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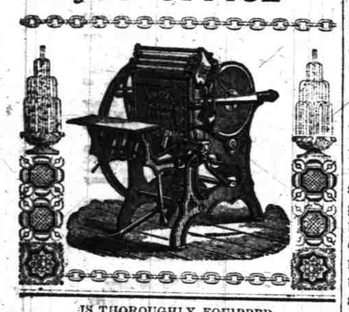

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Feb. 3rd, 1881.

THIS PAPER may be found on file at Geo. P. Rowell & Co's Newspaper Advertising Bureau (10 Spruce St.), where advertising contracts may be made for it IN NEW YORK.

Tobacco Culture.

SELECTION OF SEED.

Southern Fertilizing Company.

There is no farm crop grown as a staple in the United States that pays better than *good* tobacco; and to grow good tobacco requires, in the first place, good seed; for good seed is at the foundation of all successful farming, and more essential, if possible, as regards tobacco, than in any other crop. For in this, the range of types, grades, and prices, are wider than in any other crop, while the seed affect and control all these more than any other. Soil, climate, and management, next to variety, operate to determine the character of the product.

The variety must be suited to the type which the planter intends to raise, and the soil must be adapted to the type, or failure is certain. Bright yellow tobacco cannot be produced on dark rich soil, nor rich dark "shipping" on poor gray soil; nor will the rich, coarse varieties produce fine silky yellow goods, or the thin silky varieties make heavy, fat, tough export tobaccos.

There has been a wonderful improvement in varieties of tobacco during the past generation—improvement by selection in the old kinds and the introduction of new varieties, with superior qualities and characteristics for every type of tobacco. None but an old fogy will continue to plant the old, unimproved varieties because they were his father's or grandfather's favorites. The world moves, seeds are improved, and industries developed and advanced. Our ancestors succeeded with the varieties of tobacco they planted, when there was mainly but one type—the dark shipping—but taste and fashion change, new types are wanted and new varieties suited to these types, and planters who meet the demand are those who make the most money by tobacco planting.

Virginia is the home of the tobacco plant, and here it develops to the highest perfection, and, consequently, here have originated the best and finest varieties. She grows now all the types used in plug tobacco and for pipes and cigarettes; and she has some sixteen hundred square miles of soil suited to another type—Cigar Tobacco—and these soils lie mainly in the Piedmont country, where our people are striving to compete with the West in growing grain. Here is an opportunity that ought to be improved.

It is a recognized fact that where any flora develops to greatest perfection, there is where the *best* seed can be grown. It would pay planters in the South and West, who grow the yellow and dark export types, to get their seeds every year from Virginia, as market-gardeners get seeds from localities where the several varieties develop to greatest perfection, rather than grow their supplies at lower cost, but under less favoring conditions, as to adaptability of soil, climate, &c. They know where to get the best, and are aware of the tendency to degeneration in seeds generally, and the importance of "a frequent recurrence to first principles," to promote healthy normal growth and maturity.

Planters have no excuse for using poor seeds when pedigree seeds of all types may be so cheaply procured. The cost of tobacco seed per acre ranges from ten to twenty cents—the cost for seed of no other farm crop is so little.

VARIETIES FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF TOBACCO.

We will premise by stating that only an approximate guide may be given for the selection of varieties suited to the several types. The variation in soil and climate in different localities greatly modify the selection. For, what is best in some localities is not best in others; and trial, at last must determine what is best in every case. When this is found, it is well to stick to it and plant mainly of this variety and sparingly of others until a better is found, if possible.

We recommend for dark, heavy shipping, *Medley Pryor* and *Blue Pryor*.

For mahogany wrappers, *Tuckaho*, *Sweet Oronoko*, and *Gold Leaf*.

For cutters, use *Granville Yellow*, *Gooch*, *Hester*, and *Tuckahoe*.

For fine yellow wrappers, use *Granville Yellow*, *Tuckahoe*, *White Stem Oronoko*, *Yellow Pryor*, *Yellow Oronoho* and *Hester*.

For sweet fillers, *Sweet Oronoko* and *Flanagan*.

For yellow fillers and cigarettes, *Hyco*, *Granville Yellow*, and *Silky Pryor*—the latter makes fine wrappers on some soils.

If the planter finds, after a trial, that any variety fails to do well on his soil let him discard it, make a note of it, and select another.

The *White-Stem Oronoko*, *Yellow Pryor*, and *Yellow Oronoko* are varieties that rarely fail to make fine wrappers, wherever such can be grown.

The *Tuckahoe* is a new candidate for favor, and deserves extensive trial, as it has proved, in Virginia, to produce the richest yellow goods of any other—a grade now much in demand. Its comparative freedom from spot and burning is greatly in its favor, having proved nearest of all to be drought proof.

