

# THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

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Editor & Proprietor.



DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE.  
Gen'l Harrison.

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TERMS OF THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.  
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## AGRICULTURAL.

**Agricultural Instruction.**—We desire to call the attention of the Alabama Legislature, now in session, to the following article from the "Working Farmer." It speaks for itself, and certainly contains suggestions of practical interest. We would rejoice to see something done by Alabama to promote the cause of scientific agriculture.—*Mobile Adver.*

## Legislative Assistance necessary for the Dissemination of Agricultural Instruction.

The time is arriving when many of the State Legislatures commence their annual sessions, and as in past years, different plans will be discussed for the attainment of this desirable object.

The establishment of Agricultural Colleges, Schools, Experiment Farms, &c., although, in the opinion of many, extremely desirable, are too expensive to meet with general favor while the mere endowment of Agricultural Societies alone, proves insufficient to bring about the desired results. The holding of public fairs by these societies has produced, and is producing, most beneficial results, by offering premiums for competition, and thus causing greater exertions on the part of the grower to produce crops of superior kinds—the means by which these crops may be economically produced is not made known in a dependable manner and through dependable sources.

The Agricultural Press is doing much to disseminate knowledge, but the whole of the Agricultural Press cannot be expected to be either practical or theoretical, and therefore a part only of our agricultural papers can be considered as truly useful, while the less valuable portions will continue to circulate through the exertions of agents acting only with business motives.

The larger States will doubtless form Bureaus of Agriculture, embracing all, or many of the plans proposed, while the smaller States will follow the example of Maryland, so far effective, and with such improvements as her experience has shown to be necessary.

The best and most economical plan yet proposed is that reported by the Committee on Agriculture of the Legislature of New Jersey, and if carried out as recommended in the bill, will doubtless result in advancing the best interests of the State. This bill proposes the appointment of a State Agriculturist, whose duties are:

- 1st. To deliver a course of Lectures on agriculture, in each county each year, commencing with the county towns, and arranging the place of lecturing under the supervision of the Legislative representatives from the counties.
- 2d. To make an Annual Report to the Legislature embracing all the improvements in Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., embracing an account of all the improved crops of the State, and the means by which they have been produced, so as to enable farmers to avail of the current improvements of the year. This report to be published by the Legislature, and gratuitously distributed among the farmers.
- 3d. Such a report would be a text book to farmers, and the facts there set forth would refer to crops raised sufficiently near them to insure an examination in cases of doubt or distrust.

The State Agriculturist is required to assist in the formation of County Agricultural Societies where none exist, and to keep them supplied with the current improvements of the time—to do which, he is required to correspond with the Agricultural Societies of other States, so as to keep himself fully posted up in all improvements.

The Lectures to be delivered by this officer are to be free to all citizens, and cannot but be the cause of rendering local improvements the common property of all.

Conversational Meetings on Agriculture could be established in every township, and from experience this plan has been found to be of great usefulness.—Without such an officer, however, the establishment of Conversational Meetings on Agriculture, Farmers' Clubs, and even Agricultural Societies, are neglected from year to year.

Such an officer could, and doubtless would induce one or more farmers in each county to raise the standard crops of the county in the most approved manner, and thus a practical instance could be given by which the applications of improved measures, modes of culture, &c., would be made known to the many, while the plans proposed by theorists would be fully tested. Indeed, the traveling of such an officer, if judiciously selected, would infuse a spirit of inquiry and improvement, would add materially to the income of the State.

## From the Plow.

### VIRGINIA FARMING.

General Peyton, of Richmond, purchased a farm seven or eight miles above the city, on James river, some two or three years ago, which was in the same condition as thousands of others in that State, whose owners have abandoned them as worthless, or rather so worn out and unproductive as not to be worth cultivating. For this reason, thousands have emigrated from Virginia to newer and more fertile lands in some of the Western States, for the sole reason that they could no longer support their families and servants upon a soil which produced old pines and broom straw, and but little else. And why? Because it had been scratched, not ploughed, year after year, until the surface exhausted of fertility; and however great the amount of richness beneath, it was to the owner a hidden mine; for he had a deep-rooted prejudice against deep rooting his plows into the earth—"I would ruin the land," though if practiced, it certainly could not have done so more effectually than the ruinous system which he has pursued to ruin himself and land too.

