

To the People of North Carolina.

Unsolicited and unexpected on my part, I have been elected by the Executive Committee of the "Confederate Veterans' Association" of North Carolina an agent to make a canvass of the State in behalf of a "Soldiers' Home." Now, I am aware that I have undertaken a big job.

I want your endorsement; I want your sympathy; I want a small amount of your means. I hope no one will say "it is not convenient for me to give now." If we are not willing to make some sacrifice, if not willing to sacrifice some luxury for this cause, but must wait until it is convenient to give the aid, then let the cry at once be made in all North Carolina, "To your tents, oh, Israel."

This call is a broad one, it is not bound by religious or political lines, but appeals to the humane of every sect or political party. "We do not despise the day of small things." Small sums will be appreciated.

There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than it meet, but tendeth to poverty. Let the Home have one-half of what you intended for your Christmas.

It has been reported to the committee that there are at least 28 ex-Confederate soldiers now in the county poor houses in North Carolina, and they have not received reports from all the counties. These things ought not to be.

Might not these 28 and others say "we are here in obedience to the call of North Carolina made in 1861-5?"

May it not be true that these 28 were in the charge on many battle fields in those days that tried men's souls?

May it not be true that some at least of the 28 were seen by us in those dreadful charges made at Gettysburg in July, 1863?

Will North Carolina let them suffer for scant necessary comforts as their sun is going down the western hill of life? I think not.

Now, I appeal to every man of soul in North Carolina to help us in some way. Especially do I appeal to the ladies of North Carolina for help. If you can't give money, give kind words and show in other ways your interest for the cause.

In order to make the canvass with as little expense as possible, all reduction in fare at hotels, boarding houses, or in transportation from one town to another, will be very greatly appreciated.

The plan is broader than for the mere establishment of a Soldiers' Home, when circumstances admit of its being fully carried out. The agent will make a full explanation when he comes.

If the measures proposed differ from what any wish, let us agree to work the plan that is now adopted, and after we get the money and bona fide subscriptions, then all the necessary improvements can be added thereto. The Soldiers' Home is under the charge of the Executive Committee of the Confederate Veterans' Association, incorporated by act of Assembly, etc.

I hope all papers in the State favorable to the cause will publish this appeal at least once in their papers. Address,

M. O. SHERRILL,
Agent, etc., Newton, N. C.

To the Ladies of North Carolina.

The Legislature of 1889 incorporated the Confederate Veterans' Association and Soldiers' Home, of North Carolina. Julian S. Carr, Durham, President; W. C. Stronach, Raleigh, Secretary and Treasurer; Executive Committee, Col. A. B. Andrews, Col. W. F. Beasley, Capt. Sam. A. Ashe, Fab. H. Busbee, Esq., and Col. T. L. Emry.

The above names are a sufficient guarantee that all monies paid to the home will be properly accounted for.

We desire to have the ladies go to work in every city, town, village, and hamlet in North Carolina, to help raise money for the Soldiers' Home.

If necessary get up some kind of an entertainment during the Christmas holidays for the benefit of the Home. The plan is to establish a Home at an early day, for those who are without home or family, now living in the county poor houses. When this is done and a sufficient sum is raised, then extend aid to others who are in need of it but cannot go to the home because of having a family.

If we can get the patriotic

women of North Carolina to say "it must be done," we will succeed.

The thing is to get the money or good notes, then we can discuss the best plan for applying it, etc.

If we wait until all agree on a plan, we will find some making suggestions (but furnishing no money) when the Angel is ready to strike down the clock of time, and declare "that time shall be no more."

Those who are not willing to make a small sacrifice (even of some luxury) to aid this noble cause, will always find an excuse for not giving. When we come to die all that we will have saved will be what we have given to some good cause.

Each town, community or individual will be credited for all amounts paid, and at stated times a list of each will be published in our newspapers.

Let our towns as well as individuals vie with each other in this good work, and see who shall stand at the head of the list.

Send your contributions to W. C. Stronach, Treasurer, Raleigh, N. C., or to the undersigned, at Newton, N. C.

All newspapers, religious and secular, in our State, will please copy the above, and also the appeal made in the News and Observer, of the 20th instant, and call attention to it in the local column, by so doing you will aid the cause.

M. O. SHERRILL, Agt.
Newton, N. C., Nov. 26, '89.

SHORT-STOPS.

At the November meeting of the New Hampshire Club, Rev. J. S. Odlin said the depopulation of New Hampshire hill towns had been greater than the depopulation in sections of Ireland.

The grain which is used annually in the manufacture of liquors would give ninety-nine and one half four-pound loaves of bread to every family in the United States.

"I wish that I was a minister," said Bobby, one Sunday afternoon. "Why, dear?" "Because he is the only one who can speak out loud in church without going to the bad place for it."

The board of aldermen of New York has passed an ordinance requiring that vegetables, fruit and berries shall be sold in that city by weight only, and imposing a fine of \$10 for each offense on any one convicted of selling them in any other way.

Thomas Davis, a brakeman on the Georgia Pacific railroad, has brought suit against the road, at Birmingham, for \$50,000, on account of injuries received by a projecting rock in a cut of the road, while in its employ. He claims that the shock turned his heart and bowels around in his body, and wrecked his health.

The wars of the future will be fought with smokeless and soundless powder, and the whole aspect of battle will thus be changed. It is also more than likely that the murders of the future will be committed with the same silent and deadly agents. The possibility that one may be shot from an opposite window or the shelter of a tree with neither noise nor smoke to betray the assassin, is not a pleasant one.

