

THE RALEIGH STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

THOS. J. LEMAY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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

[THREE DOLLARS A YEAR—IN ADVANCE.]

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AGRICULTURAL.



From the North Carolina Farmer.

MOST SELECT AMERICAN GRAPES.

IN BRINKLEYSVILLE (N. CAR.) VINE-YARDS.

Mr. LEMAY: Our successful experiment of grape culture and wine making is mainly attributable to being *American throughout*; and as to kinds of grapes not only; after trial, rejecting foreign but also such natives as are not profitable in most respects. On canopies supported by posts 10 feet, each way apart, and all clear beneath for passage of wind, persons or teams, might be seen a month since or ere any plucked, a complete spread or sheet of grapes, so thick in many places as to yield at the rates of a thousand and more gallons of wine per acre; and now, after having made one barrel of wine a day for some weeks past, and entertaining visitors sometimes more than 20 a day, (paying their entrance fee and a remunerating price for select grapes to carry away) the vineyards are very full still, and a stranger might conclude that few grapes had been abstracted, and that only from some vines. But designing a mere list of vines, and short remarks, we proceed to enumerate.

1. Such grapes as good and profitable in every respect and from most of which we make, not only gallons but barrels of wine annually of late years: 1st. The white Scuppernon—the noble native of our State, but north of latitude 37 of no peculiar excellence. 2d. Weller's Halifax—a native of this country, but calculated, so far as we have learned, for any part of our country. Out of a large number of vines from the seed of this grape, one (we call the Halifax Seedling) promises, according to best judges, to be inferior to none in every respect. Its culture yet limited, fruit like the Catawba, but sweeter. 3d. Vine-arbour, so called from its very large lout, as well as extended growth, and consequent peculiar fitness for ar-bours. 4th. Somerville. 5th. North Carolina. This is late ripening, and its peculiar excellence for wine, not table use. 6th. York Madeira. 7th. Fragrant; this delightfully perfumes the air around when ripe. The above kinds all large berries and average the Isabella and Catawba in size, and consequently not subject to depredations from kinds. We have several other fine sorts of like sized grape. But proceed to those of intermediate size or that, say, of buckshot, in our first class, viz. 8th. Norton's Virginia Seedlings, called after the late Dr. Norton of Richmond, Va. This we find one of the finest for table use, and wine making productiveness, (capable of 2,000 gallons per acre) and freedom from rot. 9th. Cunningham. This is also a grape from Virginia, most excellent for eating; and one difficulty only as to wine qualities, viz. on every raceme some small green grapes interspersed among the ripe ones. But to obviate this we omit picking out the green berries, and make the wine in the way the late Mr. Heribmont made his best Madeira (or a white wine from his colored grape) that is, by putting the grapes, washed, under the press, and after pressing, the ripe grapes only found washed by pressing. 10th. Woodson, also from Virginia; much later ripening than the Cunningham, and not so good for the table. 11th. Lenoir, a grape of a grade smaller berry, and among the first of peculiar excellence ripening here. In the fine vineyard of Mr. John Carter near Richmond, Va. he showed me, some years since, the Clarence of France, imported by him, as identical with the Lenoir. If Mr. Carter is not mistaken, this foreign grape only not subject to rotting in our country. The price is very strong; and, as the late Mr. Heribmont observes, capable of making a good keeping wine, without the addition of either spirits or sugar.

But omitting further enumeration of excellent grapes of intermediate size, we proceed to the second general class, viz. Of some kinds excellent in many respects, but exceptional on account of propensity to rot (at least, in the South), smallness of berry, &c., and therefore no dependence on them for a wine crop; though a few of each retained in the vineyards as variety of fruit and in contrast and for visitors. Among a considerable number of kinds

in class 2nd the following are noticed. 1st. The Catawba, the favorite grape of Mr. Adlum of Georgetown, D. C. and now I see, from Agricultural periodicals, mostly cultivated in the Northern and Middle States. But its propensity to rot on the vines renders it a very uncertain fruit in the South; and the older the vines the worse, so that some, as I learn, in this State and Virginia, have given up vineyard culture in despair of profit whose principal vines were the Catawba; and

2. The Isabella; and no effectual remedy we have found for this tantalizing casualty, but that of cutting down, in the fall seasons, most of the vines of these sorts and grafting on their stocks some of the first general class as good at least in every respect, and far better as to certainty of a well matured crop. Three years since, we procured a kind of Catawba, said not to rot: the young vines of what we call Eaton's Catawba, so far have matured their fruit.