Here, now, within a stone's throw of the rich wheat and clover fields of Gen. Peyton, can be seen the same kind of land as his, covered with that worthless product—the most worthless scrubby pines and broom straw—contrasting with his fields like a desert waste by the side of a garden of fruits and flowers.

By what magic has he wrought this change? Not alone by the expenditure of capital for lime, plaster, bone dust, guano, or other fertilizers, but because he has

"Plowed deep while sluggards sleep,  
Producing corn to sell and keep."

He has procured the best plows that could be obtained, and used them with four horses to a turning plow, followed by three more, subsoiling every furrow in the stiff bottom land a foot and a half deep. This alone has the effect to restore the fertility to a degree that will treble the crops. He has every prospect now of twenty bushels of wheat to the acre, and counts confidently on ten barrels (fifty bushels) of corn. His method of preparing land for corn is so much in contrast with theirs, who plant first and sow the land afterwards, that we will state it: In the first place, the land was plowed and subsoiled last fall, eighteen inches deep. This spring it was well plowed with two horses, and now, April 25th, is being planted after the following preparation: A coulter—which is somewhat of the nature of a small subsoil plow—is run twelve inches deep, twice in a row, and all the ground loosened up by an iron-tooth harrow; and the corn covered by a double furrow of the coulter, and then all the clods are carefully raked off by small iron tooth rakes, which are far superior in every respect to hoes for that purpose. The ease with which such land is tilled through the season would surprise some of those who never plow till after the corn is up, when they break out the middle—if it can be called breaking—by a little scratching of a shovel plow drawn by a poor mule.

Such examples as Gen. Peyton and others are setting in Virginia are causing a great revolution in that State. Old field lands are bought often at greatly advanced prices; and people are beginning to find it is more profitable to improve their own farms than it is to run off in pursuit of new ones. Truly the spirit of improvement is abroad; who shall limit its vast advantages to the whole country?

## SINGULAR MODE OF COURTSHIP.

The Rev. Dr. L., an eminent Scotch divine, and professor of theology, was remarkable for absence of mind, and indifference to worldly affairs. His mind, wrapped up in lofty contemplations, could seldom stoop to the ordinary business of life, and when at any time he did attend to secular affairs, he generally went about them in a way unlike any body else, as the history of his courtship will show.—He was greatly beloved by his elders and congregation, was full of simplicity and sincerity, and entirely unacquainted with the etiquette of the world. Living the solitary, comfortless life of a bachelor, his elders gave him frequent hints that his domestic happiness would be much increased by his taking to himself a wife, and pointed out several young ladies in his congregation, any of whom might be a fit match or companion for him.

The elders, finding all the hints, had no effect in rousing the doctor to the using of the means, preliminary to entering into a matrimonial alliance, at last concluded to wait upon him, and stir him up to the performance of his duty. They urged on him the advantages of marriage—its happiness—spoke of it as a divine institution, and as affording all the enjoyments of sense and, in short, all the sweets of domestic life. The doctor approved of all they said, and apologized for his past neglect of duty, on account of many difficult passages of Scripture he had of late been attending to, and promised to look after it, "the first convenient season." The elders, however, were not to be put off any longer; they insisted on the doctor at once making use of the means, and requested from him a promise that, on Monday afternoon, he would straightway visit the

house of a widow lady, a few doors from him, who had three pretty daughters, and who were the most respectable in the doctor's congregation. To solve any difficult passage in the book of Genesis—reconcile apparent discrepancies, clear up a knotty text, would have been an easy task to the doctor, compared, with storming the widow's premises. But to the raising of the siege the doctor must go, and, with great gravity and simplicity, gentle reader, you can imagine you see him commencing the work.

After the usual salutations were over, he said to Mrs. W.—"My sessions have of late been advising me to take a wife, and recommended me to call upon you; and as you have three fine daughters, I would like to say a word to the eldest, if you have no objection." Miss W.—"enters, and the doctor, with his characteristic simplicity said to her, "my sessions have been advising me to take a wife, and recommended me to call upon you. The young lady who had seen some thirty summers, was not to be caught so easily; she laughed heartily at the doctor's abruptness; hinted to him that in making a sermon, was it not necessary to say something first to introduce the subject properly before he entered fully upon it; and as for her part, she was determined not to surrender her liberty at a moment's warning—"the honor of her sex was concerned in her standing out." This was all a waste of time to the doctor, and he requested to see her sister.