The *Sweet Oronoko*, for plug fillers, has never been excelled.

The *Hester* and *Gooch* succeed best in some localities for brights or cutters.

Hyco is decidedly the easiest of any to cure yellow; requires a moist, but not wet, gray soil; rarely succeeds on red or thirsty soil.

The *Tuckahoe* and *Hester* possess a wider adaptability to soils and types than any others.

PREPARATION OF PLANT BEDS.

Open Air Beds.—But there is no question that open air beds are cheapest. And where this mode of raising plants is practicable, it is greatly to be preferred for the main supply of pants. It is a well established opinion that plants raised in the open air transplanting better and usually grow off quicker than if raised in hot bed or cold-frame.

Selection of Locality.—On the selection of a proper locality for a plant bed, and its preparation, largely depends the timely supply of strong, healthy plants, without which it is impossible to raise a crop of fine grade. The planter, therefore, cannot be too careful in choosing a sheltered spot, neither too dry, as rich naturally as can be found, and located so as to possess different degrees of moisture.

Go into the woods, original forest, if possible, and select a spot near a branch or stream of water embracing both hill-side and flat, and having a southern or southeastern exposure, protected by woods on the north. Burn over the plat intended for plants either by the old or new method. The first consists in placing down a bed of wood on small skids three to four feet apart on the ground well cleared and raked. Then fire this bed of wood and permit it to remain burning long enough to cook the soil brown for half an inch deep. With hooks, or old hoes fastened to long poles, pull the burning mass of brands a distance of four and a half or five feet, throw on brush and wood, and continue burning and moving the fire until the bed is burned over. Never burn when the land is wet. It will require from one and a half to two hours to cook the soil properly.

* * * * * *

But any mode of burning the plat will suffice, provided that it is effectually done. After the plat has been burned and has cooled, rake off the large coals and brands, but let the ashes remain, as they are essentially a first class manure. Then coulter over the plat deeply or break with grub hoes, and make fine the soil by repeated chopping and raking, observing not to bring the subsoil to the surface, and remove all roots and tufts. Manure from stable, hog pen or poultry house, or some reliable commercial fertilizer (I use the "Anchor Brand") should be chopped into and thoroughly incorporated with the soil while preparing the bed to be sown. Experience has demonstrated that it is better to use both. But beware of manure containing grass seed. The judgment of the planter must guide him in the amount of fertilizing material to be applied at this stage; but it is well to remind him that the tobacco plant rarely responds to homœpathic doses of plant food, but that the allopathic usage suits it best.

The best way to sow the seed is so mix them thoroughly with a fertilizer or dry ashes, and sow once regularly over the bed, reserving seed enough to cross sow to promote regularity. The tobacco seed is the smallest of all farm seeds, and consequently requires a light covering. If the seed are sown before the 20th of February, the best way is to firm the surface of the bed by treading it over closely, but if sown later, sweep lightly over with a brush or light rake. Then run surface drains through the bed, with inclination enough to pass off the water. To do this properly, run them off four or five feet apart with the foot, then open with a narrow grubbing hoe to the depth of three or four inches. Then trench deeply around the outside of the bed, to ward off surface water and prevent washing.

John Ploughman's Talk.

ON FAULTS.

He who boasts of being perfect is perfect in folly. I have been a good deal up and down in the world, and I never did see either a perfect horse or a perfect man, and I never shall till two Sundays come together. You cannot get white flour out of a coal sack, nor perfection out of human nature; he who looks for it had better look for sugar in the sea. The old saying is, "Lifeless, faultless:" of dead men we should say nothing but good, but as for the living, they are all tarred more or less with the black brush, and half an eye can see it. Every head has a soft place in it, and every heart has its black drop. Every rose has its prickles, and every day its night. Even the sun shows spots, and the skies are darkened with clouds. Nobody is so wise but he has folly enough to stock a stall of Vanity Fair. Where I could not see the fool's-cap, I have nevertheless heard the bells jingle. As there is no sunshine without some shadows, so is all human good mixed up with more or less of evil; even poor law guardians have their little failings, and parish beadles are not wholly of heavenly nature. The best wine has its lees. All men's faults are not written on their foreheads, and its quite as well they are not, or hats would need very wide brims, yet as sure as eggs are eggs, faults of some sort nestle in every bosom. There's no telling when a man's sins may show themselves, for hares pop out of the ditch just when you are not looking for them. A horse that is weak in the legs may not stumble for a mile or two, but it is in him, and the rider had better hold him up well. The tabby cat is not lapping milk just now, but leave the dairy open and we will see if she is not as bad a thief as the kitten. There's fire in the flint cool as it looks: wait till the steel gets a knock at it, and you will see. Everybody can read that riddle, but it is not everybody that will remember to keep his gunpowder out of the way of the candle.

