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"NORTH CAROLINA:—POWERFUL IN MORAL, INTELLECTUAL AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES—THE LAND OF OUR Sires AND THE HOME OF OUR AFFECTIONS."

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[THREE DOLLARS A YEAR—IN ADVANCE.]

AGRICULTURAL.



NECESSITY OF SUPPLYING THE THE CONSTITUENTS OF THE CROPS GROWN ON IT.

The new light which the improved state of science is throwing on agriculture, must be hailed by all thinking farmers with joy. At present this light is restricted in its radiance, but few comparatively out of the ranks of the learned, feel its beneficial influence. But the time seems to be approaching—let us bid it speed—when in the culture of the earth, science will be guided by practice; and good farming, the most profitable farming become an art which will require the skilful exercise of intelligent mind, more than the exercise of physical power to pursue it with the greatest success.

Chemistry the patron-genius of agriculture, is now lending its aid as it never before lent it, to dispel the darkness which has too long enveloped the farmer in his pursuit and teaching him to see, and enabling him to comprehend, the true processes by which his crops and animals are formed, and the necessary conditions required to make the one heavy and the other fat at the least expense and with the most profit. The desirable light is being constantly diffused by scientific men, particularly in England and Scotland in lectures and communications through the press, and thousands seek it as eagerly as they do their own prosperity, and, indeed, their prosperity depends in an important degree upon it.

To no one we think, are the farmers on either side of the Atlantic, more deeply indebted for efforts to benefit them by imparting valuable scientific knowledge, than to Professor Johnston of Scotland. The following abridged report of one of his late lectures before the *Dunfries Farmers' Club*, on the necessity of returning to the soil the constituents of the crops taken off, I think will interest many of your readers.

"The different substances of which plants are composed must exist in the soil on which they grow: according to the nature of the plant to be reared so ought the land to be manured. Thus while wheat grain contained only two per cent. of ashes, hay contained ten per cent. Hence, the wheat required a much larger amount of combustible aliment than hay. It was true that the whole of the combustible matter was not obtained directly from the soil, as a large portion was derived from the air; but from five to ten per cent. of the straw of wheat was obtained from the soil: hence the provision made in leases, that no straw shall be carried off the land. Different kinds of hay carry off different quantities of inorganic matters from the soil, and consequently have different effects upon the land.

"Every plant grown, requires in accordance with the nature and composition of the soil, the proportion of the ingredients in its ashes. If no alteration of crop is made, nature will become exhausted in some of her resources, and the plant for want of requisite nourishment from the soil must die. We have facts to prove that nature will not forever grow the same plant on the same soil. The Black Forest consisted first of oak, then of pine and now it is again covered with broad-leaved trees; and as with trees so with crops; and as on a large so on a small scale.

"Different modes of husbandry have been adopted. Instead of oats being grown fifteen or twenty years on the same soil the rotation of three white crops and six years' grass was adopted this also has become antiquated and now the preferable alternation of white and green crop is adopted. Alternating crops and adding such manures as have been carried off by preceding crops, is the only profitable mode of cultivation, while nature will also assist by the going on of certain circumstances, such as the decomposition of minerals, &c.

"A soil containing just sufficient lime for a luxuriant crop of rye grass would be far deficient for either clover or lucerne. The soil must contain in abundance what your crops specially requires, and consequently the necessity of selecting the manure to suit the crop wanted.

"The ground becomes exhausted in many ways. By cropping too long with either one kind of grain and straw, it becomes exhausted of its soluble matter by the action of the rains just in proportion to the wetness of the soil. By the application of proper manures the waste may be replaced. Feeding on the ground will replace a portion of the waste of solid matter, by the dung voided by the animals; but a great portion of the soluble is lost both by being to a small extent irrecoverable and because of the direct waste by excretion or evaporation. Those solid constituents which are principally contained in the urine of cattle, and just in proportion as it is lost so is the direct waste. Guano is not a more valuable manure than the urine of cattle. By building suitable tanks, the whole of the barn-yard saline might be preserved, and 900 lbs. of good solid matter, equal to the best Peruvian Guano, would be the annual produce of one cow. We have frequently been astonished at the results of certain saline substances when scattered over unhealthy plants and by the first shower washed into the soil and immediately consumed by the plant as its proper and necessary food and just in proportion to the ease with which it gets the substances upon which it is supported, and of which it is composed, will it vegetate and flourish.