The civil service commission has laid before the president the proofs against those officials in the government service at Washington who solicited contributions from office-holders to aid in carrying the Virginia election for Mahone. They ask for the prosecution of these violators of the civil service reform law, and the matter now rests with the president and attorney-general.

The Washington Capital of a recent date prints the following: "Gen. Hooker, a member of the Mississippi delegation in Congress, was a gallant Confederate soldier, and lost his right arm. His left hand was wounded and he wears a glove upon it almost constantly. Maj. Powell, chief of the geological survey, was a brave soldier on the Union side, and he too came out of the war minus an arm, his left one. He and Gen. Hooker are intimate friends, and their hands are of the same size, so when Major Powell wants a glove he buys a pair and says: 'Send the other one to Hooker.' Likewise, when Gen. Hooker's glove gets a little worn he orders a new pair, and says: 'Send the other one to Powell.'"

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FARM, FIELD AND GARDEN.

EXPERIENCES AND OBSERVATIONS OF EVERYDAY LIFE ON THE FARM.

Hints on the Curing of Cheese—A Convenient Cheese Curing Room—Treatment of Calves When the Object is to Make Good Milk.

A model cheese curing room must combine convenience and adaptability. As high authority as American Agriculturist claims that a convenient curing room is necessarily on the ground floor of the factory or house, and separated from the making apartment by a tight partition.

It is suggested that this partition be of matched lumber fitting closely to the floor and to the ceiling. Such a wall properly put up will exclude all steam and damp heat from the curing cheeses that fill the air of the adjoining room.

As the new cheeses are taken from the hoops each morning they can be easily rolled on a truck to the shelves assigned for them. If the loft of the building is used for curing, a hoisting apparatus must be brought into requisition, as few factories employ elevators, and this is always a tedious and slow job. But it is not convenience alone that gives the ground curing room a great advantage over the elevated one. Curing cheeses demand an even temperature, and it is next to impossible to preserve one under a hot roof. The old method of opening the windows is detrimental, as the entering breezes crack the surface and retard the process of fermentation in the new stock.

It requires something besides age to mature a cheese; it must have an even temperature of at least 75 degs. A few hundred cheeses together in a room will mutually aid in curing each other, hence the advantage of massing new stock. The curing room described should be plastered on the three outside walls, and circulation admitted from the top of the windows.

The most convenient counters are not stationary, but simply long, stoutly constructed tables of two boards each eighteen inches in width. This will allow cheeses to be arranged in two courses, and the wide boards, which should be of hard wood planed smooth, will prevent cheeses resting over a crack and ridging the surface. The tables can all be laid back out of the way when the room is empty. When operations begin the tables in the rear are filled first; the hand truck can be run freely from the presses to the back of the room, and tables filled in front as space is needed.

Economical Use of Commercial Fertilizers.

The economical use of commercial fertilizers is one of the most difficult problems with which farmers have to deal, as in many cases these are the cheapest fertilizers that can be obtained, while in other cases the money paid for them might as well be thrown away, says Professor Tracy in a recent bulletin.

Commercial fertilizers contain the three necessary elements of plant food in some definite proportions, but it is so seldom that a particular crop and field require these elements in exactly the proportions in which they are found in any one of the staple brands, that it is difficult to decide which it is best to purchase. While it is a simple matter to make an analysis of a soil, and of the crop which we may wish to grow upon it, these analyses tell us little as to what may be the best fertilizer for us to use. The analysis of the soil does not tell us its condition, whether the plant food it contains is in available form, or anything of the mechanical condition of the soil.

Plant food in the soil may be available for one plant while it is not so for another, and, for some reason which we are unable to explain, most plants grow best in a soil containing certain available elements far in excess of the amounts consumed in growth. It is known that an abundance of nitrogen is necessary to produce a vigorous growth; that potash is necessary for the production of the woody parts of the plant, and that phosphoric acid is largely consumed in the production of the seeds; but in order to produce the best results these elements should be furnished to the soil in different proportions for different plants, and these proportions are by no means those which are found in the plants themselves. What these proportions are the chemist cannot tell us, and we can learn only by experiment.

Cold Frames and Cabbage Plants.

A cold frame may be made cheaply, and in the same form as a small hotbed. It is best to cover both with glass, although both are sometimes covered with coarse cotton cloth. In the hotbed the heat is chiefly derived from the fermenting material in the bottom. The advantage to be derived from a cold frame lies in its shielding the plants from the severity of the atmosphere, and, when covered with glass and with good exposure to the sun, a considerable heat is accumulated that hastens the growth of the plants. The cold frame is most useful at the south. An excellent way to raise a few very early cabbage plants is to sow the seeds in shallow, flat boxes containing a few inches of fine, rich earth and suspend them in the daytime in windows having a southern exposure. During cold nights or in severely cold days keep them where they will get warmth from the kitchen. In this way quite a good many plants can be forced and made ready for an early setting out. If too thickly sown to attain a considerable size, transplant into a cold frame when the weather will admit of the change. Frequent watering is necessary in all attempts to hasten the growth of plants.

Churning Sweet and Acid Creams.

In a test made by a leading dairyman, the result of churning 200 times each, of equally divided sweet and acid cream, was that the sweet cream made a few more pounds of butter. But the yield alternated between the two so that each took turns in leading. The conclusion was that there is no essential difference in yield in the long run, if each is made to do its best.

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B. H. COSBY,
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ASHEVILLE, N. C., FEBRUARY 1st, 1888.

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