"Tell me not in mournful numbers,
Advertising does not pay,
For the man's non compus mentis
Who would such absurd things say.
Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the man who hopes to rise
To success in any calling,
Must expect to *Advertise!*"

GOLD LEAF.

"In the world's broad field of battle,
In the conflict of real life,
ADVERTISING is the secret
Of *achievement* in the strife.
Lives of rich men all remind us
We can make our own sublime;
And by liberal *Advertising*,
To the HIGHEST SUMMIT climb."

THAD R. MANNING, Publisher. | "CAROLINA, CAROLINA, HEAVEN'S BLESSINGS ATTEND HER." | SUBSCRIPTION $1.50 Cash.

VOL. IX. HENDERSON, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1890. NO. 30.

North Carolina's Favorite.

1768 **Old Nick,** 1890

North Carolina's famous brand of

PURE OLD WHISKIES

Have been manufactured on the same plantation for the past

122 Years. 122

Rye and Corn Whiskey,
Peach and Apple Brandy

ON HAND.

New—1, 2, 3 and 4 years old. Shipped in any quantity. Write for price list.

Old Nick Whiskey Co.,
(Successors to Jos. Williams)
PANTHER CREEK, Yadkin Co., N. C

Richmond & Danville R. R. Co.

CONDENSED SCHEDULE,

IN EFFECT FEBRUARY 16th, 1890.

SOUTHBOUND.		DAILY. No. 50.	DAILY. No. 52.
Lv. Richmond		*3 00 p m	*2 30 a m
" Burkeville		5 00 p m	4 29 a m
" Keysville		5 41 p m	5 08 a m
" Danville		8 40 p m	8 05 a m
Ar. Greensboro		10 27 p m	9 42 a m
Lv. Goldsboro		*2 20 p m	†5 00 p m
Ar. Raleigh		4 40 p m	9 00 p m
Lv. Raleigh		*4 45 p m	*1 00 a m
" Durham		5 48 p m	2 55 a m
Ar. Durham		8 20 p m	7 30 a m
Lv. Winston-Salem		†5 30 p m	*6 15 a m
Lv. Greensboro		*10 37 p m	*9 50 a m
Ar. Salisbury		12 26 a m	11 18 a m
Ar. Statesville		*1 49 a m	*12 09 p m
" Asheville		7 22 a m	4 27 p m
" Hot Springs		9 33 a m	6 15 p m
Lv. Salisbury		*12 32 a m	*11 23 a m
Ar. Charlotte		2 05 a m	12 40 p m
" Spartanburg		4 51 a m	3 38 p m
" Greenville		5 56 a m	4 46 p m
" Atlanta		11 00 a m	9 40 p m
Lv. Charlotte		*2 20 a m	*1 00 p m
Ar. Columbia		6 30 a m	5 10 p m
" Augusta		10 30 a m	9 00 p m
NORTHBOUND.		DAILY. No. 51.	DAILY. No. 53.
Lv. Augusta		*6 10 p m	*8 50 a m
" Columbia		10 35 p m	12 50 p m
Ar. Charlotte		3 13 a m	5 15 p m
Lv. Atlanta		*6 00 p m	*7 10 a m
Ar. Greenville		12 35 a m	1 48 p m
" Spartanburg		1 39 a m	2 52 p m
" Charlotte		4 25 a m	5 30 p m
" Salisbury		6 02 a m	7 05 p m
Lv. Hot Springs		*11 10 p m	*12 25 p m
" Asheville		12 40 a m	2 07 p m
" Statesville		5 02 a m	6 06 p m
Ar. Salisbury		5 55 a m	6 50 p m
Lv. Salisbury		*6 07 a m	*7 12 p m
Ar. Greensboro		7 45 a m	8 40 p m
Ar. Winston-Salem		*11 40 a m	†12 30 a m
Lv. Greensboro		*9 45 a m	*11 00 p m
Ar. Durham		12 01 p m	5 00 a m
" Raleigh		1 05 p m	7 45 a m
Lv. Raleigh		*1 05 p m	†9 00 a m
Ar. Goldsboro		3 00 p m	12 50 p m
Lv. Greensboro		*7 50 a m	*8 50 p m
Ar. Danville		9 32 a m	10 20 p m
" Keysville		12 45 p m	1 50 a m
" Burkeville		1 35 p m	2 45 a m
" Richmond		3 45 p m	5 15 a m

Between West Point, Richmond & Raleigh.
Via. Keysville, Oxford and Durham.