"To resume; Suppose any of the substances of which a plant is composed to be already in the ground in sufficient proportion, then any addition cannot do good. Suppose soda to be in sufficient quantity for hay; any addition would be unprofitable for a rye grass crop, while it would be of immense benefit to clover or lucerne. And again, some soils contain it in sufficient quantity for every variety of crop; consequently any addition would be unprofitable. Hence the reason of so many conflicting opinions respecting the utility of various manures. One tries gypsum, in whose soil it is deficient and finds it an invaluable manure; another applies it to his soil which is already well supplied with it and pronounces it worthless.

"Milk contains so much bony earth that in 75 years, a cow pastured on an acre of land, will carry off a ton of bones. Hence (the Professor said,) some lands used for dairy purposes in Cheshire had in the course of years, deteriorated to such a degree that they were not worth more than from 5s. to 10s. per acre, just because the cow pastured on them had carried away all the bone out of the soil. Bone-dust was at length applied as a top dressing; and the results were so astonishing that the land increased 700 per cent. in value and the rector's tithes were increased five-fold. Any or all other manures, had the soil wanted bone would have proved ineffectual. The bones added just what had gradually been taken off in the lapse of years inconsequence of the peculiar husbandry of the district."

N. E. Farmer.

FINE FLOCKS OF SHEEP IN THE VICINITY OF COLUMBIA SOUTH CAROLINA

The practical Agriculturist and genuine lover of rural affairs, would be both gratified and amply repaid by visiting the magnificent flocks of Sheep belonging to Col. Wade Hampton, and Mr. B. F. Taylor in the neighborhood of this city. Those who wish to be convinced of the fact that we can successfully raise fine Sheep in our Southern climate, should go by all means. Examples like these are worth more than a heaped up mountain of arguments, theoretically prepared by those who take interest in advocating such things through the medium of the Agricultural Journals. The flock of Col. Hampton is superior to any other we have ever seen in any part of the United States. They are pure blooded Liecesters, and Bakewell himself were he living would be proud to own them. They cannot have lost much, if anything of their characteristic superiority if we judge by some of his animals which have matured. Mr. Taylor's flock is chiefly Merino with a dash of the blood of the African or Broad-tailed sheep and they have shown themselves to be extremely fine and prolific. He recently showed us the fleece of a buck lamb 14 months old which weighed 10½ pounds. Dr. Parker the Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum in this city, has just shorn a pair of late spring's Liecester lambs about 14 months old, bred by Col. Hampton and the weight of the fleece from the buck lamb was 13½ pounds, whilst that from the ewe lamb weighed 11½ pounds.

Col. Hampton has shorn all his lambs

of the present season and we will make the wool growers of the North open their eyes, when we state that the average weight of the fleece of about sixty head was four pounds each. He has done this in order to relieve them from the oppressive heat of summer.

On visiting his flock a few days since, we found them in fine condition, without the least appearance of disease of any kind amongst them, and what is remarkable, they have kept in good order on very short pasturage which is one of the very best indications we can give of the thrift of this remarkable breed of sheep.

With such flattering results before us why should we despair of making a great portion of our State profitable in this branch of rural enterprise. We have already adverted to the superior advantages of our mountain regions as sheep walks and we shall on some other occasion gather information and give our own views upon the propriety of introducing good breeds of Sheep in the middle section and lower-country of South-Carolina. That the whole sand-hill region bordering on our extensive swamps is eminently adapted to this business has been fully proven by the success of the flocks above mentioned.

We should like to see such flocks obtain throughout the State and we fancy the gentlemen above named, would do all in their power to gratify such individuals as might desire to make the experiment by furnishing them superior stock animals at moderate rates when their prices are compared with the heavy and hazardous expence of importing them immediately from England or the North.

John Randolph said he would walk a hundred yards out of his way merely to kick a sheep. We would go a journey of fifty miles to admire a good flock. He might have been wise in his aversion to these animals. We know we are wiser in our great fancy for them.

South Carolinian.

WHAT NEXT?

Sugar recommended as the cheapest and best manure for turnips! A writer in the English Mark Lane Express of the 5th of May says:

"Farmers are busy in repairing ground for potatoes and turnips, and the fallows generally are in a forward state. This is the period now, and from now till June, for the farmer to be on the alert. If he loses his turnip crop, it is more his fault in the majority of cases than any controlling cause. His motto should now be, to keep his soils moist by compression, and the seed is certain to germinate, and go on, too, if he will but supply the young plant with the necessary food. Sugar will, now the price is reduced, I have no doubt, be extensively used. I speak from experience, when I say that, of all extraneous manures (if one it may be called,) it has produced more visible effects, in the least space of time, than any other I ever used, and is strictly what the turnip plant requires in the first stage of its growth. I would strongly recommend it to be tried on a small scale, mixed with ashes."

