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The Durham Recorder.

LET HIM WHO HATH NO NERVE FOR THE FIGHT, DEPART.

VOL. 74

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 1890.

NO. 40



Absolutely Pure.

This powder is made from a mixture of the finest wheat flour, and contains no alum, arsenic, or any other injurious substance. It is the only baking powder that can be used with confidence in all climates, and is the only one that will not become rancid or lose its strength by exposure to the air.



Patented in England, France, and the United States. Made in England. Sole Importers for the United States, W. H. TAPPEY, Successor to TAPPEY & DELANEY, 100 Wall St., New York.

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VIRGINIA TOBACCO. WEST VIRGINIA BRIGHTS.

THE SECRET OF THEIR CURE—INSTRUCTIONS AND REFLECTIONS AS TO SELECTING LAND, SEEDING, GROWING, CURING, AND HANDLING.

What Mr. C. M. Bird, Who Averaged Over \$400 Per Acre, Has to Say on This Important Subject.

Concluded from last week.

This makes the first stage of yellowing in conjunction with water eighteen hours or about; a longer time is necessary with heavy sappy tobacco, or twice the time if the atmosphere is near frost temperature, but with such tobacco as I raise in average crop years eighteen hours is generally sufficient if the weather is warm when I am ready for the dry heat.

Now, you observe that I alternate firing up and suddenly cooling down by the use of sprinkling water over the floor, pipes, and walls every three hours for eighteen (18) hours up to this stage—when I leave off the water entirely, as the lug leaves are now yellow and will sponge or brown if not dried off to set the color. My object in using the water up to this time is to keep the sap flowing and to keep up the yellowing process, which is hastened by my method, and arrested just at the proper time to catch the yellow color in the larger portion of the plant and also save the lugs, as they are the first to yellow. Most curers in trying to make a good cure of the leaf lose the lugs, but they do not use water, and the lug buds or run red before the rest of the plant is sufficiently yellow to set the color.

Let a planter keep in mind that the yellowing of tobacco is the foundation of a good or bad job of curing, according to its completeness. I now run the heat up to 110 degrees to save the lugs, so as to fix the yellow color and keep them from browning and only let the heat remain at 110 about five minutes, when I draw the fire from the flues, let them cool down, and close the door, allowing it to remain cool three or four hours. You will observe that 110 dry heat, with water omitted during this short time, is sufficient to set the color to the lugs, and at the same time not sufficient to stop the yellowing process of the thicker leaves above, and especially the top leaves, which are heavier and longer in yellowing. Run the heat now to 105 and 110, and hold there for six hours, ventilating from equal distances around the bottom of the barn.

The leaf should be curing at the tips, or curing slowly, at this stage. Now advance the heat to 115, and hold six hours. Then advance at the rate of two degrees per hour until you reach 125 degrees. Touch the back of your hand to the leaves, and, if sweating or sticky, open the doors and let it cool down as near as possible to 100 degrees. When dried off, raise the heat back to 125 degrees, and then gradually run it up to 140 degrees in six or eight hours, which will about cure up the leaf. Shut up all the air vents around the bottom of the barn and advance the heat at the rate of five degrees per hour until you reach 135, and hold at this until the stalk is perfectly cured, for if any sap is left in the stalk it will afterwards be absorbed by the dry heat like a sponge drinking water, and it will sink down the stem, injuring its market value thereby.

Let me caution you particularly about fluctuating temperatures in the curing of tobacco. Late in the fall or during sudden fall of temperature, the outside thermometer must be watched, and only so much artificial heat put on, taking as your basis natural temperature of 80 degrees. For instance: If you were raising your heat at the rate of five degrees per hour, and your inside thermometer registered 140, and the outside temperature falling from 80 at the rate of five degrees per hour, you would simply hold the inside thermometer at 140, as that would be equivalent to an advance of five degrees artificial heat per hour. Should the wind suddenly change south, and the outside thermometer regains or loses at the rate of five degrees per

hour, then you would raise your heat along with it at the rate of five degrees per hour. These degrees of artificial heat are based on a warm day's temperature, and the curer can, by consulting my schedule and the outside thermometer, know exactly how many degrees of artificial heat he has on any given moment without endangering his tobacco by an overdose of heat to ruin it.

