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 SIRES AND THE HOME OF OUR AFFECTIONS." [THREE DOLLARS A YEAR—IN ADVANCE

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LOOK AROUND YOU:

There are multitudes (says the Cleveland Herald) who live or rather vegetate in this world of ours without in any degree knowing themselves or becoming acquainted except superficially with the innumerable objects which surround them. Even those objects which it is their duty and interest to know are either considered above their comprehension or beneath their notice. The harmonies of nature, the position which themselves occupy in relation to the material creation and the excellent adaptation of mind to matter are all shut out from their narrow and blurred vision.—"Having eyes they see not and having ears they hear not." To illustrate the idea which we desire to inforce we will instance *wood*, a substance pre-eminently useful but as little known to the great mass as the caves of ocean or the far off isles. True it is seen and recognized as of value and some of its uses known, but nothing beyond. To the intelligent, inquiring mind, however, many important facts are known relative to this substance which are important and highly interesting. For instance, wood is composed chiefly of carborn, as is shown by burning it in a tube, when by the evaporation of the water pure carbon is obtained, which will not desolve in water, but readily unites with oxygen, forming carbonic acid gas. This gas enters the roots of plants and passing up the trunk throws off the gas and leaves the carbon to combine with and form a part of the new formation. Contrary to the general view, wood receives no nourishment from the earth or manures. They only serve as a medium through which the gas and atmosphere is conveyed to the roots of the plants. Another thing which is contrary to popular opinion is the fact that sap passes up from the roots of trees through the trunk and branches, but *never returns*. This is abundantly proven in more ways than one. The fact that all efforts to force fluids through the capillary tubes in more than one direction have failed is sufficient of itself. The valvular arrangement effectually prevents the passage in another direction. Sap being composed chiefly of water and a small portion of fecula and vegtable albumen which is left, when the water is evaporated, in the form of a hard substance, any dampness will swell it with an almost incontrollable force. Hence the cracking of wood when it is in course of seasoning. The wood dries first at the surface leaving sap at the centre and the powder becomes moist and swells, when the outside not being elastic, cracks.—From these facts are deduced some very important conclusions, as for instance, the best method of preserving wood. This is done by soaking the wood in dissolved corrosive sublimate, which enters the pores, prevents the powder from swelling and thus cracking the wood, it also prevents the formation of acetic acid and thus renders it incorruptible.—The cause of rotting is that nature first makes fecula or starch, then sacharine or sugar, and then it goes through all the stages of acetic acid fermentation, &c. To prevent this, kreosote and the spent fluids of gas houses may be advantageously used. Tar also preserves wood on account of the kerosote which it contains, which effectually coagulates the albumen. Diluted sulphuric acid also forced into the tubes will dissolve the fecula which is indissoluble in water and bring it away. From the fact that sap only passes in one direction is deduced the best method of preserving posts. This is done by first charring the end to be planted in the ground which should *always be the top end* or end opposite to that at which the sap enters. The valvular arrangement of tubes will thus prevent moisture from' ascending, and the charing excludes worms and insects, rendering the post almost indestructible.

Paint if put on when the wood is dry is of great advantage in preserving it, but if on the contrary the wood be *green* or wet it is always injurious. The object of course is to secure against the absorption of moisture by the pores. Thus painters who use pannels, frequently in preparing them, force oil into the porse at the ends and follow it with white lead. There are very many other important and curious things connected with this article of wood which will interest and instruct those who give it serious thought. And yet this is only one object with which we are constantly surrounded. If we let such matters pass unobserved, what use is there in having minds at all? Why not in honesty eschew the name of man, and, descending to our proper level, own up to the name of galvanized cabbages?

[From the Maine Cultivator.]

THE VALUE OF MANURE.

When the new lands are cleared, the soil should never be run so hard with grain as to make it poor, and unfit for grass. This seed should be sown with the first grain, and then something may be expected that is worth fencing in.

But we must keep stock, and be careful to save all the excrements, coupled with all the herbage that is not eaten, to restore to the soil what has been taken from it.—This is the principal resource of the farmer who lives in the interior, and from whom we expect a portion of the grain that is consumed in cities and towns where men and business congregate.

