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The Tarboro Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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AGRICULTURAL.



Mr. Burgwyn's Experiments.

Jackson, N. C. July 15th. 1850.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Sir:—Allow me through the medium of your valuable periodical to correct two errors of print, which have crept into the publication of my remarks on the "improvement of worn out lands." I am made to say—"from experience in the use of both, I think peas not inferior to clover as a specific manure for wheat." It should be—"but little inferior to clover." &c. The long, rich tap root of clover by its decay, affords a food for wheat which no part of the pea can supply. This tap-root operates beneficially also, by penetrating the earth deeper, and in decaying, leaves a vegetable deposit to a greater depth, affording what Col. Fremont would call a "cache," or hidden magazine of provision for future plants.

On the next page, it reads—"For three years I have never fed my working horses on grain or fodder from the middle of May till the clover fails;" it should be—"but once a day." I always feed once a day on hominy. (preferring it much to uncracked corn,) turn my horses into the clover fields after their day's work, and they are again put to work the next morning, with no other attention than watering, having been curried at midday, instead of at night, as is done during the shorter days of fall and winter. Nature, by the production of vegetable food for the lower animals in the spring, thereby indicates a change from the stronger and more heating diet of grain, to be proper for them; who has not observed our cattle, turning from the dry food of the winter, to feed on the young grass which is yet not so strengthening? It is very true, they must not be allowed to feed exclusively on this, if so, they suffer from disordered bowels; work horses particularly, must not be too much exposed to this temptation. We see an entirely analogous case in ourselves. Nature produces for us a great variety of vegetables in the spring, our appetites cause us eagerly to enjoy these, in consequence our blood becomes thinned, our systems purged from the grosser juices that circulate during the winter, and we are better prepared for the heats of summer. Since writing the piece referred to, I have added the experience of another summer to this plan, and though in consequence of the freshet in May, I had to replant 200 acres of corn, and to add to my corn crop 230 acres more of destroyed wheat, all of which was fallowed with three horse ploughs, running 8 to 10 inches deep, my team of 10 three horse ploughs were enabled by this plan of feeding, to stand the increased tax upon their endurance, with the exception of a few of the weaker animals. Thus I am more than ever satisfied with the plan. It is true my teams are strong, but he who keeps inferior animals on his estate, acts unwisely.

While I am writing, let me give my testimony as to the capability of our region of country, for raising the finer grasses: I have been seeding the following grasses for several years, and have never failed when sown on good soil, and that put in good order, to obtain and retain a good stand, viz:—clover, timothy, herdsgrass, Kentucky blue grass. When proper attention is not paid to the selection of a suitable soil, &c., &c., as in every thing else, a failure, or only partial success in the result. My experience proves to me, that the month of September, or early in October, is the best time to sow grass seed in our climate. If sown with wheat, and on rich land, it may, by its luxuriance,

affect the product of the wheat, and clog the reaping machines, but your stand of grass is more sure. The result of my this year's experiment, may be interesting to you, and, perhaps, encourage others to similar attempts. I will therefore, shortly state it. Having about 150 acres of my wheat, this year, sown upon last year's corn land, and the land being rather light, and not too rich, I feared lest I should fail with my grass sown on this wheat, because of the two successive cereal crops. I therefore bought guano, mixed it with its bulk of plaster, then added fine charcoal the same, and to this mixture double the whole bulk of deposit of the Roanoke river, a rich alluvial earth, and sowed the whole broadcast in February and March, and harrowed it in, on the top of the wheat. I sowed at the rate of 200 lbs. of guano to the acre; the value of this, no doubt was doubled by the mixture with the absorbents of the ammonia, as I was extremely careful, in the manipulation, to cover the guano with several inches of the plaster, &c., to prevent the escape of the ammonia, even when left for a few hours, as it is exceedingly volatile and easily dissipated by the March winds. On this wheat land, I had sown in October previous, clover, timothy, Kentucky blue grass, and Italian ray grass. My harvest has been over, it is now three weeks, and I have never had a finer stand of all these, even on our rich bottoms.—The ray grass, matured its seed, rather sooner than the wheat, was two-thirds as tall, and were very thickly sown, materially injured the product of the wheat. I have reaped an increased product from my wheat, amply sufficient to repay my outlay for the guano, plaster, &c., and have my grass as my profit on the investment; this in turn will shade and improve my land, fatten my stock, increase my crops, and cheer my eye with "grassy slopes," in place of "galled hill sides; this is profit sufficient for the most greedy if turned to a proper account;—be it remembered, too, this was a light and rather poor soil, but based on a good clay sub-soil. I send you herewith a stock of timothy of this spring's seeding—grown, however, on the low grounds, that you may judge in some measure for yourself—with it is a stalk of grass, for which I can find no name about here, it would seem to be very valuable—stock eat it with avidity: can you or any of your friends tell me what it is?"

I write "con amore" on this subject. If I have been too prolix, curtail as you think proper, but rectify the errors of print I refer to. I have not time to copy. Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

H. K. BURGWIN.

*We believe it to be the *Alopecurus pratensis*—the meadow foxtail—a grass which is esteemed in England as one of the best for hay and meadow.

