



Healthy Poultry.

The birds of the air are never sick; they die either by old age or natural casualties. They choose their food according to the season and their actual wants. Poultry at large upon a farm are supposed to have at command all they need for health and business (the business of producing eggs). But this is not often really the case, very few farms being able to supply the many things needful. Lime, gravel, sand, good water at-will, and a full variety of both hard and soft feed, grain and insects, worms, etc., are seldom found on any one farm. When they are, and the shelter from extremes of heat and cold (trees in summer and warm housing in winter) are ample, there is no cholera, croup, pip, or other disease.

When a man knows what his farm lacks for his poultry, it is generally easily supplied; but few persons can tell exactly what is lacking. There is one thing, however, which is very important, which nature does not supply and which civilization makes necessary, and that is charcoal to keep the stomach sweet, to prevent indigestion and to maintain a constant good appetite.

Charcoal made of wood does not answer the purpose; it has no taste of food, is not attractive to the fowl, and is seldom eaten. But if any one will put an ear of ripe corn into the fire till the grains are well charred, and then shell off the corn and throw it to his flock, he will see an eagerness developed and a healthy condition brought about which will make a decided improvement. All pale combs will become a bright red, that busy song which precedes laying will be heard, and the average yield of eggs will be greatly increased.

PLANT CORN.

Now that the idea of March is upon us and the momentous issue as to what we should plant must be decided, we would cast our vote emphatically for more corn and less cotton throughout the South. It would be a revolution indeed, but one that would achieve miracles for the recuperation of our sorely-pressed people. We would no more hear the wail from the snowy fields of the South: "Cotton cannot be made for what it will bring!" Little cotton would bring much, and be a very "king" in the market, when now it lies in beggarly rags and sackcloth! It would be the loadstone to draw all the magnets from the North and Europe, and all the hoarded gold besides. The man who all he does, then, would reap more reward than he with ten now! And the corn. It would prove the hero of the campaign. Our homes would lean on our castles in its abundance. Lean knee and cholera-slendered hogs—"et id omne genus"—would disappear, and in their places, as if by magic, would come forth the seven years of plenty—smooth, round and glossy. Plenty would be in all our borders. The "cattle on a thousand hills" would rejoice. The people would catch new inspiration and impetus, and the South would be redeemed!

The *Son of the Soil*, New Orleans, makes the following appropriate remarks on this subject:

We have often heard it remarked that it is folly to attempt to raise your own corn, for then it is not worth anything. Supposing it is not. Is not the producer assured of his future if his crops are full to overflowing? Is he not far more independent than the man who has none, even if his commercial value is trifling?

The true secret of all successful farming is to raise your own supplies and sell only your surplus. If this course could be universally adopted we should hear no more complaints that "farming don't pay." We should find no more first, second and third mortgages on our farms; everybody would be prosperous and money would jingle in every man's pocket.

We have not attempted to write an exhaustive article upon this subject, though it is well worthy of our consideration. Neither would we confine the self-supporting labors of the farmer to corn alone. There are many other kinds of grains, roots, etc., etc., which every farmer should raise, if he uses the prudence which other industries demand. Especially should the vegetable garden be a prominent factor in every farmer's table of values. With an abundance of corn, potatoes, cabbage, pumpkins, turnips and the hundred other "trifles," he can be as independent as a king and be happy himself and make everybody and everything around him happy also.

As we said in the beginning of this article, now is the time to determine just what and how much shall be done. And we do not fear that too much can be done but it is not wise to attempt what cannot be well done. It is folly to waste time and labor by diluting the energies and means and endeavoring to cultivate a hundred acres, when better results can be obtained by concentration upon ten.

Let the present year be one of thoughtful and intelligent labor. Let the head advise before the hands attempt to execute. Let us have a little more brain work and we shall not require so much muscle. We must learn to systematize our labors, if we desire to obtain for them the greatest rewards.—*American Farmer.*

HEALTH OF COUNTRY HOMES.