The manure from neat stock is more abundant than from other animals in this part of the country, and this manure is less likely to be injured by heating than that which is dropped by horses and sheep.—But the manure from neat stock, is much injured by freezing before it has been mixed up with other matter. After it has frozen and again thawed two or three times, it is found to have no cent or effluvia, and may be handled as freely as a lump of clay.

When cattle are suffered to go a distance for water in the winter, they may drop manure in their path through the field or pasture. The ground was covered with snow, and no trace would appear in summer of the winter path of the cattle save the lumps of excrement that were left on the way. Now you might suppose that here the grasses &c. would grow rank, and exhibit evidence of the manure dropped in winter. But you will be disappointed; the manure here was so frozen while in an unfermented state that it is nearly lost to the owners of the soil.

On examination, your numerous readers will find this to be the case. Let them go and see in May and June next, whether the grass is any better where so much manure was dropped than in any other part of the field.

It is highly important, then, to prevent the freezing of unfermented manure. And the first step towards it is to keep the cattle shut up in the barn or yard through the winter season, and till the month of May. What they drop in their cow-yard is trod on and mixed with other matter, which serves to retain at least a part of the essence of the article. Oxen and cows tied up in the barn expose their excrements still less, and cellars may be so contrived as to prevent all injurious freezing through the winter. This is a very important point, and all farmers should turn their attention to it. The prevention from frost will alone repay the cost of a cellar in a few years, to say nothing of the advantage of securing the liquid, which is too often entirely wasted.

Horse stable manure is never injured so much by frost as by heat. When it is thrown out of the stable into a heap, it soon begins to burn in pretty cold weather. In moderate weather it heats so much as to turn white, and lose three-fourths of its weight. Horse manure has therefore been less highly prized than it should be. But when rightly managed there is no manure that operates better, or remains longer upon the soil. Some kinds of manure work sooner but they are sooner spent. Hog manure, for instance, is active very early in the season and it makes good corn; but we see little of its virtue the succeeding year. Horse manure that has been well kept, and that has absorbed all the horse urine, is the most lasting kind of manure that we obtain from animals.

BENEFIT OF ASHES TO CORN.

As cultivators are requested to send in facts, the result of careful experiments, and the corn crop has become the 'glory of our land,' I will state the circumstance of an application of wood ashes that were applied to that grain many years ago and noted down at that time.—The variety of corn cultivated was hard eight rowed white having a small cob.

The objects aimed at were to determine whether wood ashes acted beneficially to this crop, and to ascertain the proper quantity and their proper efficacy whether leached or unleached. The soil was a strong deep loam, which had given a fair crop of corn for six successive seasons, varying little save in being affected by favorable or adverse summers with no other manuring than the usual quantity put into the hills, at planting time.

Previous to plowing, barn yard manure, at the rate of about 600 bushels to the acre, was spread over the ground; just before the second hoeing, June 12th, 1827, I selected four rows of equal length, size, and vigor, that had no missing hills.—To parcel No. 1, no application was made. To parcel No. 2, one gill of leached ashes was sprinkled about each hill. To parcel No. 3, one gill of unleached ashes was applied. And to parcel No. 4, two gills of leached ashes were given. All the four rows grew luxuriantly, as did all in the field, and during the various stages of growth I could discover no difference in the size of the plant, the number of ears on a stalk, nor in the length or husks. In fact they appeared so very much alike, in all these respects, that I much doubted whether I should find any inequality in the measures at harvest time.

Yet the result, at harvesting the crop, on careful measuring, was that the ashes had increased the quantity in each of the rows where it was applied over that of the one to which none was put, at least 14 per cent. Rather the greatest yield was obtained from the row to which one gill of leached ashes was given.—*Agriculturist.*

A GOOD IDEA,—SPEED THE PLOUGH!!