54 and 102.	STATIONS.		55 and 103.
¶8 00 a m	Lv.	West Point	Ar. 6 10 p m
9 40 a m	Ar.	Richmond	Lv. †4 45 p m
*11 00 a m	Lv.	Richmond	Ar. 4 40 p m
1 00 p m	"	Burkeville	" 2 45 p m
2 05 p m	"	Keysville	" 2 00 p m
2 25 p m	"	Fort Mitchell	" 12 58 p m
2 32 p m	"	Finneywood	" 12 47 p m
2 45 p m	"	Chasewood	" 12 30 p m
3 06 p m	"	Five Forks	" 12 10 p m
3 20 p m	"	Clarksville	" 11 55 a m
3 35 p m	"	Sondan	" 11 40 a m
3 50 p m	"	Bullock's	" 11 24 a m
3 58 p m	"	Stovall	" 11 15 a m
4 22 p m	Ar.	Oxford	Lv. *10 46 a m
4 00 p m	Lv.	Oxford	Ar. 10 00 a m
5 15 p m	Ar.	Dabney	Lv. 9 25 a m
4 45 p m	"	Henderson	" *8 55 a m
4 22 p m	Lv.	Oxford	Ar. 10 46 a m
4 45 p m	"	Stem's	Lv. 10 16 a m
4 55 p m	"	Lyon's	" 10 09 a m
5 17 p m	"	Holloway	" 9 43 a m
5 36 p m	"	Durham	" 9 25 a m
6 39 p m	"	Cary	" 8 33 a m
7 00 p m	Ar.	Raleigh	Lv. *8 15 a m

† Daily except Sunday. * Daily. ¶ Daily except Monday.

Additional train leaves Oxford daily except Sunday 11 00 a m., arrive Henderson 12 05 p m., returning leave Henderson 2 10 p m., daily except Sunday, arrive Oxford 3 15 p m.

No. 50, leaving Goldsboro 2 20 p m and Raleigh 4 45 p m daily, makes connection at Durham with No. 19, leaving at 6 00 p m daily, except Sunday for Oxford, Henderson and all points on O. & H., O. & C. and R. & M. roads.

Passenger coaches run through between West Point and Raleigh, via Keysville, on Nos. 54 and 102, and 55 and 103.

Nos. 51 and 53 connect at Richmond from and to West Point and Baltimore daily except Sunday.

Nos. 50 and 51 connect at Goldsboro with trains to and from Morehead City and Wilmington, and at Selma to and from Fayetteville.

No. 52 connects at Greensboro for Fayetteville.

No 53 connects at Selma for Wilson, N.C.

Nos. 50 and 51 make close connection at University Station with trains to and from Chapel Hill, except Sundays.

SLEEPING-CAR SERVICE.

On trains 50 and 51, Pullman Buffet Sleeper between Atlanta and New York, Danville and Augusta and Greensboro, via Asheville to Morristown, Tenn.

On 52 and 53, Pullman Buffet Sleeper between Washington and New Orleans via Montgomery, and between Washington and Birmingham, Richmond and Greensboro, Raleigh and Greensboro and between Washington and Augusta, and Pullman Buffet Sleepers between Washington and Asheville and Hot Springs.

Through tickets on sale at principal stations to all points.

For rates, local and through time tables, apply to any agent of the company, or to

SOL HAAS, Traffic Manager. JAS. L. TAYLOR, Genn. Pass. Agent.
W. A. TURK, Div. Pass. Agent, Raleigh, N. C.

TOBACCO CULTURE.

A VALUABLE AND INTERESTING TREATISE

On the Subject of Topping, Priming, Curing and Handling the Weed.

