

THE NORTH-CAROLINA STAR.

THOMAS J. LEHAY, Editor

NORTH CAROLINA—"Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources, the land of our sires and home of our affections."

TERMS—Two Dollars in Advance.

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RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 30, 1853.

NO. 14.

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AGRICULTURAL.

From the American Farmer.
ON THE CULTURE OF THE CORN CROP.
TANBORN, Edgecombe Co., N. C.,
Nov. 15, 1852.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

Sir—I promised you last spring, in respect to the result of an experiment I commenced on a piece of land, to send you a paper, not only, but somewhat after the manner advised by you, in the Dec. No. of the American Farmer for 1851, in reply to the article signed "Paulina."

The soil selected for the experiment had been cultivated in cotton five or six years consecutively, averaging one thousand pounds of seed cotton or three bolls per acre annually. Five hundred pounds per annum would have been the farthest extent of its production but for the liberal application of manure in the drill for each crop, composed of cotton seed composted with rich earth. This system of manuring is adhered to by nearly if not all of our farmers, as being most effective in producing large successive crops of cotton; and that, too, with good reason, as it is not an uncommon thing in this country, with those who have planted the same ground for several years in regular succession, to realize a "four hundred pound bale to the acre." Such "good success," however, in making cotton, is fast tending to make us oblivious to the fact, that any thing else is worth growing. "The cotton furrow must be filled in the beam with manure, if not an atom is left for the crop. May not such a system of manuring and cultivation prove detrimental to the continued improvement of the soil? But in the experiment.

Therefore must be acquitted of having any agency in the injury that the crop in question has sustained. I shall not attempt to account for it, being a layman in agriculture; but it has been suggested, however, by one who professes to be a practical farmer, *which a mistake?* as was applied in the soil, *which a mistake?* Another, who is not too partial to read an agricultural paper not writes he knows more than the man that thinks the "Farming books," conceives it may be owing to a deficiency of organic matter in the soil, (2-60, per analysis—see Am. Farmer, Dec. No. 1851, soil marked A.) Will you undertake to say which of the two is right? if either.

Oct. 25th—The crop has been gathered, measured and housed. The yield is heavier than it promised late in the season, but nothing like what it promised earlier. It only remains to state the cost of manures—the effect of guano—subsoiling, &c., &c., and the quantity of corn produced, and my promise is redeemed.

THIRTEEN ACRES, DR.	
To 53 bushels Bone-dust, at 50c per bushel	\$26.50
65 cart loads stable manure at 40c per load	26.00
1375 lbs. Guano, at 2c per lb.	27.50
350 lbs. Plaster, at 2c per lb.	7.00
510 bushels Ashes, at 8c per bushel	40.80
675 bushels of ditch banks (charge for hauling)	26.00
To applying manures and cultivating crop, at \$5 per acre	65.00
Total cost	\$235.30
Total net (for profit)	\$11.15
Total gross	\$246.45

THIRTEEN ACRES, CR.	
By 514 1/2 bushels shelled corn, at 50c per bushel	\$257.00
8000 lbs. fodder, at 50c per 1000 lbs.	40.00
250 bushels, shucks and grazing (low estimate)	2.00
Total	\$317.00

THREE AND ONE-FIFTH ACRES, DR.	
Cost of subsoiling the crop, at \$4 per acre	\$3.80
To Guano and Plaster applied to 4 rows	1.11
To subsoiling (for net profit)	\$11.04
To subsoiling (for net profit)	21.8
Total	\$32.83

THREE AND ONE-FIFTH ACRES, CR.	
By 554 bushels corn at 50c per bushel	\$277.00
600 lbs. fodder, at 50c per 1000 lbs.	30.00
Peas, shucks and grazing	2.00
Total	\$309.00

Not per 13 acres, \$301.15, or \$7.04 per acre.

Experiment with Guano, and subsoiling (on part of 1 1/2 acres).

3 rows subsoiled, without Guano, made 54 bushels, or at the rate of 180 bushels per acre.

3 rows subsoiled, without Guano, made 41 bushels, or at the rate of 137 bushels per acre.

3 rows subsoiled, with Guano, made 61 bushels, or at the rate of 203 bushels per acre.

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growth; but we have just stated, whenever the roots expand beyond the range of manure thus partially supplied, they are out of the reach of the manure intended to nurture them, their mouths being greatly beyond the places of deposit.