If we would always recollect that we live among men who are imperfect, we should not be in such a fever when we find out our friend's failings; what's rotten will rend and cracked pots will leak. Blessed is he who expects nothing of poor flesh and blood, for he shall never be disappointed. The best of men are men at the best, and the best wax will melt.

It is a good horse that never stumbles,
And a good wife that never grumbles.

But surely such horses and wives are only found in the fool's paradise, where dumplings grow on trees. In this wicked world the straightest timber has knots in it, and the cleanest field of wheat has its share of weeds. The most careful driver one day upsets the cart; the cleverest cook spills a little broth, and as I know to my sorrow a very decent ploughman will now and then break the plough, and often make a crooked furrow. It is foolish to turn off a tried friend because of a failing or two, for you may get rid of a one-eyed nag and buy a blind one. Being all of us full of faults, we ought to keep two bears, and learn to bear and forbear with one another; since we will all live in glass houses, we should none of us throw stones. Everybody laughs when the sauce-pan says to the kettle, "How black you are!" Other men's imperfections show us our imperfections, for one sheep is much like another; and if there's an apple in my neighbor's eye, there is no doubt one in mine. We ought to use our neighbors as looking-glasses to see our own faults in, and mend in ourselves what we see in them.

I have no patience with those who poke their noses into every man's house to smell out his faults, and put on magnifying-glasses to discover their neighbors' flaws; such folks had better look at home, they might see the devil where they little expected. What we wish to see we shall or think we see. Faults are always thick where love is thin. A white cow is all black if your eye chooses to make it so. If we sniff long enough at rose water, we will find out it has a bad smell. It would be a far more pleasant business, at least for other people, if fault hunters would turn their dogs to hunt out the good points in other folks, the game would pay better, and nobody would stand with a pitch-fork to keep the huntsmen off his farm. As for our own faults, it would take a large slate to hold the account of them, but, thank God, we know where to take them, and how to get the better of them. With all our faults God loves us still if we are trusting in his Son, therefore let us not be down-hearted, but hope to live and learn, and do good service before we die. Though the cart creaks it will get home with its load, and the old horse, broken-kneed as he is, will do a sight of work yet. There's no use in laying down and doing nothing because we cannot do everything as we should like. Faults or no faults, ploughing must be done, and imperfect people must do it too, or there will be no harvest next year; bad ploughman as John may be, the angel's won't do his work for him, and so he is off to do it himself. Go along, Violet! Gee woa! Depper!

Senator Vance is a wit, and knows it. He is reported to have recently met the beautiful Miss Bullitt of Philadelphia. "Ah," he said, gallantly, "I heard you whistle during the war."

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Craige & Clement, Att'ys.

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Salisbury, Oct. 1, 1885. 25tf

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	11 30AM	Salisbury	6 22	
12.38	12 34PM	Statesville	5 21	5 22PM
1.38		Newton	4 29	
2.04	2 05	Hickory	3 54	3 55
2.28	—	Icard	3 28	
2.56	2 57	Morganton	2 57	2 58
4.00		Marion	1 54	
4.29	4 30	Old Fort	1 21	1 22
4.45	4 50	Round Knob	12 40	1 05AM
5.37		Black Mountain	11 51	11 32
6.14	6 19	Asheville	10 54	11 00
6.54		Alexanders	10 19	
7 30	7 31	Marshall	9 40	9 41
8.25		Warm Springs		8 45AM

TRAIN No. 7 WEST. Arrive	Leave	Murphy Div.	TRAIN No. 8 EAST. Arrive	Leave
	9 49AM	Asheville	4 39	
10 26	10 29	Hominy	3 59	4 01PM
11 21	11 26	Pigeon River	3 12	3 17
12 19	12 29PM	Waynesville	2 00	2 25
1 49	1 53	Hall	12 34	12 35PM
2 28	2 29	Sylva	11 56	11 57
2 39	2 41	Webster	11 45	11 46
3 31	3 31	Whittier	10 54	10 55
4 15	4 24	Charleston	10 00	10 09
6 05	6 05	Nantahala	8 19	8 19
7 05		Jarretts		7 19AM

Nos. 7 and 8 run daily, except Sunday.
Round Knob is dinner station for train No. 2.

W. A. TURK, A. G. P.

V. E. McBEE, Supt.

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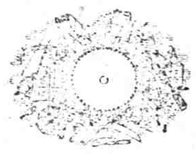

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JENNIE A. McCORKLE, Adm'x.

Theo. F. Kluttz, Att'y. Dec. 17, 1885. 4t