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From the Sentinel.

LESPEDEZA STRIATA OR JAPAN CLOVER.

An article appeared in the March (1868) number of "The Land We Love," from the pen of Hon. H. W. Ravenel, of Aiken, S. C., giving an account of this plant, and another was published in the September (1868) number of that most excellent agricultural journal, "The Southern Planter and Farmer," printed in Richmond, Va., written by Rev. T. S. W. Mott, of Sherrell's Ford, Catawba county, N. C.

If what is said of it be true, it is destined to be of immense value to this Southern country, as a pasturage and forage plant, and also as a fertilizer for the impoverished lands, and the sooner its cultivation becomes general the better.

So far as known, it is an Eastern plant, native of Japan, China, &c.

It was found and exactly described by Thunberg, in his "Flora Japonica," in 1784. He, at that time, classed it with the Medysarum. Afterwards, it was described by Hooker and Arnott, in "Botany of Beechey's Voyage," as Lespedeza Striata, from collections made in China and Japan.

Mr. Ravenel says: "We have a specimen from Hong Kong, which is identical with this South Carolina plant."

It was unknown to the earlier Botanists of this country, and has only been observed during the last eighteen or twenty years. It was found by Mr. Ravenel, about 1849 or 1850, near Charleston, S. C., and in Berkeley, forty miles higher up, and by others, in other localities of that State, ten or fifteen years since.

Prof. Darby found it at Altoona, Ga., about ten years since, and two or three years later Dr. Mettner collected specimens in the streets of Macon, Ga. It can thus be traced back eighteen or twenty years. How it was introduced is not known; probably by vessels from the Eastern World.

It has spread very rapidly during the last six or eight years, and is now found all through South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and portions of Florida and Mississippi, and as far North as Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Catawba and Rowan counties, in this State, and has attracted general attention in those sections where it has "domesticated" itself.

Perfect adaptation to our soil and climate seem to be one of its characteristics, which is fully shown by its rapid self propagation; and it is probable that, with very little effort, every land owner could in a short time have an abundant supply of pasturage and forage.

Rev. T. S. W. Mott says: "It will grow where ever the seed happens to fall. A proof of this, in March last, I scattered some of the seed on a very small spot of the poorest ground to be found on an old worn out and long abandoned field, and it grew there so vigorously, that, notwithstanding the severe drought we had of six or eight weeks duration, it is now fairly promising, as it does every where else it takes hold, to root out sedge grass and other useless cumberers of the ground! The South, then, has in this plant a direct and fruitful source of wealth."

It was first made known to the public by the Augusta (Ga.) Agricultural Club, in 1867, and since then its value has been set forth by many newspapers and prominent agriculturists in those sections where it has become abundant and well known. Mr. Wm. Sumner, of Pamaria, Lexington District, S. C., says: "Sheep and cattle fatten upon it, and sheep have subsisted nearly all winter where it grew among the pine thickets. My cattle this season was as fat upon it as upon the best pea-fields."

Mr. James Caldwell, Newbury District, says: "It renovates old lands when turned under. It is admirable for preserving lands from washing, and I think can be used to drive out the nut grass."

Col. Gage, of Union, S. C., writes: "Coming in just at this time (Oct.) luxuriantly, when nearly all the native grasses are dying out, it answers a good purpose. Cattle feed upon it voraciously."

Mr. J. W. Watts, of Laurens District, S. C., says: "I regard it as one of the

greatest blessings that could be sent us, for now every one in this country has fat cattle and sheep the whole summer. We have in this vicinity dense pine thickets, with a solid mass of green herbage, where no other grass would grow.

Hon. H. W. Ravenel says of it: "I think our stock, of all kinds, do well on it. The cows are as fat as stall-fed animals; the same may be said of the Merinos. I hope to see it overrun the old fields all over the land, which it bids fair to do in a very few years. It has all the good qualities, and none of the bad ones, of the Bermuda grass. While it will stand any amount of tramping by stock in the pasture, it can't resist the plow and hoe, to which the Bermuda bids defiance."

The following testimony is from the Tuskegee (Ala.) News: "Horses, cows, sheep, goats—everything that eats grass, is delighted with, and fattens upon it. We believe it to be the greatest blessing, in the form of a grass, ever bestowed upon the South."

The Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle and Sentinel says: "We have lately conversed with a planter from Morgan County, who informs us that it has been cut for hay this summer in that county, and that it made a large yield which all kinds of stock seem fond of. We learn that a large planter in Columbia County has made his crop of cotton and corn, this year, upon Lespedeza alone, without feeding on corn and fodder."

Mr. Ravenel also says: "Our experience with this new plant is of course too limited to authorize us in endorsing all the extravagant praise which has been called forth. From the testimony, thus far universally favorable, we are inclined to believe it will prove a God sent to our poor exhausted lands, which have always wanted a hardy, vigorous grass or clover like the region of country further North."

These statements, coming from all parts of that portion of the country where it is now growing, ought to be sufficient to induce agriculturalists to give it a trial. P.

THE PERSECUTION IN JAPAN.

"W. A. P. M.," a correspondent of the Philadelphia "Presbyterian," gives the facts in regard to the persecution of Christians in Japan. He says that on the 7th of July, one hundred and fourteen native Christians, chiefly men and heads of families, were put on board the Japanese steamer, Sir H. Parkes, of Nagasaki, and carried out to sea. A rumor spread that they were drowned; but on careful inquiry, I learned that they were destined to a harder fate, viz: penal servitude in the mines of the North. One hundred more were detained in prison, probably to be taken to the same place of banishment on the return of the steamer; and the names of four thousand were placed on the list of the proscribed, all of whom were to be destroyed without mercy, if they should refuse to recant.

The several consuls, resident at Nagasaki, united in remonstrating with the authorities against this barbarous proceeding, but the only satisfaction they obtained was an insolent recommendation to limit their attention to their own affairs. The ministers at Yeddo also entered a protest, but with no better success. It is not, however, improbable that the French may resort to more stringent measures. They seem to have been seeking for a pretext for interference in the affairs of the empire, and now they have it. Bishop Petitjean, of Nagasaki, proceeded to Yokohama on our vessel, the Costa Rica, for the purpose of laying the state of the case before the Minister of France, and it was from him that I learned most of the facts relating to this painful subject.

The Connecticut people have given the John Allen speculation rather a cold cut. Allen was announced to lecture in Stamford—admission 50 cents. The only persons that attended were Allen himself and the members of his suite.

A Kentuckian worth five thousand three hundred dollars worth of watermelons this season.

From the Wilmington Journal.

THE RADICAL WAR.

We have frequently referred to the Radical scheme of war, in connection with the militia bill passed by the recent Legislature, and publish to-day the comments of the Raleigh Sentinel upon this question, containing the bill in full.

We hear it repeated by Radical orators and read it in papers, that with Grant's election there will be peace, and with Seymour's there will be war. In the event of the election of the latter who is to wage this war, and against whom is it to be waged? For what cause will it be inaugurated, and what object is to be gained thereby? Surely the Democratic party will not force a war upon the country. No such suicidal policy will be adopted. Deprived of power for a long series of years, its continuance in the control of the government would depend upon a faithful and successful adherence to the great reforms in the expenses, finances and taxation which its platform requires, and which its leaders promise. In fact, with a restoration of the powers of which the President and Supreme Court have been illegally deprived, and the restriction of Congress within its legislative sphere, there can be no cause or opportunity for discord or trouble.

What could induce the Southern people, that is, the Democratic white masses, to enter into war, or in any manner to encounter strife and contention. If such things result it is the happiness and lives of their families that are placed in jeopardy—it is their property which will be destroyed. Nay, if the negroes are to be organized into politico-military companies, during the time necessary for their preparation and drill, supported through the Freedmen's Bureau by the taxes which the whites must pay, it is also the crops of those Democrats which will suffer and be destroyed for want of the labor required for their cultivation and harvesting. In no view of the case, therefore, can the Democratic party want or tolerate war, or any unusual disturbance. Its evil effects must be borne by them, while in no event could they be benefited.