A written proposal is left at Mr. Shaver's tavern bar open to the subscription of any citizen of Rowan County, agreeing to put in, each, ten bushels of wheat to be awarded to whomsoever shall produce next harvest the greatest quantity of wheat off of five acres of land, to be determined by weight. We learn that thare are as yet but three competitors, to wit. *John I. Shaver, Moses L. Brown, and H. C. Jones.* Other Gentlemen will no doubt put in for a prize so honorable and so beneficial in its tendencies. It is intended next year to double the stakes as well as the amount of land to be cultivated, and to make the contest an annual one for several successive years, taking in five acres more every year. It is easy to foresee that such a competition in the end will have a brighthening effect upon the face of agriculture in this neighborhood. We would like to see the principle extended to other departments of domestic industry; in a word, we would be glad to see a regularly organized. Agricultural Society, with liberal premiums for every species of improvement. We have in this county good land and intelligent citizens; in fact, every requisite for an enlightened association of this kind. There is too a good deal of public spirit, and if awakened and properly directed, will do much for agricultural industry. The prospect of a rail road from Charleston into our region is now almost beyond contingency: they that shall have made ready for its advent by gradually improving their soil, will be in the best position to avail themselves of its advantages, If, therefore, one should never take a prize, the improved state of his farm will more than compensate for his annual contribution.

We mean to keep a close eye upon this interesting contest, and will give a list of the subscribers as they come in as well as a history of its results. "SPEED THE PLOUGH"—This is the kind of *sweep-stake* we like to see encouraged, and whoever wins it shall have his name put *next to the governor's* in our columns. *Speed the Plough!!!!*

Carolina Watch.

SHEAVES,—A SHEAF OF WHEAT.

☞ The reader will remember that we published, recently, an article from the Racine (Wisconsin) Advocate, signed "W.;" which gave an account of two *sheaves* of grain raised from a single seed each. One of these *sheaves*, (wheat,) contained *seventy* stalks, raised near St. Louis. The other was pulled from the field of Col. Philo White, near Racine; and contained "*ninety-odd stalks*, (rye) the product of *one kernel of seed!*" All must admit that these were extraordinary products from one seed. But Old North Carolina! (Heaven bless her!) can lay Col. White AND *Wisconsin*, and the "*crack*" State of Missouri, *all "in the shade!"* It is to be regretted, however, that the correspondent of the Advocate did not state the precise number of stalks in the "*sheaf*" from Col. P. White's field. We are told there were '*ninety-odd*:" Ninety-*one* would make that number, but we will set it down at ninety *five*, for the sake of liberality; and North Carolina is still *two stalks ahead.* Who will say the Good Old North State Possesses no inducements to emigrants! Mr. BERRY FOSTER of Davie, (a County which has more good land than any other of its size in the State,) has the honor of this triumph, having pulled from his field, last year, a bunch of Mediterranian *wheat* containing *ninety seven* full grown stalks, each bearing a large and well filled head of grain. There were seven or eight other stalks in the same bunch which produced no grain:—and this bunch, or "*sheaf*," was the product of *"one kernel of seed."* Can it be beat?

Caro. Watchman.

TO KILL THE PEACH GRUB.

A writer in the Genesee Farmer recommends the following:

1. In the spring examine the roots thoroughly, as long as they exude red gum, containing the *exuviæ* of the grub. Draw with a hoe a mound of earth about six inches high around the body of the tree, and not remove it till the first frosts, and then examine; if there are any grubs they will be so high up that they are easily discovered and killed.

2. Draw away as before, and apply around the body a quantity of straight straw, about one foot high, letting the lower ends run out a few inches on the ground to cover with earth, and bind with a straw or other band in two places.

3. Bind on a sheet of straw paste board or binder's, boards and if tarred all the better. In all cases clean the tree the first frosts, as after that period there is no danger of the fly's impergnating the tree, being past its season. It is of no use to tar or apply any offensive substance to the body of the tree, for as it grows and expands, the bark cracks and exposes the tender part, where the fly deposits its eggs.

The parent of this grub is not unlike the black wasp, with steel blue wings, and a yellow ring around its abdomen. Its habits are very sly and not easy to detect. In July the grub goes into the chrysalis state enveloped in a reddish glazed case, and lays on the top of the earth at the root of the tree.

We were shown a few weeks ago, two of these insects, by our intelligent and enterprising townsman, Mr. Sylvester Smith, who has commenced a farm in this vicinity on the right principles.