3. Cobsvine.
4. Alexander.
5. Constantia, or Vivay. This last that chiefly cultivated by the Swiss settlers in Indiana. But however succeeding with them, when vines young at least, it proves here one of the rotting kinds; although it, as well as all just named, fine large fruit when happening to mature. This second class now continued with grapes of intermediate size.

6. Heribmont's Madeira. This, as seen in the columns of the American Farmer—was called the Warren or Warrenton ere it received the above name from the late excellent Mr. N. Heribmont of Columbia, S. C. who gave it notoriety. It appears to be of foreign extraction, from the shortness of the vine joints and especially its propensity to rot. Mr. Heribmont himself calls it a tantalizing grape, because as he states just when giving promise of an abundant yield, (once he made at rates of more than 2000 gal. per acre from it,) its frequent habit is to begin rotting to the destruction of the crop, without any assignable cause of too wet or too dry or the like.

7. Longworth's Ohio. The distinguished Agriculturist, Mr. N. Longworth, near Cincinnati, sent me a few years since some cuttings of this by mail in a newspaper, and by grafting I have cultivated it to some extent. But here it is of no peculiar excellence, and I find prone to rot; though Mr. L. informed me that it had proved a most excellent variety in his locality. We have procured from nearer and more distant parts of our country a considerable number more kinds of intermediate sized berry and exceptional in some respects, among which I name:

8. The Baltimore Seedling.
9. Bland's Madeira, or Red English.
10. White English.
11. Enfield.
12. Huntersville, &c., And also several varieties of small berry and small yield, though otherwise fine. Three only of these we add to our list of the second class viz:
13. Wilcox.
14. Guinard's Native.
15. The Elsingburg.

We have under trial a large number of Seedlings and of those procured from every where we could hear of a good native; and may give the result in due time. But that our variety of vines is quite gratifying in result as to abundant productiveness, as well as fine qualities of grapes, we give a fact occurring since this communication was begun (penned as press of business permitted.) That on Saturday last we had 95 visitors besides waiters and carriage drivers of gentlemen and ladies from a distance; and after this large company had abundantly partaken and carried away select grapes, and that mostly from a space less than a quarter of an acre (our vineyards about 6 acres) it was observed that the grapes abstracted could scarcely be missed. The visitors (entering on advertising terms of 20 cents individually or commutation for companies) helped themselves to grapes by means of benches and other fixtures enabling them to reach the canopies above their heads.

Respectfully yours, &c.
SIDNEY WELLER.
Brinkleyville, Halifax Co.,
N. C. Sept. 15, 1845.

THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A correspondent of the Farmers' Cabinet of Philadelphia gives a sketch of the scenes and proceedings of the recent annual meeting of the New York State Agricultural Society, attended by 40,000 persons, from which we make a few extracts below. May we not hope to see at no distant day a State Society under the encouragement and patronage of the State of North Carolina, which will

be in some degree comparable in its beneficial effects with this noble institution of New York?