Miss E. W.—"then entered, and to save time the doctor says, "my sessions have been advising me to take a wife, and I had been speaking to your sister, who has just gone out at the door, and as she is not inclined that way, what would you think of being Mrs. L.—n?" "Oh! Doctor, I don't know; it is rather a serious question. Marriage, you know, binds one for life, and it should not be rashly entered into. I would not consent without taking time to deliberate upon it." "My time," says the Doctor, "is so much occupied, and as my session has said so much to me on the business that I must finish it to day, if I can; so you had best tell your mother to send in your youngest sister to speak to me." In a moment comes the honest, lively Miss Mary W.—"Come away my child, it is getting on in the afternoon, and I must get home to my studies. I have been speaking to both of your sisters on a little business, and they have declined. I am a man of few words; and without missing precious time what would you think of being made Mrs. L.—n?" "Indeed, I always thought a good deal of you, Doctor; and if my mother does not say against it, I have no objections." The Doctor left Miss Mary in a few minutes, enjoining her to fix the day, for any would suit him; but to send him up word the day before.

The doctor was scarcely home before a keen dispute arose in the family among the three young ladies, all claiming the doctor. The eldest one said the offer was first made to her and she did not positively refuse. The second declared that she wished only a little time to think upon it; and the younger insisted that it was completely with her. The mother of the young ladies was in such difficulty with her daughters, that she was obliged to call upon the doctor himself to settle the dispute. She called, and the reverend doctor, in his characteristic way said, "my dear Mrs. W.—n, I am very fond of peace in families; it is all the same thing to me, which of them and just settle it among yourselves, send me up word." The doctor was married to the youngest, and one of his sons is at this day a respectable clergyman, in the land of the mountain and the flood.—*St. Louis Bulletin.*

**Benefit of Apprenticeship.**—There is an important feature in the regulation of a master-mechanic, which is frightful to some kind parent's heart, and that is the five to seven years' apprenticeship the boy who learns a trade must submit to. But it is an excellent discipline. It takes the lad at a critical period of life—when he perhaps has a disposition averse to steady employment—when he is inclined to roam at large, amid the contaminating influences about him—and puts him to a steady round of duties—severe, at first, but soon becoming from habit agreeable; and, when his minority expires, his steady habits and industry are established, and he comes forth a man, the master of a trade, of fixed principles, and good habits, a blessing to himself and the community; or at least this ought to be the result of an apprenticeship where both master and apprentice mutually discharge their duty to each other.

If parents would but look at it aright, they would declare that, had they many sons, they should learn trades. Contrast the youth just alluded to with him who, having a horror of an apprenticeship, is allowed to run at large. At the most critical period of life for forming habits, he is forming those that are the reverse of industry. He is not fitting himself to be a man, but wearing away his boyhood in idleness. The partial parent sees this, yet has not fortitude to avert it. At twenty-one years of age the first-named lad comes out a good mechanic; it is wonderful if the other has not fastened habits upon him that will be his ruin, if he is not ruined already. More than one excellent

man in our community can say with thankfulness, that it turned out so that, to his half dozen years' apprenticeship, he is indebted for the habits of industry and sobriety he has obtained. That, when he was put to a trade, he was on a pivot, as it were. Had it not been for the firmness of his parents, he likely would have been a ruined lad ere his minority expired.—This was the turning point.

