



VOL. XIX.

FROM THE SOUTHERN PATRIOT.

To the Planters of South-Carolina.

The Agriculture of S. Carolina, particularly of those portions called the middle and low country, has been retarded by two evils, the remedies for which, if discovered, have been neglected. Excepting swamp lands, the prevailing soils in these parts of the state, are sandy, light and gravelly—the natural growth of which is Pine. These soils, always thirsty, are rendered less productive than similar soils in more northern latitudes, by the high temperature of our atmosphere, and the droughts which usually prevail from the middle of May to the middle of July. To remedy the sterility of these soils and to counteract the effects of a heated atmosphere, in dry seasons, are the ends we desire to accomplish. All lands are improved by being manured, but manuring in the usual way is so laborious and expensive, few undertake it, & those few are compelled to limit its use to small portions of their plantations. Our experience, therefore, proves that it is not probable our country will improve much, unless some less laborious and expensive method for improving the soil, be introduced. The object of this essay is to prove that the Plaster of Paris combines these advantages.

That the Plaster of Paris suits sandy, thirsty and gravelly land, is now generally known in the northern & middle States, and it is of the first importance that this truth should be extensively circulated throughout this State. I will select a few authorities on this subject, from American publications.

In the Farmer's Assistant, written by John Nicholson, Esq. of Herkimer county, in the State of New-York, published, in Albany, 1814, page 133, the following observations are made on Gypsum:— "For all light, hard and dry soils, which are not too near the ocean, this is an exceeding cheap and valuable manure, and its use has tended greatly to equalize the respective value of soils, by enabling the farmer to render those which are light and sterile, almost as productive as those which are naturally rich. From one to two bushels is a sufficient dressing for an acre or more. It is excellent to apply to young plants of Indian Corn, about one tea spoonful to each hill. It is perhaps more or less a stimulant to every plant, except Wheat and Rye. In order, therefore, for the farmer to reap immediate benefit from this manure, on his poor fallow grounds, let him apply the gypsum to it early in the spring. The farmer should keep a due supply of this excellent manure, if his lands are suitable for it."

In Dickinson's View of Massachusetts, page 7, he observes:—"That even the Pine lands, by the use of the Gypsum or Plaster of Paris, are not unfrequently rendered fertile and productive." And in page 8, it is further stated:—"Our Agriculture (of Massachusetts) is in a progressive state, from the extensive use of Plaster of Paris, which is particularly suitable to our light lands."

In Nicholson's Farmer's Assistant, page 48, it is remarked:—"That Gypsum is also an antidote to droughts, and fortunately it suits the soils best which are most affected in this way."

In a work by Richard Peters, of Philadelphia, published as long ago as 1796, entitled Agricultural Enquiries on Plaster of Paris, it is stated, in page 12, by W. West, of Darby Township, Delaware county:—"That the soils most proper for the Plaster, are warm, kind and loamy."

Robert Frazer, of Westchester, states, page 14:—"That high ground and sandy soils are most proper for this manure."

Philip Price, of Chester county, page 18:—"By the experiments and observations I have made, I find, a high warm, dry, gravelly or loamy soil, is much the best for Plaster of Paris, clay, cold, or low lying land, is seldom favorable to it."

John Curwin, of Montgomery county, states, p. 34:—"Dry loams are the best."

Edward Duffield, of Philadelphia county, states, page 45:—"Sandy and light loams are the best."

Richard Peters, of Philadelphia county, states, page 70:—"That light soils, dry and sandy, or loamy, are most improved by the Gypsum."

These gentlemen were all practical Farmers. To their names, many others might be added, but it would be unnecessary prolixity. In the few instances the Plaster of Paris has been tried in this State, the above observations have been fully confirmed. To such as may be disposed to make further enquiry, reference may be made to Rees's Cyclopaedia, article Gypsum, the Essays of Arator, and the Pennsylvania Farmer, by J. Roberts. These authorities, I think, prove that the Plaster of Paris is a manure particularly suitable for the light soils of this state. And that by its agency, our extensive tracts of Pine lands may be converted into fertile fields. The effects of this manure are wonderful; lands are made to produce double, treble, and even four fold their usual quantities, as is above observed by Mr. Nicholson. The value of soils is equalized—poor land is rendered, in a few years, almost as productive as the most fertile. These effects are attending throughout the northern and mid-

dle States, and if too great apathy does not prevail, I trust a few years will give the same fruitful aspect to this state.