The correspondent of the Cabinet states that New York spends annually from \$7,000 to \$8,000 on her Agricultural Societies. Referring to the grand exhibition at Utica, he describes the gratification he would derive from a similar display in Pennsylvania; but any hope of this, he thinks, is obscured by darkness, adding: "For while New York leads so gloriously, and exhibits such convincing proofs of the wisdom and patriotism of her legislation, in the encouragement of Agricultural Societies, Pennsylvania stands spell bound in the toils of party spirit and faction—a spirit which produced corruption and oppression at home, through *lending and financing*, and the sneers and contempt of those abroad, who loaned the money which politicians made use of to pauper to party ascendancy, or individual aggrandisement. While Virginia is beginning to awake to a proper sense of the true interests of a State—the promotion of its agriculture—the farmers of Pennsylvania drudge on in dogged toil to pay the taxes brought upon them by improvident legislation, which they themselves from time to time sanctioned and sustained in the spirit of party at the polls."

"To give you some idea of the number of persons who witnessed this Exhibition," says the writer, "it is only necessary to state that the Society, as I learned, added to their funds something over \$3000 for admissions to the grounds, at twelve and a half cents for each visitor, independent of members and contributors, who, with their families, had free admission. I found individuals, and in many instances, families, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters from almost every part of the state of New York, and not a few from Canada. To hint at the spirit of New York, I need only remark, that all the railroad companies volunteered to carry cattle, horses, hogs, sheep, agricultural implements, butter and cheese—everything to be exhibited—from any distance within their respective lines, free of all charge; not only this, but every individual who visited the show, was carried to and from Utica at half the usual fare. In what other place except New York could a corporation be found to act thus patriotically and generously? When I saw the immense trains arriving constantly, filled with huge oxen, fat steers and stock of all kinds set down free, the agents as courteous, civil and bland, as if they had made a most comfortable and profitable trip, instead of having had unusual and vexatious trouble in taking in and discharging cargo, and no freight; I began to think there was no insolvency of office in New York, and that there were exceptions to the sweeping imputation that certain bodies had no souls.

"Among the cattle exhibited the first class of Durhams took the lead, as indeed they do every where. Where there are no Durhams he exhibition in cattle will always look mean and unbecome to the eyes of those who are familiar with this noble breed. The principal contributors to this class were Mr. Prentice of Mount Hope; Mr. Vail of Troy; Mr. Sherwood of Auburn; Messrs. Bell and Morris, extensive dairymen of Westchester, near New York; Mr. Ballard of Southport; Mr. Carey of Marcy; Mr. Nicholas of Geneva; Mr. Brinkerhoff of Albany; and Mr. Wakeman oferkimer, to whom were awarded the principal premiums. Mr. Wadsworth of Genesee, formerly president of the society, exhibited ten yoke of oxen of such size, form and training as not only did great credit to himself, but reflected favorably on the whole state—they were awarded the first. The Herefords and Ayrshires were represented and the red cattle, or Devons, with sundry grades, were numerous. The sheep were very superior, and consisted of various distinct and improved breeds. It was regretted, however, that Mr. Randall of Courtland, did not exhibit a portion of his celebrated Merinos. The horses, from the thoroughbred stallion to the special draught horse, were superior and numerous.

"The ploughing match was spirited and interesting; in no part of the United States it is believed could so many fine ploughs, ploughmen and teams be exhibited as competed for the prizes at Utica. Mr. Delano's improved diamond soil plough took the first premium he exhibited also a cross plough, for fallow or broken land, which to my liking was the best I ever saw.

"The Flora and Pomona Hall was a beautiful affair, tastefully festooned and decorated by the ladies of Utica. The fruits and flowers were creditable offerings, but of course fell short of the special Horticultural exhibitions of

Philadelphia. But then the Farmers' Hall, where were exhibited the butter, cheese and dairy utensils of Oneida and adjoining counties:—Where and how could it be surpassed? Nowhere, take it all in all, I will answer for it. A Pennsylvania farmer can form no adequate idea of the capital employed in cheese-making alone, nor the perfection to which this part of dairy husbandry is carried.

"The State of New York, nay, the whole agricultural community, are indebted to the officers and members of the State Society for their industry, perseverance and management, in carrying out so ably the great work of improvement, by means of these grand exhibitions, which speak in such intelligible language, to so many thousands at once, of what has, and what can be done in the various departments of agricultural science and domestic economy."