## COAL MINES OF ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

The following article from the Galena (Ill.) Observer, is very interesting; the author writes correctly, and is evidently acquainted with the mining operations and laws of England—

The depth at which our Illinois coal is dug is but a pin scratch on the globe, compared with the diggings in the English coal mines. One shaft, near Sunderland, is perhaps the deepest in the world. The coal was first found one thousand six hundred feet below the surface, and it is now worked at one thousand seven hundred, and one thousand eight hundred feet!—These English mines employ large bodies of workmen. In one there are one hundred and thirty-six men and eighty-five boys below ground, engaged in fourteen different kinds of labor, and one hundred and twelve men and twenty-eight boys above ground, in seventeen occupations, and three hundred and sixty-one workmen in all. The names of the classes of workmen are singular; under-viewers, banksmen, drivers, hewers, putters, headsmen, half-marrows, foals, stoppers, or door-keepers, &c. The hewers are the actual miners of the coal receive about twenty shillings a week, working six hours a day, with coal and house rent free. Children under eight years of age are now excluded by law, and the barbarous harnessing of females to the coal carts in the pits is prevented. Our Illinois diggings are comparatively dry. The English mines often pump one thousand gallons a minute, or six thousand tons a day; one near Durham pumped twenty six thousand seven hundred tons of water per diem! The use of steam power in our coal mining is yet to come. In the north of England, engines of two hundred and fifty horse power are in common use at the pumps. At Percy Maine, near Newcastle, engines of five hundred and sixty-six horse power are in operation, four hundred and forty horse power being employed in pumping alone. But little capital is employed in the business here. It is estimated the cost of a first class English colliery, including the shaft, machinery, houses, wagons, &c. &c. is from £40,000 to £150,000. The deepest coal is the best. As our Illinois beds are worked deeper, they will furnish an article as good, and ere long better than the Pennsylvania coal. Adjoining the great unworked colliery, which stretches across our State from central Iowa to northern Kentucky, manufacturing cities will soon arise as busy as Pittsburg, perhaps smoky. And coal, more and more valuable for manufacturing purposes, for pliability, density, heat-giving, &c., will be brought up as the progress of our north-western manufacturing towns make a demand for it.

## NUTMEGS INDIGENOUS TO CALIFORNIA.

One day last May, says the Alta Californian, we were presented with a very fine specimen of nutmeg by one of the delegates to the Whig Convention, who assured us very complacently that it was a native of California. We as complacently received it, supposing it was an assurance based upon Mrs. Opie's license, when the gentleman reiterated the fact, and confirmed it with the information that his brother had gathered a number of them from some nutmeg bushes that were growing a few miles from Placerville.—Another gentleman who was standing by declared that he had seen many of them, and that great crops could be gathered with little difficulty in the fall season.—We concluded that we would make the matter a subject of a paragraph upon our return, but a fear of being badly "sold" induced us to wait for further evidence. Some time after, Col. Forman assured us that he had seen some that were plucked during the formative stage of the spice, whilst the nutmeg was in a pulpy condition. We still hesitated to announce the aromatic as indigenous to California but inasmuch as we have since been informed by Gov. Bigler that he saw a large quantity of them growing last summer, and that he had sent for some of them for special cultivation, we deem it very safe to announce it as a new resource of California.

## Vegetable Extracts and Quack Medicines.

It is quite common for dealers in quack medicines to advertise the same as being "purely vegetable." This is presuming upon the ignorance of the multitude. At one time, long ago, vegetable medicines, with the exception of alum and sulphur, were exclusively used, and when science had developed the virtues of mineral medicines, old prejudices were soon arrayed against the evils of the "new drugs." The same prejudices still exist in the minds of many, hence we hear of the "herb doctors" being the most safe. They believe that mineral medicines are more

dangerous, but this is all sheer nonsense, for the most virulent poisons are extracted from herbs. What is opium but a vegetable extract, and beside this a great number of minerals are extracted from vegetables, at least they can be. Morphine, *nux vomica*, strychnia, solania, nicotine, and many other dreadful poisons, are vegetable extracts. How nonsensical then to speak of medicines being more safe or valuable because they are obtained from vegetables. It is well known that mushrooms—a certain kind—are cooked and used as an article of diet, yet in the class of mushrooms there are some deadly species, yea, the species generally used for the table, at some seasons and when growing in some localities, are highly poisonous. A few weeks ago we read an account of some Bavarian officers, who were poisoned by eating common table mushrooms, and they died in the most frantic delirium, in spite of the best medical skill and attention.

## NORTH CAROLINA RAIL ROAD.

A meeting of the Directors of the North Carolina Rail Road was held in this place on Thursday the 8th instant, and having completed the business before them, adjourned on Friday. By the kindness of a friend we have been put in possession of the most interesting portion of their proceedings.