The House.—The only probable source of danger to health in a farm-house lies in the condition of the cellar, or of the space which separates the lowest floor from the ground. If there be a cellar, observe whether it is dry and free from standing water or decaying vegetable matter (allowed to accumulate there through the negligence of servants). If the house is built upon the ground, the lower floor should be at least 18 inches above the ground, and the sides should be open that the air can circulate freely through the space.

The Well.—If the water is clear and sweet, and free from any unpleasant odor, one may pretty safely assume that no harm is to be anticipated from this source. Farmers are often in the habit, however, of hanging meat in the well for the purpose of keeping it cool. A pretty severe epidemic (in 1874) of diarrhoea, in a boarding-house at one of the healthiest Long Island Summer resorts, was traced to the existence of a decomposing shoulder of mutton at the bottom of the well, into which it had accidentally fallen.

The Privy.—There is little or no danger from contamination of the air by the contents of the privy. The real danger lies in the diffusion of these contents through the soil and their contamination of the water of the well. To avoid such a possibility, the privy should be placed at least 60 or 70 feet from the well, and—if the direction of the natural drainage currents be known—in such a position that the contents of the privy will drain away from the well. Better yet, let the privy be so constructed that its offensive contents shall simply lie upon the surface of the ground, and let there be easy access to it from behind, so that fresh earth may be frequently added, and the entire accumulation removed, say once a week.

The Slop.—How common it is for the kitchen authorities in a farm-house to throw the slops upon the ground, just outside the kitchen door, and perhaps within six feet of the well. I have known of a boarding-house epidemic of diarrhoea which could be traced to no other source than the contamination of the well-water by a shallow pool of sun-exposed, foul-smelling slops. A cemented cistern should be built about 75 or 100 feet from the house, and at a distance from the well, and to this all the kitchen slops, vegetable waste, &c., should be conducted through a suitable pipe or conduit. From the cistern these matters may be fed to the pigs, or thrown upon the ground at a proper distance from the house.

The Ice.—The ice may be so loaded with foul vegetable matter as to give rise to quite severe disturbances of the bowels and stomach. If it be found free from an unpleasant odor, one may safely assume that no danger is to be anticipated from this source. An inveterate epidemic of bowel troubles were traced to impure ice last summer at Rye Beach.

Drainage.—This is a more difficult subject to investigate, and one concerning which I hardly dare venture any remarks in this place. In a general way, however, the statement may be that pools of standing water, or marshy flats near brooks or streams (except, perhaps, at the seaside), are not desirable neighbors. This is especially the case if the house in which you live is situated in a hollow (as in some mountain valleys, however elevated it may be above the sea), where the air does not freely circulate. The prevalence of typhoid fever in some of the Vermont and New York mountain valleys, especially in early Autumn, is probably to be explained by the existence of just such conditions. In the case of a large hotel, the investigation should be practically the same as in case of farm-house. The difficulties in the way of such an investigation will be found, however, to be much greater, and it would probably be better in such a case to secure the assistance of some physician or engineer who is familiar with the subject.

We are reliably informed that a party of Revenue officers shot a very aged man in Alexander county, this week, while he was paddling across the Catawba river from a bar-room on the opposite shore, where he had purchased a jug of liquor. He was shot in three or four places and is not expected to recover. Parties who have known him for a number of years, say that he is an inoffensive citizen and was never known to make or sell a gallon of spirits in his life. The good people of Alexander county, of both political parties, are very indignant at the perpetration of this unprovoked act.—*Statesville Landmark.*

SOLOMON TO YOUNG MEN.

The wisdom of Solomon has become a universal proverb, in regard to whose truthfulness, few will hazard any question. His counsels, therefore, are entitled to the highest consideration, and his own personal consistency with respect to his teachings, worthy of the closest imitation.