In potato, turnip, carrot and pea crops, the roots do not expand, and they are available in drills, the drills are the proper places for manure, as the lateral roots of these crops do not reach much, if any, beyond the limits of the drills, and their mouths will always be within the range of the food.

In England, where the drill culture is most practiced, the manure is deposited in the drills. There the *terrapis* is for the farmer, when the crop is in use, but as the roots of the turnip do not extend as far as the roots of the potato, some three or four feet, there is an analogy whatever between the practice of the two countries. In England, too, they apply the manure in the drills for the same reason, to crops of potatoes, mangold wurtzel, &c.

But though they there manure in drills to these crops, almost universally, as far as the culture of the turnips are concerned, the drill may be said to be the broadcast manure also; for the turnips are sown on the ground by *lines* by sheep, which in dropping the manure, may be said to do so by the broadcast plan. Turnips, pease, wheat, &c. so that later crop may be sown to be manured both broadcast and in the drills, at the time of sowing.

And the manure given in the furrows may be said to be broadcast also, as the drills being but from 6 to 12 inches asunder, the process of subsoiling effects a very general distribution of the manure throughout the soil.

The farmers of New England vary in their methods of applying their manure, as well as the farmers of other States; some apply it broadcast—others in the hill. But then they tend to a system of manuring in the furrows and ploughing of the Middle and South-east States, and are therefore entitled to give much more manure to their crops than those of the later States. Some crop growers in New England, manure both broadcast and in the hill, for corn—as we would always do—first, to secure general fertility in the soil, and secondly to urge forward the growth of the plants when young.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

RAILROAD FROM FAYETTEVILLE TO BEAUFORT.

The question of connecting this town with Beaufort Harbor, has long, recently to occupy the attention of the people of this community, and we are glad to see the attention of the people to the improvement of the York River, from the point where the Central Railroad will cross it, to Wilkesboro.

On motion of Col. A. Mitchell of Wilkesboro, Gen. Solomon Graves of Saras, was called to the Chair, and Caswell Habin, of Davis, was requested to act as Secretary.

A report of the chairman, Mr. M. Boyler, of Salisbury, explained the object of the meeting, and called the attention of the people to the improvement of the York River, from the point where the Central Railroad will cross it, to Wilkesboro.

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He had not been able to make up his mind as to the object of such a Road upon the Western coast, and he was not prepared to make any definite statement in regard to the "Atlantic States of the West." He was inclined to think the two roads could be sustained by each other, but without committing himself to the proposition for or against the proposed Road from Fayetteville to Beaufort. He was decidedly in favor of sending delegates to that meeting. In the first place it was not only proper but highly becoming in the People of the section of the State—the known and ardent friends of Internal Improvements—also to get their countenance and attention to such movements as the subject as are related to promote the interest of the State wherefore or whatsoever they may be. And in the next place he considered it decidedly important to our interests that we should know the aim and object, plans and purposes of the movement now under consideration, which we can best do by being represented in the proposed meeting at Fayetteville. He, Mr. W., would therefore be glad to see the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That eight Delegates, to be appointed by the voters to represent the interest of New-Berne in the meeting proposed to be held in the town of Fayetteville on the 21st inst.

Resolved, That the said delegates so appointed shall be constituted a committee of correspondents and agents on behalf of the Town of New-Berne and County of Craven.

The following named gentlemen were subsequently appointed by the Chairman, as said Committee: Hon. Wm. H. Washington, John R. Howell, George S. Stovenson, John Blackwell, Elijah Ellis, J. C. Jones, John N. Washington, Esq., and Dr. John A. Gunn.

The Hon. J. N. Daniel being called upon by the meeting, arose and spoke upon the subject at considerable length. He expressed himself decidedly in favor of the enterprise in agitation, designed to connect the Coast town of Beaufort with the town of Fayetteville by the latter point, but that should pass through Oslow and Jones Counties, passing through or near Trenton in the latter county, and running thence to Beaufort Harbor, so as to pass at a point within five or seven miles of Newbern, and in favor of connecting Newbern by means of a narrow gauge Railroad at this point. The Judge also expressed his warmest sympathies for the enterprise, and offered them with much interest.

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Resolved, That the said delegates so appointed shall be constituted a committee of correspondents and agents on behalf of the Town of New-Berne and County of Craven.

The following named gentlemen were subsequently appointed by the Chairman, as said Committee: Hon. Wm. H. Washington, John R. Howell, George S. Stovenson, John Blackwell, Elijah Ellis, J. C