PRIMING AND TOPPING.

Under this head there is a wide difference of opinion. Breaking off the small and inferior leaves of the plant near the ground is called "priming," which operation is done along with the "topping," if done at all. There are advantages for and against priming, but all resort to topping—plucking out the seed bud and adjacent small leaves with the thumb and finger. Some contend that pulling off the lower leaves saps the plants and retards growth, if the weather is dry. That permitting the lower leaves to remain on the stalk protects the upper ones from sand and grit, makes them cleaner and therefore more salable. Sand and grit are the terror of the tobacco buyer. On the other hand, it is contended by some that by pulling off the lower leaves, which are generally useless, the remaining leaves receive more nutriment and contain more wax, oil and gum, and that the lower leaves harbor worms and make the worming process more tedious.

It is best to wait until a considerable number of plants begin to button for seed before commencing to top. Topping should be the work of experienced and trusty hands—men who can top, leaving any required number of leaves on a plant without counting. The secret of this—no longer a secret to the initiated—is, that the topper soon learns to know that counting the bottom leaf and the leaf that hangs over it in the third tier going upward, make *nine* leaves, including both top and bottom leaves. Fixing this in his mind, the topper has only to add to or deduct from this *index leaf* marking *nine*, to leave any desired number of *leaves* on each plant with certainty and without counting. Young man, if you don't know how, get some old negro to show you. Topping, you will find, is a slow business if you have to count the leaves on all the plants topped. If the plants are not "primed," then the "bottom" leaf must be fixed by the eye, looking upward for the leaf in the third tier, which hangs over it, to catch the cue as before. If priming is done don't err in pulling off too many leaves. No regular rule can be given, so the planter must judge for himself. The reason given for waiting until many plants are ready to be topped is mainly that more plants may ripen together and be ready for the knife at the same time. This is an advantage that applies with strong force to all tobacco intended for flue curing.

The number of leaves to be left on each plant varies according to the time the work is done, early or late, the appearance and prospective development of the plant, the season, whether propitious or unfavorable, strength of the soil and amount of fertilizing material applied. On medium soils, in ordinary seasons, the first topping should be from ten to thirteen leaves—rarely more—for brights. For sweet fillers from nine to ten, and for dark, rich shipping, from eight to nine leaves are enough. As the season advances reduce the number of leaves accordingly; remembering that quality more than quantity regulates returns.

WORMING AND SUCKERING.

Many devices have been resorted to in order to lessen the number and mitigate the ravages of the horn-worm, but the lack of general and continued efforts from year to year has brought only partial relief. Some years they come in great numbers, and despite the best efforts of the planter, seriously damage his crop. Perhaps the next year they are few, and give him no trouble. It is the nature of this insect to raise at least two broods during the year. The hawk-moth or tobacco fly usually makes its appearance in Virginia in the month of May. The eggs deposited by the first moths hatch out in from five to seven days larvæ of worms. The worm sheds its outer skin twice before it gets its growth. The growing stage of the worm lasts from twenty-five to thirty days, and after it has attained its growth it gorges itself a few days longer, and then crawls or burrows into the ground, where it soon passes into the pupa state; and after some twenty-three or twenty-five days from the time of its crawling into the ground the pupa sends forth a moth to lay more eggs and hatch out more worms. Each moth is capable of laying on an average two hundred eggs. So that for every moth in May we may reasonably expect at least one hundred worms of the first brood; and if none of these are destroyed; but all allowed to change to moths, and these latter to raise a horde of worms, what wonder that the second brood sometime appears in such countless numbers as to defy all efforts to destroy them before they have ruined the crop. Every moth ought to be destroyed as they appear; and this may be done to great extent by injecting a few drops of sweetened Cobalt (which is a poison) into the flowers of the Petunia, Honeysuckel or Jamestown (Jimson) weed, which will give them their final quietus. But this hunt for the moth is not general, and if it were some would escape. But if every planter would wage a war of extermination on the *first brood* of worms—unfortunately a thing rarely done—they would never appear in such unconquerable hordes later in the season. The suckers should be pulled off every week as they appear, and ought never to be permitted to get over two inches long; for if permitted to grow large they abstract much that would otherwise go to perfect a rich, silky leaf. No planter need expect a crop of fine grade who does not pull off the suckers while small, and prevent the horn-worms from riddling the leaves.