To manure and improve a peach orchard already set out, put it under the operation of some hoed crop. Manure and work among the trees as if they were a great corn hill, and so keep doing till it is in a thrifty state, when it may lay awhile in grass, but not to clover; their long tap roots get rather more than their share of the nutriment and moisture of the soil.

BONES FOR MANURE.

As mills for grinding bones are very costly, it is a desideratum for the farmer to know he can otherwise prepare them for his crops. By the following simple method he can reduce them to a fine powder and increase their value four-fold:

"Take 100 pounds of bones and place them in a kettle, or in an old tub unfit for further uses, or even in a hollow scooped in the ground, and made tight by lining with clay.—Next take from 30 to 35 lbs. of oil or vitriol, [sulphuric acid,] mixed with one third to one half its weight of water, and pour over the bones. In a day or two the bones will dissolve into a liquid paste, to which there must be added, by stirring in wood ashes, or fine mould, until it is of the consistency of thick mortar. Put the mixture under cover out of the way of the rain, and in a few weeks it will become a light dry powder, which may be applied by the hand or otherwise to any kind of land that may require it. In preparing this mixture great care must be taken to keep the oil of vitriol from touching the clothes or skin as it will burn them as badly as fire.

The oil of vitriol for this mixture must be of a first-rate quality, otherwise it will require a greater quantity to dissolve the bones.—The mixture answers best for a turnip crop; but it is highly valuable for other roots, as well as for grass and grain.

It should be applied at the rate of 20 to 40 bushels to the acre, sown broad cast on grass land in the spring, or on grain and turnip crops after harrowing in the seed. For garden or field crops planted in rows or drills, as roots, corn, beans, peas, &c., it may be applied in the hills or rows at the time of sowing, or it may be afterwards sprinkled around the plants at the time of hoeing.

BARBECUE.

Some of the citizens of Hillsborough and its vicinity on Tuesday last, gave a barbecue to Messrs. Walter A. Thompson, William Hobbs, and Thomas J. Freeland, Volunters recently returned from Mexico. The two former, though natives of this county, served in the Mississippi regiment, and distinguished themselves in the battles at Monterey and Buena Vista, and the latter, a native of this county, belonged to Capt. Williamson's company, of Caswell, and was honorably discharged in consequence of a disease in his leg.

Hills. Rec.

GETTING THE MISER'S HEART OPEN.

The Legislature of Rhode Island, lately pledged a large sum for a Lunatic Asylum in that State on condition that $70,000 could be raised by private donations. Miss Dix undertook to raise the amount. Among the rich men of Providence is one who had been famed for his miserly habits, Miss Dix proposed to give him a call. Her friends dissuaded but she resolved to try.

She knocked at the old miser's door, was admitted and immediately stated the object of her visit, He was unusuly courteous, but still evaded the main question, and endeavored to turn the conversation to other subjects. But Miss Dix would not allow him to wander, all the time urging such considerations as she thought best adapted to touch him on the right spot. Finally he got a little impatient and exclaimed, half petulantly, "What would you have, madam?" She tapped him confidently on the shoulder and replied—"*Forty Thousand dollars!*" The old man was moved—he paced the floor inagitation—but suddenly stopping before Miss Dix, he said, "You shal have it. And he was as *good* as his word. The projectors of this noble institution have to thank the reputed miser for $40,000 of the $70,000 it was incumbent upon them to raise."

WHAT HAS THE WAR COST US?

What has the war cost us? One Hundred and Twenty Millions of Dollars? $120,000,000! Is this a great sum? Is it a loss to us? Could we have made any use of it?

With the interest of $120,000,000 we might found a National Gallery that would rank with the British Musem as the British Musuem does with the Cabi of Pensylbania.—College.

The famous "Garden Plants," founded and endowed at Paris by Richelieu in the times of Louis the Fourteenth and which is the greatest in the world did not cost from them till now, as much as three months of the Mexican war.

With $120,000,000, a School house and Church might crown every hill top from the Penobscott to the Rio Grande and teachers of knowledge and rightousness might do their mission of good without money or price for any one.