The specimen of timothy sent us, was, indeed, of most luxuriant growth, measuring fully 4 feet, with a long and massy head. An acre of such grass, thickly set, would yield three tons of hay.

Although we believe the errors alluded to by Mr. B. were not our own, but were caused by copying from another source, we are glad they occurred, as it has been the means of our being favored with a detail of the very interesting experiments which accompany the correction.

Those Pantaloon.—In a number of our paper, some week or two ago, we published an extract, wherein a Miss Webber argues that all marriageable ladies should dress just like men. To this a friend—a married man—objects. He says his companion has had on the pantaloon for thirty years, and he thinks to drag them off now would near about kill her. Our friends think, and with some justice, too, that most ladies would prefer wearing the pantaloon after, instead of before, marriage, as that seems to be the custom now. On this head we say nothing, not wishing to take either side of the argument. We will say, however, that if, as Miss Webber seems to intimate, the real reason why the ladies above alluded to should dress like the men is, that those in need of husbands could be easily distinguished from "the rest of mankind," this object could be equally well accomplished by the lady wishing to be married carrying a neat

ticket on some part of her dress, some what after the manner of a ship wishing freight. It might read thus—"Up for the Port of Matrimony—A Mate Wanted—Apply soon." This would answer the same purpose as the breeches, and could be laid aside at any time, without loss to the owner.

Our old friend, however, who objects to single ladies wearing the breeches, and who has been married 30 years, quotes scripture to carry his argument, and says—"If the good lady would take a peep at the 5th verse of the 22nd chapter of Deuteronomy, she could read as follows: 'The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment; for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord.'" Wadesboro' Argus.

A Quietist for Cross Babies.—By this we do not mean knocking their brains out against the bed post, nor anything of the sort. Nor do we mean giving them paregoric, Daffy's elixir, Dalby's carminative, black drops, or any other poison. The only requisite to quiet a squalling, squealing little baby is, that it shall possess a nose. In the midst of its screaming, press your finger gently and repeatedly across the cartilage of that useful organ and in less than two minutes it will be asleep.

Restoring and preserving the Sight.—A friend who had read the following valuable item of information, but had forgotten which way "to rub his eyes," for loss of sight by age, requested us yesterday to republish the process. It is as follows.

N. Y. Post.

For near Sightedness.—Close the eyes and press the fingers gently, from the nose outward, across the eyes. This flattens the pupil, and thus lengthens or extends the angle of vision. This should be done several times a day, till short-sightedness is overcome.

For loss of sight by age, such as require magnifying glasses, pass the fingers or towel from the outer corner of the eyes inwardly, and below the eyeballs, pressing gently against them. This rounds them up and preserves or restores the sight.

It has been already said that this is nothing new. The venerable John Quincy Adams preserved his sight in this way, in full vigor, to the day of his death. He told Lawyer Ford of Lancaster, who wore glasses, that if he would manipulate his eyes with his fingers, from their external angles inwardly, he would soon be able to dispense with glasses. Ford tried it, and soon restored his sight perfectly, and has since preserved it by the continuance of this practice.

Sentimental.—A gentleman from Cincinnati, filled to the brim with heart glowing thought, wrote a few verses the other day, and sent them to the Burlington Advertiser for publication. We shall only give a specimen. The whole poem at once would certainly prove destructive to our readers:

"When a feller falls in love
He does ware a white kid glove,
and puts on lots of splendid close,
and wears tite boots upon hi toes,
and smells just like a sprouting rose,
all Newly sprung in June!"

From the Wilmington Journal.

The London Chronicle states that within the last two years 140,000 Mormons have emigrated from Great Britain to the United States, most of them men of some means from Wales and the northern and eastern parts of England; 2,500 left Liverpool in 1849, bound for the Great Salt Lake, by way of New Orleans.

From the Portsmouth Pilot.

A most brutal murder was committed on the 15th instant, at a place called White Oak, about five miles from Fredericksburg, (Va.) A man by the name of Bill Brown, took a sharp axe, and, at the first blow, nearly severed the head of a Mr. John Fugot from his body; the second blow nearly severed his under jaw from his head, and the third split his skull entirely open. The murderer then at-

tempted to cut his own throat, but at the time was prevented. He, however, last night effected his purpose, and both murderer and victim are dead.

Seaboard & Roanoke Rail Road.—The Portsmouth Whig of the 28th ult., says, "We have so often assured our readers that this work would really commence immediately, that we cannot without a smile now inform them that steps of a decisive nature have now at length been taken.

"At a meeting held here Monday, the Baltimore Steam Packet Company became purchasers of one half of the road, and Mr. M. N. Falls, President of that Company was chosen a director of this."

The people interested in this Road have been grossly swindled and deceived by Messrs. Ward & Co., and we trust better things from the Baltimore Company.

A careful exploration of one hundred towns in Massachusetts, brought to light 575 cases of idiocy. Of these, 450 were idiots from birth, and of this number they obtained information respecting the parents of 350. In all but four of these examined cases, it was found that one parent or the other, or both, had in some way departed from the laws of life and health, being either scrofulous, predisposed to brain affections, intemperate, grossly sensual, or unnaturally intermarried with blood relations. The lessons taught by such disclosures should prove a warning.