"What a world is New York—her agriculturists and merchants—her public works—her territory and population—her bays, rivers and lakes—she is indeed 'land of the mountain and the flood!' And compatible with all these are her public spirit and enterprise—the munificence and hospitality of her generous and enlightened citizens.

J. G."

Mr. LEMAY: My neighbors are so well pleased with the Farmer, that half a dozen or more of them (whose names you have below) have ordered the work. Mr. Editor: the art of agriculture seems to be too little studied in North Carolina: for although Washington, Johnson, Calhoun, Clay and in fact almost every great man our country has ever produced have delighted in cultivating the soil, how many of our most distinguished citizens neglect the pursuit of agriculture altogether! And how many farmers do we see abandon their farms for the purpose of making a little political show in the world, when in fact they are not capable of rendering the public any very great service! And if a man has a son now—a day's little promising, he must be taught a profession. Yes, I have no doubt but the country is deprived of many good farmers by fathers' trying to have their sons learned some profession or other, for which nature never designed them: Hence so many drones in society; for art cannot supply the defects of nature. What a pity it is! but then men would quit quarrelling a bout Whiggism and Democracy, Texas and Oregon, and turn their attention to farming—to manuring and "ploughing deep while sluggards sleep." (You know what the Doctor said.)

But, Mr. Editor, there is one custom among a great many of our farmers, which they cannot break through, i. e. shallow ploughing. For being unaware of the depth and extent to which corn roots penetrate a deep loose soil, and that by exposing the earth to the atmosphere, soil is actually produced, they are apprehensive that if a thin light soil be turned under pretty deep and mixed with the earth beneath, that it will, in the general mixture, lose all its vegetating properties; and that if they deposit their manure any depth in the earth, that a few heavy rains will settle all its nutritious qualities beneath the corn roots, and they will not be remunerated for their labor in preparing and applying it. Yes, they fear that deep ploughing will wear out their lands; notwithstanding all experience and authority proves to the contrary. For the Hon. J. S. Skinner has ascertained that the aggregate length of the roots of one hill of corn is more than eight thousand feet, and extends four feet deep, which proves at once the necessity of deep ploughing, to afford ample space for the roots, and sufficient nourishment for the plant; and common sense alone teaches us that the deeper the soil the less will our corn be liable to be affected by the drought. Mr. Editor, those men who, in spite of all experience, hold on to the old custom of shallow ploughing, remind me of an anecdote which I will relate to you. In old times, when the people raised no manure, ploughed shallow, and consequently made but little corn, it was the custom of one man, when he went to mill to deposit his corn in one end of his bag, and a rock in the other end to balance it. Well, after he died his son commenced going to mill in the same way; when one day he was met by a friend who advised him to dispense with his rock and divide his corn into each end of his bag; to which suggestion he yielded for a while; but he did not travel far before he became dissatisfied, and again removed all his corn into one end of his bag and deposited his rock in the other; observing that this was the custom of his father, and he should not depart from it! And it now seems to be about as difficult a task to satisfy those men of the importance of deep ploughing, as it did to satisfy this man that his rock was a useless appendage in going to mill!

A. O. G.
Albertson's P. O. Duplin county, N. C.
Nov. 1st, 1845.

PORK.

Pork will, we think, command about five dollars a hundred in this market the present season. It is now selling at that in Fayetteville, Tarboro' and in the lower part of Virginia.

WHEAT is selling in Petersburg at \$1 20 per bushel, and in Richmond at \$1 27 1/2 a bushel, in consequence of short crops in Europe.

COTTON, in Petersburg, has declined a little—price 67.

The papers state that the present is the largest crop of cotton ever grown in Mississippi; and that in Tennessee it comes up to at least an average crop.

GRAIN MEASURES.

By a law of Indiana the weight of a bushel of grain is fixed as follows: Wheat 60 lbs., Rye 56, Corn 56, Flax Seed 56, Barley 48, Oats 33.

