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THE PLAINDEALER.

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THE PLAINDEALER.

WILSON, JUNE 22, 1869.

THE SOUTHERN FARM.

(From the Reconstructed Farmer.)

To Parents.

Parents, we were, in days passed, blessed, as we supposed, in a system of contented laborers, and with that system we were thoroughly acquainted, being educated in it from our infancy.

Through this system of labor our every habit was formed, it being the chief source of revenue to our social and domestic comfort.

A new era has dawned upon us; that labor and social system has been destroyed, and with it the slave of January, 1863, is in reality a legislator for us, instead of his former master who may possess the highest order of statesmanship.

We know we have many causes for complaint, but does this avail us anything? Certainly not. Then let us take a calm and considerate view of our situation, and rather rejoice that these trials came in our day instead of our children's time, for we can raise them to the new situation without much inconvenience to them.

To do this we must educate them differently, not only in the school-room, but in the entire social and domestic circle. We hope you will not infer from this that we are opposed to a classic education. Our object should be to instill in our children the idea that to give them a finished education is simply to prepare them for future usefulness in the various pursuits of life.

When we were rich in negroes we sent our sons (those of the best intellect) to college, and after going through this course we put them to some profession, and generally they did not succeed.

The reason was, their fathers owned in the negro a sufficient patrimony to live on, and consequently no exertion was made by them.

On the other hand, those who were not so well provided for, if they wished to acquire a profession, toiled hard, and generally succeeded, for they were dependent on their profession for a livelihood.

We have a sufficiency of professional men to last this generation, consequently educate your sons to develop by science the hidden resources of the agricultural, mineral and manufacturing interest of this country.

It seems that parents and guardians heretofore did not endeavor to make their sons and wards finished scholars, that they might prove as benefactors to their race by that science which is so much needed to a complete development of the hidden wealth of the soil.

It was then, as we fear it will be considered at present, stooping too low to come to the soil and there, with patient practice, demonstrate that farming is a science, by letting us know what properties are wanting in this, that, and the other soil to make it productive of good crops.

Suppose that the educated class of this country for the last quarter of a century had made the same effort to develop the agricultural, mechanical, mineral and manufacturing interest, they have to dup their countrymen politically, would they have failed? All must confess they might have conferred the greatest of blessings on their country if their talents had been directed in the proper channel.

Teach your children, "by precept and example," that to work in the farm, in the machine shop, or at any laudable pursuit, is honorable. Teach your fair and virtuous daughters that it is not unbecoming "beauty, wit and grace" to learn all the duties of housewifery. Those who have been dispossessed of a luxurious living must not despond, but must join in an humble effort to rise once more, and

by all means, stimulate their children to do so. No longer look on the past, but forward, hoping that while your pathway through life is rugged, your children may enjoy a bright future.

(From the Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel.) The Cow Pea is a Fertilizer for Wheat.

We have long been satisfied, from actual experiment, that the common cow pea of the Southern States, when properly managed, affords the best and, at the same time, the cheapest medium for the restoration of our exhausted cotton fields. Its effects have been as lasting and as marked upon the fertility of our soils as that of clover upon the worn and exhausted lands of Virginia and Maryland.

The main reason why the cow pea has not been heretofore extensively used as a fertilizer was owing to the fact that previous to emancipation our planters would not give up a sufficient portion of their lands to await the rather slow effects of this most valuable fertilizer. Now, however, when every planter has a large proportion of his poor lands lying idle, there is no excuse why the pea should not be set in every field not absolutely necessary for corn or cotton.

Now is the best time to plant the pea, and we desire to give our agricultural friends the result of a careful experiment made by a planter in Gwinnett county to encourage them to make similar efforts.

To Keep Fowls Healthy.

The way I keep my fowls in health, I clean out the house once a week; put wood ashes under the roosts; have iron basins for them to drink from; whitewash inside of hen house with hot lime; put a little kerosene oil on the roosts once a month. The main food is oats, and cake of scraps to pick on. I never feed but once a day—at noon, or when I shut them up at four or five P. M. When they run out, then give them all they will eat. In my experience, there is no way to get diseased fowls easier than to keep them stuffed; it makes them lazy, and they won't work as much as they ought to, to keep in a healthy condition.