From information elicited at the meeting, it appears that the whole line has been put under contract; that many of the contractors have made good progress in the work, and that all of them are preparing to proceed with much spirit and vigor to the completion of their contracts. Though no regular returns were made of the forces engaged on the line, yet it was ascertained that on that portion of it, which lies between the Yaddin and Charlotte, (some forty miles,) there are 631 men and above 200 boys now at work; and that portion of the road, it is with much confidence expected, will be graded, if not entirely finished, during the present year.

Much important business was transacted by the Board. Among other things, the President was authorized to contract for iron to lay on the road from one end to the other, except the first division, the iron for which is to be furnished by the contractors for building that part of the road; and the Chief Engineer was authorized to contract for two Locomotives, of twenty tons weight each, and a suitable number of Cars, for the eastern end of the road, to be in readiness for transporting materials at the earliest period it may be found necessary.

A change in the location of the road near Waynesborough was authorized, for the purpose of avoiding a piece of low land so subject to overflow as to render trestle work necessary. By this change the main stem of the road, instead of passing through Waynesborough, passes by that place as the distance of, say, 1600 feet, but will connect with the town and steamboat navigation on the Neuse by means of a turn-out.

It is understood to be the policy of the board to call in the subscription money very rapidly—ten per cent is ordered to be paid in April next, and ten per cent in June. This course is necessary for prompt payment to contractors, and is just to individual stockholders; for the sooner fifty per cent shall have been paid in by them, the sooner the State will begin to participate in the burden of carrying forward the work.

A good deal of conversation was had on the subject of Engineers to supply the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Mr. J. C. McRae and Mr. Preost. This business is in the hands of the Chief Engineer, and it is understood that he expects Mr. Theodore Garnet, now engaged on a Rail Road in Kentucky, to supply the place of Mr. McRae, and is in correspondence with other suitable persons for supplying the other vacancy.

## VALUE OF LABOR.

Look at the transforming power of labor! The items which follow are drawn from Hunt's Merchants' Magazine, of October, 1848:

A pound of cotton when spun is worth \$25 00  
The same woven into muslin and embroidered is worth 75 00  
An ounce of Flanders thread is worth 20 00  
The same made into lace is worth 200 00  
which is worth ten times the value of standard gold weight for weight. A pound of iron, worth four cents, can be made into fifty thousand pendulum springs of a watch, each worth four cents. Total value \$200.

Lead to the value of \$5, made into small type is worth \$140.  
Bar iron to the value of \$5, made into needles is worth \$350 00  
Do made into gun barrels is worth 1,190 09  
Do made into scissors is worth 1,190 00  
Do made into pen knife-blades is worth 3,230 00  
Do made into polished steel sword-handles is worth 4,860 00

In these instances, it is seen that a very cheap material is made to be worth many times the value of gold!

**Melancholy.**—John Johnson, of Gaston county, who recently had his foot cut off while chopping wood, and from neglect, had to undergo amputation, died on Saturday, the 3d inst. He was a very poor man, and has left a widow and four small children.—*The Remedy.*

Adulterated tea is becoming more common every day. There is scarcely a pound of good tea to be found; it is adulterated first in China, and then it undergoes a finishing process when it comes here.

## VISIT OF M. KOSSUTH TO MR. CLAY.

About two o'clock yesterday afternoon, M. Kossuth, accompanied by Gen. Cass, called on Mr. Clay at his rooms at the National Hotel. The interview was on both sides very cordial and friendly, and was continued about an hour, in the course of which we learn that Mr. Clay frankly disclosed his sentiments, and considerable length, as to the policy of the country in reference to the question of intervention in European affairs. Mr. Clay, as it has been understood, is opposed to any change in this policy, deeming it best not only for ourselves, but likewise for the down-trodden populations of Europe, that we should pursue, hitherto, the even tenor of our way.

M. Kossuth paid the most respectful attention to Mr. Clay, and on his side imparted much interesting intelligence as to the social and political condition of several of the European nations.