WHO CAN BEAT THIS?

We learn from the Hillsborough Recorder that our worthy old friend Capt. Joseph G. Bacon, of Orange, sowed five pecks of common wheat on an acre of land last season, and reaped at harvest time 25 bushels; and on the 1st of August he sowed on the same acre thirteen quarts of buckwheat, from which he gathered 25 1/2 bushels, making 50 1/2 bushels from one acre in a year! If any of our readers have done any thing like this, we shall be glad to hear from them. If they have not, we hope every one of them will try, and communicate to us the result next year. And Capt. Bacon will greatly oblige us in furnishing us a statement of his manner of improving and preparing the ground and putting in the grain, as well as a description of the soil. Experience producing such results as the above, is what our farmers want; and it is fortunate that they can find it among themselves.

FAIRS.

Agricultural fairs and conventions are all the rage at the North. When the popular feeling receives an impulse towards agricultural improvements, it becomes all, of whatever occupation, to rejoice. Agriculture lies at the foundation of our national independence, wealth and power. We wish to see it cultivated as the most honorable of the sciences, and by men of the highest endowment of mind and fortune. Let our national resources be thoroughly developed in this single branch of industry, and all other blessings will follow in the train. The leisure and the wealth obtained by enlightened husbandry are very rarely abused or misapplied.

The exhibitions recently in the city of New York were very imposing and well calculated to "speed the plough." For a brief account of the great fair at Utica, attended by 40,000 persons, would that we could stir up our fellow citizens to establish a State Agricultural Society, to be conducted upon a similar plan and spirit with the Northern institutions! It would give great encouragement and advancement to the agricultural art among us. All classes of citizens are interested in these institutions, particularly the mechanic and merchant, as well as the farmer, and would be laboring for themselves, as well as performing a work of patriotism, in exerting themselves to get them up. One Agricultural Society, at least, ought to be organized without delay in each county, if only a dozen persons can be found in each to begin with. We call upon our intelligent farmers to take the lead in this matter. The destiny of the State is in their hands, and it is their duty to exert their influence in its elevation.

UTLEY'S IMPROVED STRAW CUTTER.

A new and improved Straw Cutter, invented and patented by Mr. Gray Utley, of Chapel Hill, was exhibited here last week; and was much approved by some excellent judges, who examined it. The blade comes to a point in the middle, with saw teeth running up on each side, and is made to work rapidly up and down, with great ease, by means of a crank, which may be turned by hand or machinery; and cuts stalks as well as straw. It costs only 12 or \$15, and we were so well pleased with its operation, that we cheerfully recommend it to the public as a valuable invention.—Farmer.

The chestnut engrained on the oak is said to be very productive. A recent case has proved this, and it is deemed important to the agriculturist.

FINE CATTLE.

A Mr. Ridgeway, of Eutaw, Greene county, Alabama, who has been for several years paying much attention to the raising of stock, has cows for which he has refused two hundred dollars. One of them gives six gallons of milk a day. We love to record such facts as these, find them where we may; but how much more when we can collect them from sources within our own State! It is with much pleasure, therefore, that we call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Seth Jones, Esq. in another part of this number, offering for sale some valuable blooded cattle, the fruit of many years careful and skillful attention to the im-

provement of his stock. We have seen some of his calves, and they are noble looking animals, from breeds distinguished for the best qualities. If our farmers who intend to engage in the laudable work of improvement, could see them, we think they would soon change owners. There are, we trust, many such farmers, and we could not make for them a better wish than that they may meet, with the same success which has crowned the efforts of Mr. Jones, whose farm and stock are in the most thrifty condition.—Farmer.

THE NUMBER SEVEN.