Among the papers recently read before the Academy of Science at Paris, was one embodying an elaborate essay by M. Persez, on the best method of fattening geese. The subject derives its importance from the great number of methods which have been devised by epicures to effect the object. It has always hitherto been contended that the food should contain the elements of fat, to be eliminated by the goose in the process of digestion. M. Persez is of a different opinion. He contends that it is of no consequence whether the food be of the kind alluded to or not, as the goose, he says, forms in the process of digestion fat from any food, if it contains a certain proportion of azote. The Bulletin in which these essays are sketched, says of this one:—

"We hope M. Persez will also show that it is not necessary in the fattening of geese to expose them to the tortures practised by many of the feeders, such as nailing them by the feet and confining them in a narrow space to prevent motion.—We have no objection to partake of a good fat goose, if the feeding be merely the result of abundance of wholesome food, but we confess that we never see a fat goose, and, above all, a large goose liver, without thinking of the atrocious inhumanity that is frequently resorted to in order to make the feeding of these poor animals a successful speculation."

LATE FROM TEXAS.

The steamship New York arrived at New Orleans on the 6th instant from Galveston, which place she left on the 4th inst.

Gen. Lamar and Major, Donelson arrived at Galveston on the 31st ult. The U. S. revenue cutter Woodbury arrived there on the 3rd instant with despatches for the U. S. Minister.

Capt. Elliot the British Charge to Texas, reached Galveston on the evening of the 30th ult. in a French man of war brig. The *Civilian* says it is understood that he brought further overtures from Mexico for an acknowledgment of the independence of Texas. He proceeded to the seat of Government immediately. The precise character of the propositions brought is not known, but if they be of the nature intimated, they will probably, says the *Civilian*, "be laid before the public in a very short time." The same paper adds—"The decision of the question of independence or Annexation, belongs exclusively to the people, and the Government has manifested its entire willingness to allow the matter to be decided by them."

The U. S. squadron, under commodore Stockton, was at anchor off Galveston on the 4th instant.

The New Orleans Picayune says—

We have received verbal intelligence by this arrival to the effect that the Mexicans are really concentrating a large force on the Rio Grande, preparatory to war in case Texas should agree to Annexation. Our informant states further that the feeling in the latter country is thoroughly warlike—the talk is of nothing else than a brush with Mexico if she wishes it—and in addition that the propositions of Mexico and England will be promptly rejected. Many think, and with good show of reason, that the movement of troops towards Rio Grande is instigated by England.

From the New Orleans Tropic.

Captain Elliot, the British minister, arrived at Galveston on the 20th ult. from Vera Cruz, in a French vessel of war and set out for the seat of government immediately. The papers state that Elliott was the bearer of propositions from Mexico, acknowledging Texan independence. In relation to this matter, the News says:

"The purport of the treaty, according to Elliott's statement to a friend of ours is simply the recognition of our independence, without regard to limits, upon the condition that we renounce annexation to the United States, leaving us at liberty to be annexed to England, or any other government."

The most astonishing item of intelligence received by this arrival is contained in a paragraph in the *Houston Telegraph*, which in reference to the statement in the message of Cuevas to the Mexican Congress, that Texas had made proposals to Mexico to obtain an acknowledgment of her independence, says: "We have been assured by Col. Allen, our Secretary of State, that President Jones has made no proposals to Mexico, and authorized no agent to proceed to Mexico with proposals." The *Galveston News*, speaking of the endeavor to represent President Jones as a friend of annexation, says that such inference cannot be drawn from existing facts; and in reference to the above extract from the *Telegraph*, remarks:

"This, to say the least of it, is a most extraordinary mode of explanation, and challenges no small share of credulity; especially as at this moment Capt Elliott is in Washington, and probably again in secret conclave with the President."

This declaration by the *Telegraph* in the face of existing facts, appears to us strange and inexplicable.—There is some mystery about this affair which we would like to see elucidated.

LIBERALITY.

A check for \$100 was received this morning from a venerable and distinguished gentleman of Raleigh, as his own contribution for the relief of the needy sufferers.

Pay. Obs.

THE SAILOR'S CHART.

"I want a chart," said an old sailor, as he entered a store, and addressed a young man behind the counter. "Yes, Sir, you shall have one. Will you have St. George's or—" "Stay," said the sailor: "youth is always in a hurry. I want a chart that shall guide me to Heaven; for I have lost my old one. Do you now understand me?"