CUTTING AND HOUSING.

Do not be in a hurry to begin cutting your tobacco until it is ripe, and enough fully and uniformly ripe to fill a barn. A thin butcher or shoe knife, well sharpened, and wrapped with a soft cloth around the handle and extending an inch along the blade, will do the work effectually and be easy to the hand. Try it. Put knives into the hands of experienced cutters only, men who know ripe tobacco, and will select plants uniform in color and texture, and will cut no other. Have your sticks all ready in the field, and placed in piles convenient—sticking a stick vertically in the ground over each pile that they may be more easily found when wanted. Pine sticks, rived three-fourths of an inch by one and one-fourth inch, and four and one-half feet long, drawn smooth, are best.

Start together two cutters and one stick holder—the cutters carrying two rows each and the stick-holder walking between them. The cutter takes hold of the plant with his left hand at the top near where the knife enters the stalk; with his right he splits the stalk down the centre (observing to guide the knife so as not to sever the leaves) to within three inches of the point he intends to sever the stalk from the hill; and as the knife descends his left hand follows the slit or opening, and when the plant is severed from the hill, by a dexterous movement of the left hand the plant is straddled across the stick in the hands of the holder. When the stick has received about six medium plants, if intended for brights, it is ready to go to the barn, either carried by hand if near, or hauled on a wagon it distant. If it is necessary to use the wagon, prepare a bed sixteen feet long to hold three coops or piles, on which place tobacco as cut, and after placing twenty-five or thirty sticks of cut tobacco on each coop, drive to the barn to be unloaded.

Tobacco suitable for brights is best handled in this way, as it is bruised less than if handled by any other mode. Try it, planters, and *know* for yourselves. Very heavy tobacco will break less if, after being cut by the above mode, the sticks are placed gently on the ground and the plants allowed to wilt before being removed to the barn. But tobacco of medium size bruises less to handle it without wilting. Cutting and housing by this mode you never have any sun-cured tobacco. For brights, it has been found best to commence curing at once, as soon as the barn can be filled.

"SUN-CURED TOBACCO."

Just here it may be well to give our practice in sun-curing. If the crop is too rich and coarse for brights, then it may be good policy to cure it sweet. To do this properly, erect scaffolds at or near the barns, on which place the tobacco as soon as cut. But some, in order to obviate the hauling of heavy green tobacco, place the scaffolds in or near the tobacco field. But it is never safe to scaffold tobacco away from the barn; for after the leaf is partially dry it ought never to be caught out in the rain; which may happen if the tobacco is placed on scaffolds away from the barn. When rain threatens, that on scaffolds near the barn may very soon be placed out of danger, but not so that on scaffolds afar off.

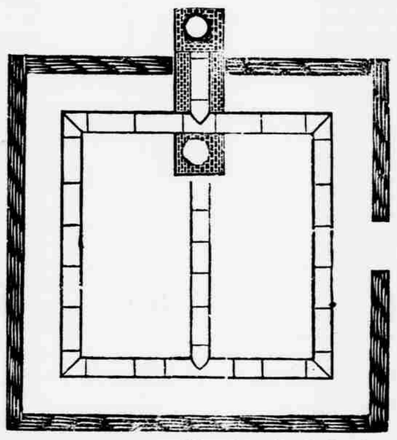
But the flue-cured fillers command nearly or quite as much as sun-cured, and the risk is much less.