This number so often mentioned in the sacred writings has always had a kind of emphasis annexed to it. It is by some called the number of perfection, being composed of the two first perfect numbers, equal and unequal three and four—(for the number who consisting of repeated units, which is no number, is not perfect.) In six days creation was perfected—the 7th was consecrated to rest; if Cain be averaged 7 fold, truly Lemach 70 and 7 fold; Noah 7 days warning of the flood, and was commanded to take the fowls of the air into the ark by 7's and the clean beasts by 7's; the ark touched the ground on the 7th month, and in seven days a dove was sent, and again in 7 after. Abraham pleaded 7 times for Sodom; he gave 7 ewe lambs to Adimelech for a well of water. Jacob served 7 years for Rachel and also for her 7 years. Joseph mourned 7 days for Jacob. Laban pursued after Jacob 7 days' journey. The 7 years of plenty, and the 7 years of famine were foretold in Pharaoh's dream by the 7 fat and the 7 lean beasts and the 7 ears of full and the ears of blasted corn. The children of Israel were to eat unleavened bread seven days. The young of animals were to remain with the dam 7 days, and at the close of the 7th to be taken away. By the old law, man was commanded to forgive his offending brother 7 times; but the meekness of the Saviour extended this forbearance to 70 times 7. On the 7th day of the 7th month, a holy observance was commanded to the children of Israel, who fasted 7 days in tents. Every 7th year was directed to be a year of rest for all things and at the end of 7 times 7 years commenced the jubilee; they were to observe a fast 7 days after they had gathered in their corn and wine, 7 days they were to keep a solemn feast as they had been blessed in the work of their hands. Every 7 years the land lay fallow. Every 7 years there was a general release from all debts, and all bondsmen were set free. From this law may have sprung the custom of binding young men to 7 years' apprenticeship, and of punishing offenders with 7 years, twice 7, or three times 7 years' imprisonment. Every 7th year the law was directed to be read to the people if they were obedient, their enemies should flee before them 7 ways; if disobedient their enemies should chase them 7 ways. In the destruction of Jericho, 7 priests bore 7 trumpets 7 days; on the 7th day they surrounded the walls 7 times, and after the 7th time the walls fell. Hannah the mother of Samuel in her thanks says that the barren hath brought forth 77 as some Jewish writers say that his name answers to the value of the letters in the Hebrew word which signify 7. 7 of Saul's son were hanged to stay a famine. Jesse had seven sons, the youngest of whom ascended the throne of Israel. The number of animals in sundry oblations were limited to 7. Solomon was 7 years building the temple at the dedication of which he feasted 7 days. In the tabernacle were 7 lamps. The golden candlestick had 7 branches; 7 days were appointed for an atonement on the altar; and the priest's son was appointed to wear his father's garment 7 days. Naman was commanded to wash 7 times in Jordan to cure his leprosy. Gehazi was ordered to look towards the sea 7 times, and at the 7th time he saw the wished for cloud. The Shunamite's child sneezed 7 times, before life was fully restored. In the 7th year of his reign, King Ahasuerus feasted 7 days and on the 7th directed his 7 chamberlains to find a queen, who was followed by 7 maidens to attend her. Job's friends sat with him 7 days and 7 nights, and offered 7 bullocks and 7 rams as an atonement for wickedness. David prayed that the wicked might be rewarded 7 fold, in their doom. Solomon says that the fool is wiser in his own conceit than 7 men that can render a reason; and that when the wicked speaketh fair there are 7 abominations in his heart. Nebuchadnezzar was 7 years a beast and at the end of 7 years his kingdom was restored and the fiery furnace was heated 7 times better to receive Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego. The scriptures enumerated by 7 resurrections viz: the widow's son by Elijah; the Shunamite's son by Elisha; the soldier when he touched the bones of Elisha; the daughter of the ruler of the synagogue; the widow of Nain's son; Lazarus, and the Saviour. Enoch who was translated was the 7th from Adam and Jesus Christ the 7th in a direct line. The Saviour spoke 7 times from the cross on which he remained 7 hours. He appeared 7 times afterwards. In 7 times 7 days he sent the gift of the Holy Spirit. In the Lord's prayer are 7 petitions contained in 7 times 7 words. In the apocalypse were