It must be remembered that the natural temperature is not a curing temperature, but is only a basis from which to work the degrees of artificial temperature necessary for the curing. Cool, dry weather, wet warm weather, shifting fluctuating weather—all need different treatment and common-sense judgment. Most intelligent, observing men can make fine curing fairly successful, but poor judgment and a sleepy don't care disposition can seldom succeed, and then circumstances will do it for him. These remarks apply, of course, to fine crops in the house.

Yours very truly,
C. M. BIRD,
Carpenter's Post Office,
Putnam County, W. Va.

How to Improve Old Varieties of Tobacco Seed and Develop New Ones.

I trust I may be pardoned for recounting some of my experience in the tobacco-seed business, by way of illustrating the subject under discussion.

Passing through a field of tobacco more than 30 years ago, which was under the management of an overseer, Mr. Wm. T. Terry, a man of more than ordinary intelligence and success as a tobacco planter, I noticed a number of singular-looking seed-heads on some of the largest and best-developed plants in the field, with round, bunched tops, bearing fewer and larger capsules than usual—differing from anything of the kind I had ever seen before—and I inquired of Mr. Terry what caused the peculiar, compact, bunched appearance of the seed-heads and extraordinarily large capsules, and he informed me that these seed-heads were trimmed early in development of all the lateral thyrsi, leaving only three or four at the crown to bloom and bear capsules, and that the ends of these thyrsi were clipped off all blooms appearing after the first of September, thus presenting none but perfect capsules, fewer than usual in number, bunched on the crown thyrsi as before described.

A START IN IMPROVEMENT.

My mind at once took in the "rational" of the practice—a selection of the best plants for seed-stocks, and, by pruning the thyrsi as described, throwing the whole force of the seed plants into the formation of fewer and larger capsules, bearing seeds of higher vitality, with more certainty of re-producing the peculiar good quality of the parent seed-plants—and I applied at once to Mr. Terry for some of his tobacco seed thus grown, which he kindly furnished, and the superior crop grown therefrom during the next year gave practical and unmistakable evidence of the utility of Mr. Terry's method of growing tobacco seed, and I have been practicing it ever since, adding from time to time improved methods of my own, as they were developed by experience.

THE NEW AND IMPROVED METHODS

were based first on conspicuous selections for seed stocks, the earliest, most vigorous, and best-shaped plants, having leaves of the nicest form and finest fibres, and with strict reference to the development of qualities which would best adapt them to the popular types. Then, in order to carry selections to its highest limit, the earliest, largest, and best-formed capsules were carefully selected from year to year, as stock seed for growing seed plants; and then crop fertilizing the finest varieties by hybridization, with reference to uniting in the hybrid the best qualities inherent in the parent varieties and breeding out the objectionable one; and, lastly, improvement of the new varieties by selection carried on through select plants, and the earliest formed and best capsules on them for use on the seed farm.

The above-described methods, carried on through a series of years, culled the earliest and best capsules from a selection of 25,000 seed stocks for use as propagating seed on the Hyco tobacco-seed farm, have imparted to Ragland's seeds qualities which are unexcelled in all the essential requisites of first-class seed for every type of tobacco; and they have

deceivably won a reputation for excellence and reliability unexcelled by any tobacco seed grown.

THE SUPERIORITY AND LOW PRICE OF RAGLAND'S SEED—THEIR BEST RECOMMENDATION.

Planters who end to the Hyco seed farm every year, as many do, may rely upon getting better seeds than they can possibly grow, just as farmers and market gardeners can procure better seeds from reliable seed-growers, rather than attempt to raise their own seeds.

No one pays more attention to or has brought to bear more science and skill in the growth and improvement of tobacco than the proprietor of the Hyco seed farm, and no seeds stand higher for the finest and best types of tobacco grown. The very best judges of tobacco—tobacco-men who are handling the staple all the year round—recommend the use of my varieties ahead of all others.

THE TOBACCO-PLANTING INDUSTRY NEEDS ALL THE LIGHT POSSIBLE,

and if any one can suggest a better mode for improvement of varieties adapted to every type of tobacco this scribe will be happy to give it a trial.