To cure fillers with flues, let the tobacco be placed in the barn as soon as cut, and raise the heat in the barn to eighty-five or ninety degrees Fahrenheit, and then go about other business. Kindle fires in the flues every morning, raising the heat to ninety degrees, and then leave as before, and continue to do this for four or five days until the tobacco is thoroughly yellowed. If the tobacco has much sap, it may be necessary to continue the yellowing process from five to seven days to yellow properly. When the leaves have assumed a mottled, piebald appearance, run the heat to one hundred degrees and let it remain at that point for three or four hours. Then raise the heat two and a half degrees an hour until one hundred and thirty is reached. Keep the heat at this point until the leaf is cured, and then move up gradually to one hundred and seventy or one hundred and eighty, and thus cure stalk and stem. If cured properly, there will be much of the leaf *mahogany*, while the remainder will run from a bright dapple to a cherry red.

"SHIPPING TOBACCO."

Dark heavy shipping, and nothing which does not possess size and substance is fit for this grade, may be cured with flues better than in any other way. Smoke from the open wood fire is objectionable, and with the flue you get the heat, which is all that is wanted, without the smoke. Curing with open wood fires belongs to the past, and none but the old Bourbons will continue the old practice, because they know no better. Taste and fashion are against smoke, and nothing else is needed to banish the old and reccommend the new mode. If a dark color is desired, which is not so fashionable as formerly, it can be secured as easily over flues as over wood fires. But the world wants colory tobacco, and this can be produced certainly better with the flue than in any other way. Besides, by the flue the leaf is cured sweet and free from smoke or soot.

A skillful curer can produce the colors most in demand, and by the flue better, and with more certainity, than in any other way. The main object of the author is to induce planters, who have never used flues, to try them for all grades.



CURING "BRIGHT YELLOW TOBACCO."

There are two modes for curing yellow tobacco—one with charcoal and the other with flues. The first is the primitive mode, but is fast giving place to the latter, which is cheaper and efficient, and is being adopted by most of our best planters. The chief agent in either mode is heat—a dry, curing heat—to expel the sap from the leaves, stems and stalks of the plants, and catch the color, *yellow*, next to Nature's color, green, and to *fix* it indelibly. This is the *science* of curing *yellow* tobacco. There are seven prismatic colors—that of green tobacco occupying the middle of the prism. By the process of nature, leaves in drying decend in color from green, first to yellow, then orange, then red, and finally lose all color as they go to decay. Now, a quick dry heat, so regulated as to dry out the leaf and catch the yellow, and fix it, is the *modus operandi* of curing fancy bright tobacco.

A barn containing seven hundred sticks of green tobacco, six medium plants on each stick, holds along with the tobacco four thousand five hundred to five thousand pounds of water, which must be expelled in from eighty-five to one hundred hours.

Charcoal produces an open, dry heat, well suited for the purpose; but its preparation is costly, its use tedious, dirty and laborious and it deposits a black dust on the leaf that is objectionable. With flues (see diagram) constructed with furnace and pipes, the wood is burned as cut in the forest or old field, and the whole process of curing is less costly and less laborious, and the tobacco cured therewith free from dust, and has a sweeter flavor. The flue process possesses so many advantages over all other modes of curing tobacco, is so safe, if properly constructed, and free from smoke, that when its merits become better known, it will come into general use and supercede all other modes.

The first step in curing is called the STEAMING OR YELLOWING process. Medium tobacco will require from twenty four to thirty hours steaming at about ninety degrees to yellow sufficiently; but tobacco with more or less sap, larger or smaller, will require a longer or shorter time to yellow. Here the judgment of the curer must be be his guide. Inexperienced planters would do well to procure the services of an expert curer, if they have tobacco suitable for fine yellow. The planter saves in enhanced value of his crop many times the money paid to the curer, and besides, by close attention, he may learn in one season to cure well himself. Theory alone, however good, and directions, however minute, will not do here, but it is *practice* that must qualify one to cure well.

When it is remembered that no two plants are exactly alike, no two barns precisely similar in every particular and that the weather may change every hour, is it reasonable that a fixed programme can be followed for every curing with any reasonable hope of success? The experienced know better. On work so variable, only general directions can be given.