When he had inherited a great kingdom, with his riches, power and glory, he sought of the Lord, as the indispensable qualifications for his exalted station, *wisdom and knowledge*; esteeming all other endowments as secondary. Nor did he esteem these intellectual treasures as of cardinal importance to himself only; his writings abound with counsels and commands showing his high estimate of their value to all men, in all conditions of life. Hear him: *Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go; keep her, for she is thy life. Apply thy heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.*—This counsel clearly implies earnest intellectual endeavor to acquire knowledge, and firm, unyielding resolve to maintain the priceless possession.—The motive consideration, too, is, in the highest degree, inspiring: *for she is thy life.* By life here, the wise and great teacher evidently intends, that marvelous combination of intellectual activities, and moral faculties, which distinguish man from, and elevate him above, the brute or mere animal, and which, if uncultivated, tend constantly toward this lower order of being. In view of these two opposite tendencies of that wonderful thing, here designated *life* and to inspire worthy aspirations with respect to it, Solomon says again: *Wise men lay up knowledge, and that the wise man will hear, and increase learning.* And as if this were insufficient to enforce the counsels of wisdom, he urges the revolting, but pertinent considerations, that *fools hate instruction—fools hate knowledge—and that poverty and shame shall be to him, that rifieth instruction.*

The writings of this remarkable man—this wise and safe counselor, abound with commands, admonitions, and warnings with respect to the high obligations and priceless value of mental culture. And as the only ground of a high grade of civilization, it is eminently worthy of the counsels of inspiration; and so commends itself to the cardinal consideration of mankind, that the neglect of it, is certainly one of the most humiliating shortcomings of humanity.

The lessons of wisdom on this subject, which we have been considering, are especially designed for the young and in their fullness are only adapted to that susceptible and plastic period of life. In fact, the wise king of Israel specifically and distinctly declares, that the object of these lessons is to teach the young man knowledge. None knew better than the author of these counsels, that if knowledge be acquired in the degree of insuring the highest exaltation, refinement, and happiness of our race it must be sought when young—when the mind and the body—the whole man—are in the condition to be saturated and fashioned by it.—A period in every human life will come, and it soon comes, when the channels for the influx of its rich treasures will be closed, and the soul, with capacities to fill immensity, and grasp the infinite, will shrink, and shrivel, and waste—a thing of loathing and disgust in the eye of all virtuous intelligence, if it shall have been neglected, and denied the sustenance and vigor which true knowledge affords as its "necessary food." How eminently suggestive, this immortal wreck, in the view of inspired minds, which prompted the utterances: *That, the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge!* And how it vindicates the choice, and counsel of Solomon: *Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out, and come in before this people; Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold!* From the days of Solomon down to the present, in the judgment of all wise and good men, knowledge takes precedence among human endowments; is of easier acquisition than any other; and invests with their chief importance all others. What are gold, silver, land, houses—all the piled up perishable memorials of wealth without it? If there be an object on the face of the earth, down upon which angelic intelligence looks with a dimming tear in its large, bright eye, it is the little hillock of purely material treasures, piled up by the instinct, cunning and plodding of a dwarfed soul, literally imprisoned within the pale of its own wasting possessions—and which does not, and cannot, go out in active, manly respondings to the ten thousand objects of wonder, usefulness, and enjoyment, by which it is surrounded. This is the condition of all the boasters of earthly possessions, without knowledge. To young men, these considerations are of the highest importance. The voice of Solomon has been hushed in death for centuries; but his counsels, replete with the riches of wisdom and knowledge, have come down through the ages and to-day appeal to the youth of our country. *Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go; keep her, for she is thy life.* The schools are open; seek therein knowledge—knowledge of God; of his wonderful works; of his laws—knowledge of yourselves; of your minds; your bodies; your surroundings; and of your own high and glo-

rious destiny. In order to attain the exalting, refining, and God-honoring achievements of knowledge, it must be sought diligently and perseveringly in the plastic season of youth—this is the period upon which all depends; it is well said by Ruskins: "There is not an hour of it, but is trembling with destinies,—not a moment of which, once past, the appointed work can ever be done." And for the encouragement of the young and inexperienced, we would say, that labors to acquire knowledge, pay as they go—every endeavor is a success, and every achievement is fraught with its own sustaining and animating inspirations; so that the whole course is one of pleasure, as well as profit. The whole search after truth, however laborious and protracted, is replete with high and pure satisfactions. Mallebranche says: "If I held truth captive in my hand, I should open my hand and let it fly, in order that I might again pursue and capture it." These are the experiences and counsels of Solomon, of ancient and modern thinkers, and of the good and great, whose names adorn the history of our race. To school, then, young man, if even at the cost of all your purely material possessions.