TO GROW FINE TOBACCO

of any type, the first thing requisite is good seed of some variety best adapted to the type sought to be produced. The bright varieties will not make rich, heavy, waxy goods, nor will the dark varieties make fine, yellow, silky goods, while cigar leaf requires varieties specially adapted to stock suitable for cigars. You cannot be too careful in the selection of your seed, and it will pay you to procure them from reliable growers or dealers only. Poor seed are dear as a gift, while good seed for a large crop of tobacco cost very little, and yet one dollar properly expended at this point has saved hundreds of dollars in the increased value of the crop. Take no risk, but use only the best varieties, which are essential in making a fine staple, which always sells at remunerating prices.

The following are recommended as specially adapted to the Bright Yellow type:

WHITE-STEM ORONOKO.—From the Yellow Oronoko, which it resembles, and a most excellent variety. Greatly preferred in some localities where the finest types are grown. **HYCO.**—A new variety, and the easiest of all cured yellow. Fine texture, good flavor, and sells well. A Hybrid Oronoko and Ground Leaf; a beautiful and desirable variety.

HYSTER.—A new variety originated in Granville Co., N. C., and has no superior for the yellow type, and makes fine cigar stock. It has six-lobed shape, texture, and color, and ripens early. It recommends itself greatly in this, that it has greater adaptability over a wider range of soils and latitude than any other of the yellow varieties, and may on this score be considered the surest.

YELLOW ORONOKO.—A reliable old yellow variety, grown for more than fifty years, and improved with reference to the production of yellow stock.

GOUCH.—A new variety of a great excellence. Resembles the Yellow Oronoko, but has a larger leaf; a splendid manufacturing sort.

YELLOW PRYOR.—Preferred by many for brights, and succeeds where other yellow sorts fail. The West is giving it preference.

GRANVILLE COUNTY YELLOW.—A superb variety and a favorite with many planters who average from 20 to 50 dollars per hundred pounds—select lot selling for several dollars per pound. Among the earliest to mature and ripen.

LONG LEAF GOUCH.—Leaf larger and finer than the Round Leaf Gouch. One of the very best for the manufacturing types.

STRATLING.—The newest and brightest of the yellow type; and being the earliest to ripen, is surest in localities liable to early frost.

BRADLEY BROAD LEAF.—A popular variety for several types—export, manufacturing and cigars. A good, reliable variety.

R. L. RAGLAND,
Hyco, Va.

Silver-tipped—The Waiter.

"Labor's uprising"—When the whistle blows.

Two heads are better than one—Except in the family.

Stepping stones to office—The front steps of the White House.

AWFUL EXPRESSIONS.

Curage Forsake Them.

Men who have faced John L. Sullivan, says the *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, claim that when in the heat of battle he has a most awful expression on his face, and stout hearts have quailed at sight of it. Paddy Ryan said, after his battle for the championship with the big fellow, that when he looked at Sullivan, toward the close of the fight, he almost feared for his life, as there was the expression of a murderer on Sullivan's face. Others have said that they could not bear to look at the champion's face when boxing with him—lest their courage forsake them. There are those who attribute the big fellow's success in part to the awful terror inspired by his face.

Peter Jackson, according to all accounts, seems to possess the same savage expression at times.

Major Frank McLaughlin, one of the prime movers in the California Club to which Jackson is under contract, speaking of this a few days ago, said:

"He is the 'colored Billy Edwards.' I claim, in this respect—that while a fighter he is a gentleman, a man of polish and culture. Jackson is jet black, but he has nothing of the distinctive negro features. In the heat of a fight at a crisis he looks more like a tiger than a man."

"Said Jackson to me on one occasion, 'My blow is the heart blow, and there he shows his sense. He is an anatomist, and he knows the position of every bone and muscle in the human body as accurately as any surgeon. He doesn't batter his hands and break his fingers with the blow at the point of the jaw or on the chin. His knock-out blow is the heart blow, which will kill a man if he fights long enough. That was the famous blow of the great Welsh black who generations ago made such an awe inspiring reputation that he was called the 'dead boxer.' Jim Smith, Godfrey, Joe McAuliffe and Patsy Cardiff have all been induced by the tremendous force of his blows to throw up one hand in utter exhaustion and hold on with the other to the ropes in dumb agony. Let his opponent foul him or get in a blow on him that hurts him, and the expression of Jackson's face becomes so savage as to be startling. Then, and then only for a moment, does the innate ferocity, the animal brutality which no one would think him capable of, come to the surface. As if ashamed himself of such an exhibition, no sooner has he reduced his antagonist to helplessness than he asks, in the politest manner possible, 'Have you got enough, sir?' He is the polished gentleman again then."