The next step is called FIXING THE COLOR. When the tobacco is sufficiently yellowed, best leaves of a uniform yellow, and the greener ones of a light pea-green color, it is time to advance the heat to one hundred degrees; observing the leaves closely to detect sweating, which will soon redden and spoil the color, unless driven off. To do this, open the door and let it stand open, and if, after an hour or more, the sweat has not disappeared, open a space between the logs on oposite sides of the barn to let in more air, and permit it to remain open until the tobacco has dried off all appearance of the sweat. Right at this point more curings are spoiled than at any other stage of the process. It may be well to remember what is a fact, that at least five curings are spoiled by proceeding too *fast*, to one failure from going too *slow*. Now stick a pin here.

But to go back to the barn where we have just dried the leaf, and where the thermometer indicates a fall of five or ten degrees—but this need not concern the curer to put him out of hope, for a little cooling under the circumstances was necessaty—we close up the opening and raise the heat to one hundred degrees. But a skilful curer detects the first indications of sweat, and prevents it by regulating the heat.

Keep the heat at one hundred degrees for four hours, and then advance two and half degrees every two hours, until one hundred and ten degrees are reached. Here you have reached the most critical point in the difficult process of curing bright tobacco. The condition and appearance of the tobacco must now be the curer's guide. No one can successfully cure tobacco until he can distinguish the effect of too much or too little heat in the appearance of the leaf. Too little heat, in fixing the color, operates to stain the *face* side of the leaf a dull brown color, and is called "sponging," and may be known to the novice by its appearance only on the *face side* of the leaf. Too much heat reddens the leaf, first around the edge and then in spots which are visible on *both sides*. Now, to prevent sponging on the one hand and spotting on the other, is the aim of the experienced curer. No definite time can be laid down to run from one hundred and ten to one hundred and twenty degrees. Sometimes four hours will suffice, then again eight hours is fast enough. While it is usual at this stage to advance about five degrees every two hours for medium tobacco, the condition of the tobacco often indicates, to the practiced eye, the necessity for slower or faster movement. But it is safe not to advance above one hundred and ten degrees until the tails begin to curl up at the ends. Arrived at one hundred and twenty or one hundred and twenty-five degrees, this is the CURING process. The heat should remain at or near these figures until the leaf is cured, which will require from six to eight hours, according to the amount of sap in the leaf to be expelled. When the leaf appears to be cured, advance five degrees every hour up to one hundred and seventy degrees and remain until stalk and stem are thoroughly cured. To run above one hundred and eighty degrees is to endanger scorching the tobacco, and perhaps burning both barn and tobacco.

To recapitulate:

First. Yellowing process, 90 degrees, from 24 to 80 hours.
Second. Fixing Color, 100 degrees 4 hours.
Second. Fixing Color, 100 to 110 2½ degrees every 2 hours.
Second. Fixing Color, 110 to 120, 4 to 8 hours.
Third. Curing the leaf, 120 or 125, 6 to 8 hours.
Fourth. Curing stalk and stem, 125 to 170, 5 degrees an hour. And continue at one hundred and seventy degrees until stalk and stem are thoroughly killed and dry, which usually requires from twelve to fifteen hours.

THE NEW METHOD.

The curing process for yellow tobacco, as heretofore laid down, was first published in the year 1871, and was the first systematic treatise given to the public on the difficult art of curing yellow tobacco; and it has remained substantially unaltered through six editions of the pamphlet, aggregating largely over 100,000 copies. Thousands in several States have taken it for their guide and been enabled to learn to cure successfully, without any other assistance. But the yellow tobacco industry has greatly progressed and extended during the past decade, and new light has come through experience to further perfect the art of curing.

The following is given as the latest improvements in curing tobabco:

House the tobacco as soon as cut, and after warming up the barn for two or three hours, at a temperature of about 90 degrees, advance the heat rapidly up to 125 degrees—or as high as it will bear without scalding the tobacco—letting the heat remain at 125 degrees only a few minutes,, and then by drawing the fires and turning the dampers, cut off the heat and let the temperature of the barn descend to 90 degrees.

This is generally called "sapping." The *rationale* of the process is this: The heat, by expansion, opens the sap cells and starts the water to the surface, facilitates evaporation and hastens the yellowing process.