I never had any gaps in chickens. When any fowl begins to droop I give three large pills of common hard, yellow soap; 'tis the best thing to cleanse a fowl I know of. I follow it for three days, give them nothing to eat and plenty of pure water to drink. In desperate cases, give a half teaspoonful of tincture of lobelia. It will seldom, if ever, fail of curing. It is a very cleansing and powerful medicine for fowls.—H. C. Wheeler, Foxboro, Mass., in Rural New Yorker.

Ditches—Their Uses and Abuses. No farm can be said to be in good condition without a judicious system of draining, either by open ditches or by tiles planted below the surface and beyond the reach of the flow.

Open ditches very often damage land more than they benefit it. Particularly is this the case when the banks of the ditch have been cut down so low, in getting material for compost, that every rain washes in the cream of the adjacent land. Much damage has been done to land in this section by the water-furrow system, when the farmer intended and expected a benefit. The result in many cases has been the impoverishing of the land by washing and the constant filling up of ditches, rendering the clearing out an almost endless job, and very necessary after each heavy fall of rain. With your ditches deep enough, water-furrows are unnecessary—in fact, a nuisance. The banks of ditches should invariably be a little higher than the adjoining land, and covered with reeds, small bushes, or grass. This growth will prevent the ditch from washing away. We hold it is better that water should stand on land until absorbed or evaporated, than to wash off the cream of your soil and fill up your ditches. We have tried, successfully so far, planting large tiles on the banks of ditches to conduct the surplus rain water into them without any washing of the land.—Reconstructed Farmer.

Sow Peas in Your Corn. Farmers, when you lay your corn by, sow three pecks or one bushel of peas per acre, broadcast. Plow just deep enough to root up all the weeds and grass, and immediately after the plow follow with the hoe, destroying all the weeds and grass that may have been left; the result will be, in all your rich lands you will make a fine quantity of peas, and the lands will receive a rich covering of vines which will act as a vegetable fertilizer for the coming crop.

Many farmers plow their corn when they put it by, too deep. The secret of success in corn cultivation is, keep your lands drained and sufficiently rich; if so, then all that is required is, to plow your lands deep and well pulverize it before you plant.

Then plant at the distance you like. Our method of planting (for the most part) is all one way, or what is called drilled corn. The first time we plow the dirt from the corn to the depth of three inches. The second time we sow peas and lay by, as above directed.

If your lands are not drained or are too poor, the best preparation of seeding and cultivation will not pay.—Reconstructed Farmer.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, who says that he has been for thirty-eight years a trader of cotton in New Orleans, condenses into one sentence the true and only wise policy of the Southern planters under the circumstances at present surrounding them. He says: "We have but two modes to select from; the one to labor to increase the product at large, reduce prices and fall back to servitude; the other, to plant a few acres and increase product to five-fold, make all supplies, for land, man and beast, sell for gold, build up home mechanics, manufactories, schools, and churches, neat and tasty homesteads, work up the cotton crop into yarns or cloth for export, and be independent of 'profitable.' Profitable trade! with a vengeance: our part being bread and meat, a log cabin and common clothing, and their palaces and champagne.

The Hon. J. S. Black, who recently met with a severe railway accident from which he is gradually recovering is said to have made within the last year \$300,000 by his professional labors.

The City Councils of Baltimore have passed an order to have the lives of all the members of the fire department of that city insured for \$1,000 each. The expense will be about \$3,900 per annum.

The Freeman's Journal of Thursday gives a flat contradiction to the newspaper report that Mr. A. T. Stewart had become a Catholic. The editor pronounces the story nothing but idle gossip.

The Grand Lodges of Masons of Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida and Virginia, St. John's Lodge of Richmond, and Lafayette Lodge of New York have each contributed a stone to aid in the completion of the Washington monument.