Jennie (looking in a milliner's window) "Don't you think they are very pretty?" Lizzie (whose thoughts are on the other side of the street)—"Very, especially the one with the long, black side whiskers."—*Boston Globe.*

THE OBSERVER

Needs no formal statement of principles, nor elaborate recital of what it will do, or expects to do in the coming year. It can offer no stronger guarantee for its future than it offered by its past conduct. It will labor earnestly and faithfully for the advancement of the Democratic party, and for the good of the State, which it believes to be one and inseparable.

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1. Waverley, 2 volumes.
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To each and every person who sends us \$2 for one year's subscription to *The Observer*, weekly, will be mailed, postpaid, a copy of one of the following valuable books:

1. A. H. Stephens' History of the U. S.
2. Stephens' History of Eng. Language.
3. Reed's Memories of Familiar Books.
4. Poems of Henry Thoreau.
5. Poems of Paul H. Haynes.
6. E. W. Miller's Sea Gift.
7. The Old Tramp.
8. Harvested, by same author.
9. The Laid Diamonds, by same.
10. Flesh and Spirit, by same author.
11. Ellen Story.
12. Thompson's Hoosier Mosaics.

Or, to any one who may send us \$24 for twelve annual subscriptions, the twelve books above named will be forwarded by mail or express free of all charges.

To that person, man, woman, or child, who may send us the cash for the largest number of annual subscriptions to *The Observer*, daily, or weekly, or both combined, between January 1, 1877, and March 1, 1877, will be forwarded, free of all charges, all the books named as premiums to each paper, and a commission of TEN PER CENT. OF THE AMOUNT REMITTED.

To the person who may send us the second largest list, one-third of the volumes named, and the same cash commission.

To the person who may send us the third largest list, one-third the volumes named, and the same cash commission.

Samples of the above books, all well printed and bound, and most of them pronounced by the press north and south to be gems of typographical beauty, may be seen at the office of *The Observer*.

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Address THE OBSERVER, Raleigh, N. C.

Carolina Central Railway Co.

OFFICE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, Wilmington, N. C. April 14, 1875.

Change of Schedule,

On and after Friday, April 16th, 1875, the trains will run over this Railway as follows.

PASSENGER TRAINS.

Leave Wilmington at .. 7:15 A. M.
Arrive at Charlotte at .. 7:15 P. M.
Leave Charlotte at .. 7:00 A. M.
Arrive in Wilmington at .. 7:00 P. M.

FREIGHT TRAINS.

Leave Wilmington at .. 6:00 P. M.
Arrive at Charlotte at .. 6:00 P. M.
Leave Charlotte at .. 6:00 A. M.
Arrive in Wilmington at .. 6:00 A. M.

MIXED TRAINS.

Leave Charlotte at .. 8:00 A. M.
Arrive at Buffalo at .. 12 M.
Leave Buffalo at .. 12:30 P. M.
Arrive in Charlotte at .. 4:30 P. M.

No Trains on Sunday except one freight train that leaves Wilmington at 6 P. M., instead of on Saturday night.

Connections.

Connects at Wilmington with Wilmington & Weldon, and Wilmington, Columbia & Augusta Railroads, Semi-weekly New York and Tri-weekly Baltimore and weekly Philadelphia Steamers, and at River Boats to Fayetteville.

Connects at Charlotte with its Western Division, North Carolina Railroad, Charlotte & Statesville Railroad, Charlotte & Atlanta Air Line, and Charlotte, Columbia & Augusta Railroad.

Thus applying the whole West, Northwest and South West with a short and cheap line to the Seaboard and Europe.

S. L. FREMONT, Chief Engineer and Superintendent, May 6, 1875.—

KERR CRAIG,
Attorney at Law,
Salisbury, N. C.

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Board per day .. \$ 1 50
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The undersigned tenders his thanks to many friends who have called on him at the Mansion, and assures them that no effort shall be spared to make their future visits pleasant.