This "limbering up" process, of high heat at the start, must be of *short* duration or else great injury will be done to the tobacco.

Following this mode, the yellowing process is greatly shortened, requiring from four to eight hours less to yellow sufficiently, and also hastens the second stage of curing—fixing the color.

It is well to state that there is so great a difference in the character of tobacco grown in different localities, that no rule can be given for the yellowing process, applicable to all. The tobacco of middle and western North Carolina, will yellow in much less time than that grown in middle Virginia. Then again, tobacco will bear higher temperature in the yellowing process during some years than in others. Notably the season of 1884, was so dry and held so little sap when ripe, that many commenced yellowing at 100 degrees, and had the leaf cured in 50 hours. But this is exceptional, and for general practice would spoil both color and tobacco.

The season, therefore, it must be borne in mind, greatly determines the amount of heat tobacco will require to be yellowed and cured.

Some of the patented flues are so constructed that the heat is easily controlled, and the tobacco smoked or steamed, or both, as may be necessary in the yellowing stage. Some tobacco will require neither to yellow right, while some other will dry up green or red without yellowing, if smoke or steam be not used to assist the yellowing process. Smoke and heat will facilitate the yellowing of thin poor tobacco, holding very little sap. Wetting the barn floor from time to time will assist in yellowing tobacco. Then there is an occasional barn of tobacco that defies all the known modes and appliances to yellow or cure bright.

But for all practical purposes, whenever the curer has mastered a knowledge of the effects of too much or too little heat, as evidenced in the color of tobacco, clearly described heretofore, he possesses a key to solve to solve the difficult problem in the science of curing tobacco. By close observation this lesson may soon be learned and then success is easy.

After curing, as soon as the tobacco is sufficiently soft to move, you may run it up in the roof of the barn and crowd it close, or if the barn is needed for other curings, the tobacco may be carried to the storage barn or bulked down in any dry house on the premises. But be sure that nothing is bulked with green stalks or swelled stems, for if such are placed down in bulk it will be sure to heat and utterly ruin.

ORDERING.

If, after the tobacco is cured, the weather remains dry and it fails to get soft readily, so that it can be moved, it may be brought in order in the following way: Place green bushes with the leaves on over the floor and sprinkle water over them copiously; if the tobacco is very dry and the atmosphere contains but little moisture, and if the weather is cool, a little fire kindled in the flues will assist in making the tobacco soft. Straw wet, or made so, will answer the same purpose. If the weather is damp, there will be no necessity to use either straw, brush or water. But when it is necessary to use any means to order tobacco, it is best to apply them in the afternoon, that the tobacco may be removed the next morning.

If the weather continues warm and damp or rainy, tobacco that remains hanging will be apt to change color, unless dried out by flues or charcoal. When this becomes necessary, build small fires at first, and raise the heat gradually.

STRIPPING.

Tobacco should never be stripped from the stalks except in pliable order, and the leaves on every plant should be carefully assorted, and every grade tied up separately. Usually there will be three grades of leaf, assorted with reference to color and size, and two of lugs. Of leaf tie six to eight leaves in a bundle, and of lugs eight to ten. As fast as you strip, either hang the "hands" on sticks—twenty-five to each stick—and hang up or bulk down in two layers, the heads of hands or bundles facing outward. The latter mode is best, if you intend to sell in winter order *loose*, on the warehouse floors. If bulked down, watch frequently to see that it does not heat. If the bulk becomes warm it must be broken up, aired and rebulked, or hung up if too soft. It is safer always to hang up as soon as stripped, unless you design to sell soon, and strike down in "safe-keeping order" in spring or summer. It is considered in "safe order" when the leaf is pliable, and the stem will crack half-way down from the tie.

PACKING.