It is estimated that the total amount of sugar of all kinds produced in the world is 2,800,000 tons annually. The United States consumes 530,000 tons and Great Britain 680,000 tons. The consumption is increasing annually—the gain in this country from 1867 to 1869 being 67,000 tons. Of the total production the island of Cuba has hitherto supplied one-third, and this supply will now be measurably cut off. The Southern crop last year was altogether about 100,000 tons, leaving more than 400,000 to be supplied from abroad. They are beginning to raise sugar in Florida.

A Washington press dispatch says: Information has just been received here, by parties in the interest of the Cubans, that two expeditions, numbering over six hundred men, with arms, ammunition, and provisions, have safely landed in Cuba, and joined the revolutionary forces. They are represented as tried soldiers, all of them having been in the armies of the late war. Desertions from the Spanish forces to the Cubans are increasing every day. There are frequent collisions between the Spanish troops and the volunteers, and the difficulties between the parties are represented as irreconcilable. The Cubans have organized their forces into two army corps, one to be under the command of General Thomas Jordau. An engagement is daily expected between the forces of General Lesca and those under General Jordau. The Cubans are in fine spirits and confident of victory. Gen. Jordau has over two thousand Americans in his corps, and it is believed that the Spaniards will find them a different class of soldiers from anything ever before met in battle.

The Pacific coasters are organizing an anti-Chinese "Know-Nothing" organization. Secretary Borie fell and hit the floor against his nose at the recent Annapolis ball.

Mrs. Leonida Polk's select school for young ladies opens in New Orleans, on September 6th.

John H. Serratt has opened a produce commission house in Baltimore.

Two Germans in Tennessee bought eighty acres of land last year, and paid for it this off of four acres of strawberries.

Over seventeen million dollars' worth of property has been destroyed by fire in the United States since the beginning of the present year.

Mrs. Grant wants Mrs. Lincoln to have a pension. Mrs. Lincoln wants to marry a Dutch Count to prepare for spending it.

Prof. Nickles, a French chemist, was recently killed by inhaling the fumes of hydrofluoric acid. The only known use of this gas is for etching glass.

There were 348 students in attendance at Washington College, Lexington, Virginia, during the session of 1868-'9. The next session opens September 16th.

Mrs. Livermore, in her speech at Indianapolis, last week, said that she turned her face to the wall and wept because it was a girl. "What a pity that Mrs. L. was born at all."

Captain Wm. Ennis, who was ordered by Gen. Schofield to ascertain how many persons are confined in the Missouri penitentiary for military offences, sentenced by court-martial, reports 175 as the number.

A New York undertaker thus gratefully responds to a friend who had done him a favor: "If you ever want a coffin, call on me. I shall be most happy to bury you and your family at the lowest cost price."

Chicago has a divorce suit in which the parties testified that their child was named "Kitty Mercy Jane Laura Delore Ellen De Lo Brown." This is enough to prove that they ought not to be permitted the opportunity to thus afflict a human being again.

The Richmond, Virginia, authorities have been for some weeks engaged in removing obstructions from their harbor, and have obtained a depth of thirteen feet of water, at high tide, with a good prospect of increasing it another foot by dredging.

The new city government of Washington has been inaugurated. Bills have been prepared for introduction in the Councils revoking the licenses of all hotels that make any distinction in their guests on account of race or color. This is but part of a system of legislation that is to be inaugurated to put the negro on a social level with the whites.

Chief Justice Chase, writes to Washington a flattering account of the improved condition of South Carolina. He says the people are fast recuperating from the effects of the war, and if permitted, would soon be thriving and prosperous. He and his daughter have been everywhere treated with the greatest respect and kindness.

A large number of the National Banks throughout the country, designated as depositaries of public moneys, have applied to the Treasury department for permission to withdraw their bonds filed as security for government deposits, and to be stricken from the list of depositaries.

The officers say that the privilege heretofore enjoyed by their banks, has been a detriment to their business, and that the bonds of which they are deprived can be put to profitable use.—Wall Street Journal.