The Travelling Public will always find pleasant quarters and refreshing fare.

WM. ROWZEE.
Feb. 3, 1876. 17:4

Piedmont Air Line Railway

Richmond & Danville, Richmond & Danville E. W. H. C. Division, and North Western N. C. R. W.

CONDENSED TIME-TABLE
In Effect on and after Sunday, Dec. 10th, 1876

GOING NORTH.			
STATIONS.		MAIL.	
Leave Charlotte	4:55 A.M.		
" Air-Line Junction	5:20 "		
" Salisbury	7:25 "		
" Greensboro	9:55 "		
" Danville	12:28 P.M.		
" Dundee	12:46 "		
" Burkeville	5:05 "		
Arrive at Richmond	7:48 P.M.		
GOING SOUTH.			
STATIONS.		MAIL.	
Leave Richmond	7:50 A.M.		
" Burkeville	10:45 "		
" Dundee	2:55 P.M.		
" Danville	2:59 "		
" Greensboro	5:40 "		
" Salisbury	8:15 "		
" Air-Line Junction	10:25 "		
Arrive at Charlotte	10:37 "		
GOING EAST.			
STATIONS.		MAIL.	
Leave Greensboro	6:05 A.M.	Ar. 6:25 P.M.	
" Salisbury	7:25 "	Lv. 4:15 "	
Arrive at Raleigh	2:41 P.M.	Ar. 12:30 P.M.	
Arrive at Goldsboro	5:15 P.M.	Lv. 10:10 P.M.	
GOING WEST.			
STATIONS.		MAIL.	
Leave Greensboro	5:50 P.M.		
Arrive at Salem	8:00 "		
Leave Salem	7:30 A.M.		
Arrive at Greensboro	9:35 "		

PASSENGER TRAINS LEAVING RALEIGH AT 12:34 P. M. connects at Greensboro with the Southern bound train; making the quickest time to all Southern cities.

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For further information address
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Genl. Passenger Agent,
Richmond, Va.
June 6, '76

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Statesville, N. C.
MRS. E. N. GRANT, PRINCIPAL.

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Long ago the world was convinced that sewing can be done by machinery—the only question now is, what machine combines in itself the greatest number of important advantages. Just here the

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comes in with its self-regulating tension, sewing from muslin to leather without change of thread or needle, then from right to left and left to right—while one style of the machine sews to or from the operator, as may be desired and with stitch alike on both sides. Its elegance of finish and smoothness of operation, variety of work and reasonableness in price, the *Florence* has won the highest distinction. F. G. Cartland, Greensboro, N. C., is the Agent. He is also Agent for

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upon which 20 pairs of socks have been knit per day, without seam, and with perfect heel and toe. Hoods, Shaws, Scarfs, Gloves, &c., may be knit upon this *Wagon's* *Florence*, which costs but \$3.

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ADVERTISING RATES REASONABLE. Address, WM. H. BERNARD, Editor & Proprietor, WILMINGTON, N. C.

GAPE FEAR.
ANNOUNCEMENT.

WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 16, 1875.

From this date the publication of the *Gape Fear* will be discontinued. The undersigned has purchased the name, good-will, material and business of the *Gape Fear*. The *Gape Fear* will be issued Friday morning, the 19th inst.; the Weekly, Friday, the 26th inst. The *Gape Fear* office will be in charge of the old and experienced foreman, Mr. Wm. M. Hayes.

The Journal will contain the telegrams, local, commercial and general news, editorials, &c.

As heretofore, the Journal will be thoroughly and unswervingly Democratic. Business men will consult their own interests by advertising in both editions of the Journal. All contracts made with the *Gape Fear* will be fulfilled.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

DAILY JOURNAL per annum	\$6 00
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WEEKLY JOURNAL per annum	1 50

Mr. William Kerner is city agent. 15:11 C. W. HARRIS

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Salisbury, N. C., June 8—11.

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Aug. 19.—11.

Send 25c. to G. F. ROWELL & CO., New York, for Pamphlet of 100 pages, containing lists of 3,000 newspapers, and estimates showing cost of advertising. March 9, 76 1/2.

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