If you sell loose, deliver in large uniform piles—such will cost less, and your tobacco bring more in price. But to sell in a distant market, pack in tierces—half-hogsheads make the best and cheapest—to weigh about four hundred pounds net, taking care not to press the tobacco so as to bruise it, or pack it too closely together. The best leaf is wanted for wrappers, and it must open easily when shaken in the hand. Pack one grade only in each tierce, uniform in color and length; but if it becomes necessary to put more than one grade in a tierce, place strips of paper or straw between to mark and separate them. Pack honestly, for honesty is always the best policy. The man who "nests" his tobacco will certainly go on the "Black List," and buyers have good memories.

If your tobacco is *fine, sound* and *nicely handled*, you'll have the satisfaction of getting, at the least, a remunerating price for it, although poor and nondescript stock may be selling for less than the cost of production.—*R. L. Ragland, Hyco, Halifax county, Va.*

"GOING."

BY MRS. B. H. HILL, JR.

Just about a year ago the following lines were published from the pen of Mrs. Ben Hill, Jr., whose sad death has so shocked the public.

"The silver latch is lifted," and the gentle, pure, poetic soul of the writer has gone to the mystic land so beautifully described by herself in the following verses:

"The silver latch is lifted and I am going
Far, far beyond where the stars are growing,
Like flowers of gold in meadows blue
The angels sprinkled in passing through.

The silver latch is lifted and I am going,
I hear the sound of the river flowing,
And I catch its glimmer where the trees enlace
As the leaves brush cool about my face.

The silver latch is lifted and I am going;
The flower kissed breezes of Eden are blowing,
And balmy sweet is the perfumed breath
That floats to me like a whisper of death.

The silver latch is lifted and I am going;
'Tis the bloom of the dawn ere the sun is glowing,
And adown the hills hang the mists of morning
Like the veil of lace a bride adorning.

The silver latch is lifted and I am going;
About me lilies of God are snowing,
They are draperies white of a winding sheet,
And soon I'll sleep 'neath their petals sweet.

The silver latch is lifted and I am going;
Yet fragrant the flowers the days are sowing;
Not a worm at the root, the blossoms have uncurled,
For love is the gardener of my breautiful world.

The silver latch is lifted and I am going;
There's a nightless home of God's bestowing,
Good-bye; I take the invisible and immortal hand,
As He leads me gently into the mystic land."

—*Constitution.*

Excerps.

[Bellefontaine Examiner.]

To be always finding fault makes a person very disagreeable in the eyes of his friends.

Selfishness is the meanest and most contemptible of all vices, truthfully remarks an exchange.

Many people express positive opinions when they really don't know what they are talking about.

Providence effects a good many cures, but if you notice you will find that a doctor always sends in the bill.

It strikes us that Dame Rumor is getting pretty well up in years. Yet years make no discount upon her record.

Whatever else may be wrong, it must be right to be pure—to be just and tender, and merciful and honest. —*Robertson.*

All kinds of snakes are reported plentiful this season, says an exchange. We're so glad; were afraid the crop was going to be short.

When the number of people who do not work or earn their own liying is considered, it is not surprising that those who do work should complain of hard times.

Life is not so short but that there is always time enough for courtesy, says Emerson. True; but what a large per centage of humanity fail to realize the fact!

Don't believe that everybody else is happier than you are. You'll wake up some fine morning with a well-defined case of dyspepsia if you encourage such broodings.

Don't worry and fret over small matters. There'll be a sufficiency of colossal matters to worry you in earnest before you get through with this little affair known as life.

If the great change from the vigor and buoyancy of youth to the languor and infirmities of age, overcame us in an hour or a day, it would break the strongest heart. Time robs us of our youth gradually and by stealth, not unlike the manner in which the sneaking tariff robs us of our earnings.

This, pre-eminently, is the age of materialism, and of wonderful material progress; when it is overpast, as some day it will be, the age of spiritualism and of spiritual progress will be ushered in; and a glorious age it will be.

"We may not live to see the day,
But earth will brighten in the ray
Of the good time coming."

As we of this world are wholly ignorant of the relation which the so-called dead bear toward the living, we should continue to love those, who, in life have been dear to us as friends, and to fear those who have been our enemies. It is not the part of wisdom to rejoice at the death of an enemy, or to pursue him beyond the grave with this world's animosity.

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