Notwithstanding their desire for peace, our people are not unmindful of the actual preparations now being forwarded by the Radical party leaders to involve this State in turmoil and bloodshed. With calmness they look upon the organization of a partisan militia. The order of the Commander-in-Chief, appointing field and general officers, with their various staffs, the drilling of companies of negroes, and all the preparations for actual war, are viewed without alarm, but with anxiety and concern. They appeal to the Federal authorities to nip this treason against the peace and quiet of the State and country in the bud, for those who urge on and support these measures are as deaf to the voice of reason as they are indifferent to the welfare of North Carolina. The troubles in Georgia, and the terrible consequence of arming negroes against the whites of that State speak volumes adverse to such an attempt here. But to men fatally bent on mischief, such appeals only whet their appetites, and encourage their fiendish desires to promote strife.

We shall continue to urge these unlawful and wicked preparations for war upon the attention of the General Government, and ask the President and Secretary of War to thwart the evil machinations of these bad men; we shall continue to urge the greatest moderation and forbearance upon our citizens, and to submit to much in order to preserve the peace. But we warn these men who are organizing this unlawful military force, that they cannot be too careful how they use the means placed into their hands for wicked purposes. There is a point beyond which moderation ceases to be a virtue. Men who will not protect the lives and welfare of their families, or will not defend the rights of their persons and property, deserve to forfeit one and the others.

The receipts of the billiard tables in Paris are \$22,000,000 per annum.

FITFUL REVOLUTIONS.

Twenty years ago was memorable in Europe as the year of revolutions. In February, 1848, occurred the abdication of Louis Philippe, followed by the establishment of the republic. In almost every part of Europe the influence of this revolution was at once felt. Paris at this period was not only France, it was the Continent. In Italy, Rome, Austria, Prussia, and the lesser States of Germany the people everywhere rose and overturned their governments, in some cases almost without an effort. The utmost enthusiasm was excited in the United States, where it was believed that republics were going to succeed monarchies throughout the whole of the old world, but after a brief interval these hopes were disappointed. Society settled back to its old forms almost as rapidly as it had thrown them off. The bubble of the French republic, blown by a few literary and political gentlemen in Paris, proved too fragile for long continuance. In 1851, the Prince President, Louis Napoleon, wiped out its last vestige, and afterwards, by a little skillful force in the beginning, obtained the consent of France to become Emperor.

It may be well to bear in mind the events of 1848 and their political consequences before we indulge in building air castles on the indications which are alleged to exist that Europe is once more on the verge of revolution, and that the ball of republicanism is likely to be opened by the triumph of the Spanish insurrection. Experience does not warrant us in being sanguine of any permanent liberal results following abrupt transitions from vassalage to freedom. The faculty of self-government is a plant of slow growth, requiring centuries of nurture and training before it becomes matured and self-reliant. The immense military armaments of Europe at the present time render this an inopportune moment for the operation of republicanism, even if Europe were otherwise prepared for it. When the people so far surrender themselves to the passions for national aggrandizement or military glory as to permit vast armies to be organized like those of Prussia and France, they can scarcely hope to overturn the dynasties which they have unconsciously armed and equipped for their own subjugation. Nevertheless, the democratic principle is daily gaining strength in the old world, and even if it is not able as yet to change the forms of government, it may and probably will secure gradual and substantial concessions to popular rights, as it has already done to some extent in Prussia, and has a fair prospect of accomplishing in England.

Baltimore Sun.

THE LATE EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH AMERICA.—Additional details of the terrible scenes during the late earthquakes in South America have been received. In Ecuador alone, it is now stated, the list of killed amounts to 40,000. In Peru the dead are yet hidden under the ruins of houses in many instances, and a stretch infests the air which, it is thought, will produce a pestilence. A band of robbers are roaming through the ruins robbing every one who has anything left.

N. Y. Herald.

New York city had a little something to eat last week. There arrived at the Commodore stock yards 215 railroad cars, bringing 1,398 head of cattle, 9,295 hogs, 4,459 sheep, besides 241 horses.

The distilleries about Richmond, it is estimated, are manufacturing about 4,000 gallons of whiskey per day. The demand is in advance of the supply.

One who has ciphered it out says that two cents placed on compound interest would accumulate sufficiently to pay our national debt in four hundred and fifty-six years.

A boy of sixteen, at Poughkeepsie, shot and killed his sister, a young lady of twenty, last Saturday. He playfully pointed a pistol at her, when it went off and killed her.

Fifteen persons were arrested in New York on the criminal charge of carrying on the lottery business without paying the internal revenue tax.