Gold in Texas.—The Houston Telegraph says, that preparations are in progress in all parts of the State, for a grand expedition to the gold region that has been discovered in Northern Texas not far from the ruins of the celebrated city of Grand Quivira. Immense excavations are shown along the foot of the mountains, and the ruins of vast cities indicate that these mines were once worked by millions of people. The geographic formations of this region are similar to those of the gold regions of California.

The Fugitive Slave Convention.—

The following is the resolution passed by Gerrit Smith, Frederick Douglass & Co., at Cazenovia on the 23d, which the telegraph perverted into a cry of Chaplin, disunion and civil war:

"Resolved, That the liberation of William L. Chaplin be effected, even at the price of Disunion and Revolution."

The Missouri Compromise of 36 30.—

A gentleman of high standing and a distinguished Ex-Governor of our State, now in California, writes home to a friend, and we are permitted to extract the following paragraph from his otherwise highly interesting letter. It outweighs all the proof and speculation of politicians in regard to its being impracticable that the South will ever extend her black population over that country south of 36 30:

"The world is flocking to California, embracing a large proportion of the dark races of the earth. Evidently the fusion of these races is to result in an inferior population which will occupy this remarkable land. Could California be admitted by 36 30, and south of this line a territorial government be formed, I have no doubt but that it would become a slave State—none whatever. The Southern mines are chiefly in Southern hands, and one or two spirited and talented men could easily adjust this question."

Of all the arguments against the extension of slavery there is none more ridiculous and absurd than the one which undertakes to demonstrate that it cannot be profitably employed in the country acquired from Mexico. The idea that cheap labor cannot compete with dear, is worthy of those who use it, and especially the Southern submissionists to Northern aggression. So far from this being true, it seems to have been a plan of Providence (and if failed, to be so by Southern cowardice and Northern fanaticism) to rid the present Southern States of their black population and make them what many desire them to be, free States at some future day—California would open the greatest possible temptation to the slave-holders if their clearly defined constitutional rights could be placed beyond jeopardy. Even

now, if permitted, she would pour in her black population and the mines would become doubly productive, because slave labor would be compelled to exert itself, whereas, now, the character of labor there is such that but few will work any longer than they have been fortunate enough to find gold requisite to enable them to enter on a career of vice and licentious indulgences. This is notorious. The morals of the gold diggings are the lowest in the world. All accounts unite in this. A well regulated system of slave labor—such as we have in the Southern States—would redeem the country from its present degradation and establish among the whites a moral standard of excellence unequalled in any part of the world.

So far from slave labor not being profitable in California, it can be shown that it would be more so than free labor on the barren rocks of New England and Canada. The services of a free laborer cannot be had for less than 10 or \$12 per month, subject continually to a termination of service from whim or caprice. The services of a negro could be had for 30 or \$40 per annum if slavery existed there; to which add something for coarse apparel, food, and sickness, and it will be seen you have a much more efficient laborer for less than one half! Yet the one is profitable and the other not, in the slang of the day.

There is another advantage in slave labor. It makes all the whites equal. Free labor does not, it makes all unequal, one half or more being compelled for want of bread, to perform all manner of drudgery, including manual services for the other half. Our system enslaves an inferior race of a different color; the other makes slaves of the same race and color.

In view of these wide differences, it is hoped the South will stand firm, at least, on the Missouri line. The North cannot rightfully object; she ought not; she knows that the rights of the States are equal in every foot of our territory. We do not blame her prejudices, but she ought to be just; reason should vanquish them—if not, why the worst should be met, as men alone can meet it.

Cor. Lynchburg (Va.) Rep.

From the Portsmouth Pilot.

Non-Intercourse.—The editor of the Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist, writing to his own journal from Coosa Springs, Alabama, says he understands from persons at that place, citizens of that State, that many of the planters in their section of the State have notified the merchants they deal with that they will not, hereafter, purchase articles of merchandise manufactured or imported from the North. We perceive, that the New York market reports mention a general absence of Southern merchants from the market.

From the Raleigh Register.

"The Evergreen."—Messrs. R. H. Brown and B. Craven, propose to publish an original magazine, of 32 pages, monthly, at Ashborough, price \$2 a year, to commence the first of October next. They thus set forth the character of the proposed publication:

"We intend that the "Evergreen," as its name distantly hints, shall at all times present a field pleasing and alluring to the mental eye. It will be a pure Miscellany of Literature, Fiction, Fancy, Poetry, didactic and descriptive Essays, scientific and philosophical Dissertations, Common School Education, Reviews, American Legends, metaphorical Illustrations, critical Observations on the peculiar tendencies of the age, and such general Disquisitions as may amuse and instruct the refined and chaste reader. The entire contents, drawn from original mines, and arranged in a manner peculiar to their own tastes, will be furnished by the subscribers, sole conductors, each pursuing that path in which his taste and inclination direct. With outlines and objects thus briefly sketched we are content to risk the work on its own merits."

Among the passengers arrived at New York in the steamship Hermann, are 21 priests and nuns, from France.