at the back of the trembling artist, and afterwards discharged a fowling piece at another part of him with similar effect. "Well," said the Emperor, "you have produced a capital work, undoubtedly—what is to be the price of it?" Eighteen thousand francs were named as the agreed sum. "There is an order for them," said the Emperor, "and here is another, for an equal sum, for the fright that I have given you."