With $120,000,000, we might connect every town in our land by railroad, and the Magnetic Telegraph might be made to strech its magic wires along every thoroughfare from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

With $120,000.000 we might build such a Navy as the world never saw and carry such a commerce as Venice, in her palmiest days never dreamed of; our flag might float on every breeze, our sails whiten every sea, and our name be heard and feared in every harbor between the poles.

With $120,000,000. we might feed every poor man, clothe every beggar and relieve every distress, not once only but always as long as the population of the globe did not exceed 950,000,000. Starvation, poverty and famine need never find a foothold on earth.

And more with $120,000,000, we might give the Bible and tell the tidings of our Holy Faith to every Foreign nation and to every human soul.

The Government complains that the Post Office department is a heavy tax upon the Treasury on account of the Low rates of Postage. Devote four months' interest of Mexican War debt to this end, and our people would never hear the word "Postage."

The Government doles out with a miser,s hand and a miser's spirit, triflin pitiful sums for harbors in our Western Rivers and Lakes, Devote two months interes of the Mexican War debt to this end and no more pety petty petitions for appropriations would come from the people of the West.

This is the way to calculate the cost of the War; & these are not idle fancies—Let no reader be satisfied untill he works with his pencil each one of these statesments. Figures will verify them all. Is our country able to squander money in this wise?—Is gold a matter of such liconcern as to be disposed of in this summary manner?—What says the Farmer whose taxed labor helps to heap up these boards of wasted money? What says the Mechanic whose taxed "occupation" aids in amassing this squandered treasure! What say the People who pay for it in their clothes, food, books, houses, furniture and property! Can we afford it? We might be doing good wit it such as no country has ever done.

Is this, then the much boasted destiny of our great country—to tax her people collect and borrow an immence sum and spend it in shedding blood and killing men! Heaven forbid!! The war has cost us $120,000,000, and what have gained? Respect aboard? Doubtful. Unity at home! New Territory in Mexico? Doubtful.—But this we have gained; we have taught our people to love the excitement, the glory of War; we might have taught them the lesson that "might makes right;" we have called into vigorous play the passion of a nation's nature; we have given our people a taste for blood. Enough of this—let us have Peace? By the good which $120,000,000, can do—by the harm it is doing—Let us implore our Rulers for piece!

But the War cost more—it cost in a way that money cannot count. Who will estimate by dollars and cents the cost of the broken limbs, the shattered constitutions and the legions of crippled soldiers?

Ex. Paper

☞ What has become of "the Peace party" in Mexico, of whom we have so often heard, and of which General Herrera was said to be the leader? Has the Administration been as grossly decieved in respect to the existence of such a party, as it was in the sentiments and purposes of Santa Anna, when Mr. Polk, as a master-stroke of policy, sent orders to Commodore Conner not to obstruct his passage into Vera Cruz? If any coquetting has taken place between Mr. Polk and Herrera, it is apparent from the lofty tone assumed by the latter in his intercourse with Mr. Trist, that the President has been quite as much decieved in regard to his co-operation with us against his own country, either for "a consideration" or without it, as he was in relation to the willingness of Santa Anna to play the traitor for "three millions," more or less! It is to be hoped that there will be no such illustrations of the "preeminent ability" of the Cabinet; but that they will hereafter trust more to the power of our own arms than to the treachery of Mexican Generals for the successful termination of the war into which they have so wantonly plunged the two nations.

Rich. Whig.

☞ The New Orleans *La Patria* has a letter from Vera Cruz, which states that the Archbishop of Mexico has published a proclamation, in which he states that Gen Scott intends to send, as a trophy, to Washington, the miraculous image of Our Lady of Gaudaloupe. This image is in the cathedral of the capital, and is held in most devout reverence by all Mexicans, and, with its ornaments of gold and diamonds, is said to be worth a million of dollars. The letter says, if such a proclamation has been issued, it will do more to rouse the population than any appeals to their patriotism.

COMPARISON OF SPEED.

A French Scientific Journal states that the ordinary rate per second, of a man walking, is 4 feet; of a good horse in harness, 12; of a reindeer in a sledge on the ice, 16; of an English race horse, 43; of a hare, 88; of a good sailing ship, 14; of the wind, 82; of sound, 1,038; of a twenty four pounder cannon-ball 1,300; and of the air, which so divided, returns into space, 13,000 feet.