*National Intelligencer.*

## FIVE HUNDRED PERSONS DESTROYED BY WATER SPOUT.

On Saturday intelligence was received from Lloyd's, (London,) under date Malta, Monday the 8th ultimo, of a most awful occurrence at the Island of Sicily, which had been swept by an enormous water-spout, accompanied by a terrific hurricane. Those who witnessed the phenomena describe the water-spouts as two immense spherical bodies of water reaching from the clouds, their cones nearly touching the earth, and, as far as could be judged, at a quarter of a mile apart, traveling with immense velocity. They passed over the island near Marsala. In their progress houses were unroofed, trees uprooted, men and women, horses, cattle and sheep raised up, drawn into their vortex and borne on to destruction; during their passage rain descended in cataracts, accompanied with hail stones of enormous size and massiveness. Going over Castellamarre, near Sicily, it destroyed half the town, and washed two hundred of the inhabitants into the sea, who all perished. Upwards of five hundred persons were destroyed by this terrible visitation, and an immense amount of property, the country being laid waste for miles. The shipping in the harbor suffered severely, many vessels being destroyed, and their crews drowned. After the occurrence numbers of dead human bodies were picked up, all rightfully mutilated and swollen.

**SNOW IN NOVA SCOTIA.**—A correspondent of the Pictou Chronicle has furnished a table which gives the result of a record of all the snow-storms at the Albion Mines for the last seven years. The table shows the number of snow-storms in each year, the depth of snow which fell in each month, with the aggregate of each year and the annual average. The average number of days per annum on which there was a snow-storm, during the seven years, was sixty; and the average depth of snow which fell in each year nine feet and six inches. The snow is usually dry and light, requiring seven inches deep of snow to produce one inch of water.

**DESPATCH IN PAPER-MAKING.**—Few have been more improved than this, as they will acknowledge who have read a description of the old mode and compared the present with it. The Louisville Courier of a late date relates a remarkable instance of despatch: "At half past five o'clock last evening, the paper on which this morning's edition of the Courier is printed was rags, in Mr. Isaac Cromie's paper mill. The rags were soon converted into the article we ordered, and at fifteen minutes before eight o'clock the paper was delivered at our office ready for the press. This is certainly an instance of remarkable expedition."

Free Masonry is in a very florid and prosperous state now in every part of the Union, and the fraternity is growing more numerous than it has ever before been. There is now a certainty that the unhappy division which has existed hitherto in the State of New York, will be healed, and the two Grand Lodges be united again in one common jurisdiction. St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of New York city, the oldest in the United States, gave in its adhesion two weeks ago to the party which is now so immensely in the majority. Their example has been followed by many of the other lodges, and the union will soon be complete. St. John's lodge is the possessor of that copy of the Bible on which Washington took his oath of fidelity to the Constitution of the United States, when he was inaugurated its first President.

**Social Intercourse.**—We should make it a principle to extend the hand of fellowship to every man who discharges faithfully his duties, and maintains good order—who manifests a deep interest in the welfare of general society—whose deportment is upright and whose mind is intelligent, without stopping to ascertain whether he swings a hammer or draws a thread. There is nothing so distant from all satirical claim, as the reluctant, backward sympathy—the hesitating compliance, the well-off stoop to manifest to those a little down, whom in comparison of intellect and principles of virtue, they frequently sink into insignificance.—*Daniel Webster.*

**THE CONTRAST.** I saw a vast multitude of the sick and dying, all fast hastening to death, and I heard a voice say: "There is life for the asking," and there was but one or two of all that great company raised their voices to beg that boon.

I saw a band of weary travelers in a sandy desert, parched with thirst, and I heard a voice saying to them: "There is water for the asking." "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters!" and directly in sight appeared a cool and sparkling fountain, gushing from a rock which threw a deep shadow across the "weary land," and but a few steps were required to reach the grateful shade of the "weary land," and to slake their thirst in its waters. "There is gold for the digging," proclaimed another voice; and thousands of eager questioners cry, Where? where! Far far away over the deep waters, across the dangerous passes of the mountain, danger and disease must be braved—but what of all that! there is "gold for the digging," at the end. And how they throng and press, and crowd, to reach the off-land!

"What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul; or what shall he give in exchange for his soul?"

Ground charcoal is said to be the best thing in the world for cleaning knives. It will wear the knives away like brick dust, which is so often used. Try it.