

FROM MR. SIMMONS

Late Citizen of Stokes Writes From His Home At Guilford College.

ABOUT THEIR ROADS

Tells How Sand-Clay Roads Are Made and Some of the Virtues of that Class of Highways.

Guilford College, Jan. 18. Danbury Reporter:

As the road improvement fever is on in Stokes county I will write you what little we have learned about roads in the few months we have been here in Guilford.

It has been decided by all I have talked with that the sand-clay road is a better and cheaper road than the macadam road. It holds just as well or lasts just as well, and there is no jar going over the sand-clay road with wagon or buggy, while it does jar you up on the rocks of a macadam road.

The way they are building this sand-clay road between my farm and Guilford College is very simple and easy. They haul sand from the creek that runs through my farm and put it on top of the road bed, rounded up in the middle, and the water runs on each side of the road. They then are done. The travel over the roads does the rest. That sand is put on about six inches deep. The travel over it and the rain packs it in with the clay until it becomes very hard, almost like lime mortar when dried. A two-horse load of wet sand from the creek just goes the length of the wagon bed on the road. The county opened up our road and rounded up the bed. Our neighbors are hauling sand to do the rest at their own expense. They with 15 or 20 wagons out of one neighborhood can soon make a mile. Then with little repair it is done forever and what a pleasure it is to see your horses fat and no raw shoulders. We hope Stokes will soon have roads.

G. L. SIMMONS.

\$36,875.10 LOST!

And Gone Forever! THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS! What Part Did You Lose?

The Winston market sold during month of October 1912, 6,075,971 Pounds of Tobacco for \$990,793.58.

Brown's sold,	-	2023762 Pounds for \$342272.64
All other houses sold	-	4952209 Pounds for \$648520.94
		6075971 \$990793.58

Brown's Average : : : 16.91 / Other Houses Averaged 16.00 / Difference 91 Cents a Hundred.

Figure for yourself and you will see that the farmers that sold at other houses lost altogether \$36875.10. A big loss for independent people to lose. Won't you stop losing your part of this? And bring your tobacco to BROWN'S where you get the top every day. Breaks are not as large now and you should by all means stop this leak in your business. Come on to BROWN'S and we will see that every pile of your tobacco goes to the top. We sell it high every day and do not have a high sale occasionally.

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How to Grow Tomatoes.

"I want grow an acre of tomatoes next summer, in Jackson county, N. C.," writes a friend. "The soil is clay bottom land that was in corn last year and now has a fine stand of crimson clover on it. It is only moderately rich. Would you haul manure on the clover this winter? Horse or cattle manure? How much fertilizer would you use and what sort? In short give me all the information you can."

If the object is to grow tomatoes early, the clay bottom land will hardly make them as early as mellow upland, and to get early tomatoes, you must start early, under glass, to get the plants. That is, you will need a hotbed for starting the seed and plenty of frame room for transplanting and hardening the plants. I start my tomato seed for early plants about the first of

February. That is, I aim to sow the seed about ten weeks before it will be safe to set the plants in the open ground. In your mountain section you cannot set them as early as I can, and, hence, would not need to start so early. I sow the seed in shallow boxes in a greenhouse, and as soon as they are large enough to handle I transplant to other boxes of rich soil, and finally to frames four inches apart each way, to get strong and to harden them off for moving to the open ground in April. You could hardly set them out in the open ground especially in the bottom before the middle of May. Hence, in your case, it would be as well to sow the seed in a frame covered with hotbed sashes in March, and you can have frame room for transplanting, covered with cotton cloth. But whatever way you grow the plants, the essential thing is to have stout plants ready when the time for

setting comes, and not plants that have been crowded and weakened in the bed.

Would cover the clover now with manure, and it does not matter much whether it is cattle or horse manure. Then I would turn all under early in the spring, not waiting till the clover is in bloom so that the mass can get somewhat decomposed before planting. In the preparation of the soil I would add 1,000 pounds an acre of a fertilizer, made of 900 pounds of acid phosphate, 100 pounds of nitrate soda, 600 pound of cotton-seed meal and 400 pounds of sulphate of potash to make a ton. Apply this broadcast and work it into the soil well. Of course, you can start the plants outside in a border and transplant directly to the field if the fruit is only wanted for canning, but they will be much later than if started early.

I set the plants in rows three feet apart in my garden and two

feet apart in the rows, and train them to single stems of the stakes that are set out each plant and about five feet tall. Of course, it is a good deal of trouble to keep tying and pinching the side shoots, but you get finer fruit in this way. In planting an acre for horse cultivation it had better be planted four feet between the rows. You can make a large crop by setting four feet each way and letting them tumble down on the ground, but late in summer they are apt to be smothered up in crabgrass, while if trained to stakes, the ground can be kept clean.

The plants should be sprayed with Bordeaux mixture in the seed-bed, and after they are set out, every ten days till the fruit is half grown. This to prevent rot and leaf blight. For the Southern bacterial and fusarium wilts there is no preventive but to avoid infected soil. Prof. W. F. MASSEY, in Progressive Farmer.

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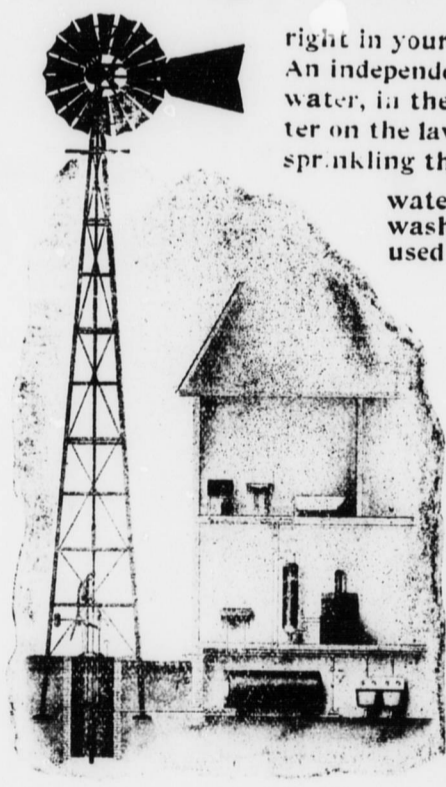
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