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A Joke on Sam Small.

Washington Letter.

Rev Samuel Small was here yesterday. During his stay at the Metropolitan hotel he met the night clerk, Peter, who has been there for the last twenty years, and who remembered him when he boarded there, a wild dissipated clerk of a southern congressman. He told Peter he had become an altered man, and was sorry for the annoyance he used to cause him, and was now trying to atone for his former sins by working for his Heavenly Father. Peter was glad to see him, but told him he hoped he would not give the Lord as much trouble as he had given him.

He—What an ugly neck that girl has with the low cut dress on!

She—Yes; it is certainly open to criticism.

Execution by electricity has been adjudged Constitutional, but it will take a very strong constitution to stand it.

At Hopkinsville, Ky., Monday of last week one of the most violent and destructive storms ever known in Southern Kentucky passed over that section, destroying several houses and doing great injury to property. In the vicinity of Bellevue, a village south of the city, six tobacco barns, with all their contents, were destroyed and a dozen houses were unroofed and blown down. The loss is estimated at \$20,000.

The rain fell in torrents and the wind blew a perfect cyclone over the city, doing great damage. The river at that place is almost out of its banks, being higher than known before in years. Five thousand pounds of tobacco have been destroyed.

Appreciative People.

Rev. R. F. Bumpass, pastor of Main Street Church, Durham, wrote to the Raleigh "Christian Advocate" last week as follows:

"There comes much sunshine into a Methodist preacher's home, as he receives expressions of the confidence and affection of his people. It has been my happy fortune to serve many kind and appreciative congregations. Indeed, I have never served a pastoral charge in which there were not many who exhibited every token of their affection and appreciation. As memory runs back over an itinerant ministry of eighteen years, many faces come up from each of the charges, it has been my privilege to serve, that are very dear, because of the relations of the past, the recollection of whose names is as the aroma of precious ointments poured forth. But I must say that it has never been my good fortune to serve a kinder or a more appreciative people than the people of Main Street Church, Durham. They have displayed every mark of love and appreciation. During the Christmas holidays, they gave us a liberal pawning, the report of which never found its way into the papers, besides many other delicate attentions. And then, that we might be more comfortably housed, the official board made the purchase of a neat cottage, of seven rooms, with garden, lot, and all essential conveniences. They had the house thoroughly renovated within and without, before moving us into it, on New Year's day. So that now we live in a perfect little gem of a parsonage, where we will be glad to entertain our friends."

But dark shadows fall across the brightest days. Sickness and death come into our home. A fine boy four days old passed away. The mother seemed to lay at the very gates of death. The shadows indeed seemed dark. But God in mercy spared her precious life. Yours truly,
R. F. BUMPASS.

HE PINED FOR GREATNESS.

A Friend Tells Him of a Sure Road to Fame.

"I own," said Jacques to his friend, "that I have one human weakness—notoriety. I stretch forth my arms and long to take to myself that honor and glory which shall make my hand a thing to be sought among the multitude and my name resound throughout the broad avenues of the land. I pine hourly; I lose flesh daily. The sound of a title is sweet in my ears. Could I hear myself addressed as professor I should have some object in living."

"My dear fellow!" exclaimed his friend, "why didn't you say so before? Easiest thing in the world. All you have to do is to hire a balloon and go up in it on the next fourth."

"But I'm afraid to."

"H'm. You skate, don't you?"

"A— a little."

"Then announce yourself as the champion skater of the world."

An Old Soldier.

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 27.—John Caldwell died in the soldiers' Home at Kearney yesterday at the age of 106 years. He was admitted to the home in 1883 and claimed then to be 99 years old. He was born in Essex county in March, 1784. He served in the war of 1812 and also in the Indian war. He was not engaged in the civil war, as he was too old, but drove a stage between New York and Philadelphia.

Bears and wolves have become such a nuisance this winter in the department of Ore, in Russia, that the military have been asked to turn in and help hunt them. They have invaded the farms almost nightly and carried off cattle from the barns.

Mrs. Gadabout. "Oh, Mrs. Snappy, I saw your husband in the park with three or four ladies around him."

Mrs. Snappy. "That's all right, but let me catch him with one lady around him."

Next summer people who buy ice will probably carry the money in buckets and take home the ice in their hands.