The question which naturally arises, is whether the Plaster is a costly manure? It is highly gratifying to be able to give a most favorable answer to this question?— It can be purchased in Charleston at from 8 to 10 dollars per ton. One ton, when pulverized, will make 25 bushels. And from 1 to 1-2 bushels applied to an acre of Indian Corn or Cotton, is sufficient. One bushel will produce as great effect as 20 single horse cart loads of Marl Bog or Dung. That such cheap manure can be used by every man who chooses, is evident. The opulent planter in every neighborhood should keep large supplies to assist his poor neighbors.

The droughts which affect our planters so injuriously, are next to be considered. The following experiment will prove that the Plaster will support vegetation and give it vigor, even when suffering for want of rain. A half bushel of Cotton Seed, mixed with as much Plaster of Paris, was planted in light sandy soil, about the 16th June last; no rain fell for three weeks after, and many weeks had previously elapsed without any. The Cotton, however, grew with such vigor that it is now as high as that which was planted about the 13th April, and superior in color. Nicholson, as above quoted, observes, "Gypsum is an antidote to droughts; and fortunately it suits the soils best which are most affected in this way."

Richard Peters observes, page 84, of the book above mentioned, that "whatever the cause, dew will remain on a part of a grass field, plastered, an hour or two in the morning, after all moisture is evaporated from the part of the same field not plastered. I have also frequently seen its effects in my garden beds, which, if plastered, will retain moisture in the driest season, when there is not the least appearance of it on those beds whereon no Plaster was sowed. If water be, according to an old as well as a modern opinion, almost all in all in the food of vegetables, the Plaster attracts or retains abundant supplies.

Here then is the remedy for our thirsty soils, and for the effects of the droughts of May, June and July. Another important consideration occurs: As the Plaster hastens the growth of plants, Cotton may be planted so late as to escape all danger of spring frosts (lately so injurious) without its maturity being retarded. I will add one more reflection: It has been said Plaster of Paris does not succeed near the sea. This opinion has proved erroneous in so many instances, it should not deter any planter so situated from making the experiment. The probability is, that when it has failed near the sea, the soil was not suitable.

I have thus endeavored to introduce this inestimable manure to the more general notice of my countrymen. If this means of increasing our comfort & wealth be neglected, we cast away a most invaluable gift of Providence.

COLUMELA

\* Lord Bacon.

FROM THE ENQUIRER.

EDUCATION.

It is a delightful spectacle to see such men as Jefferson and Madison after having filled the highest offices in their country, engaged in organizing a system for the improvement of the rising generation. These two have been lately associated with some of the most distinguished citizens of Virginia, in a board—the transactions of which are given in the following sketch by an eye-witness.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

The board of commissioners appointed by virtue of the act of Assembly, for the purpose of enquiring and reporting a proper site, for establishing the University of Virginia, and for other purposes, assembled at the tavern in Rockfish Gap, on the Blue Ridge, on Saturday the 1st day of August, according to the directions of the law. Twenty-one members attended, one from each of the Senatorial Districts.

FROM THE DISTRICT OF

- Cumberland, &c. Creed Taylor,
Dinwiddie, &c. Peter Randolph,
Henrico, &c. Wm Brockenbrough,
Rockingham, Arch'd Rutherford,
Augusta, Arch'd Stuart,
Botetourt, James Breckenridge,
Charlotte, Henry E. Watkins,
Orange, James Madison,
Friswick, Armistead T. Mason,
Frederick, Hugh Holmes,
Berkley, Philip C. Pendleton,
Hanover, Spencer Roane,
Montgomery, John M. Taylor,
Harrison, John G. Jackson,
Monongalia, Thomas Wilson,
Conceper, Philip Slaughter,
Buckingham, Wm. H. Cabell,
Franklin, Nath'l H. Claiborne,
Albemarle, Thomas Jefferson,
Prince William, Wm. A. G. Dade,
Gloucester, William Jones.

Three members were absent, viz. the member from the Norfolk District, and the members from Surry and Washington Districts; the first because the persons successively appointed declined the acceptance, and the two last from sickness.

The board proceeded immediately to the consideration of the subjects referred to them. Mr. Jefferson was unanimously chosen President, and Mr. T. W. Maury, appointed Secretary.

After some time it was agreed, on motion of Mr. Rutherford, to postpone the question as to the site for the University till Monday. A committee was then appointed to prepare a report on the other duties assigned to the Commissioners; to wit, a plan for the buildings; the branches of learning to be taught in the University; the number and description of professorships; and such general provisions as may be proper to be enacted for the better organization and governing the University. The committee consisted of Messrs. Jefferson, Madison, Roane, Stuart, Dade and Brackenridge.

Sundry offers were received of voluntary contributions, namely, from the Rector and Trustees of Washington college of their lands and houses, in Lexington, their stock, &c. &c. and from Mr. John Robinson of Rockbridge county, of sundry tracts of land and slaves, to take effect after his death, all upon the condition that the University should be located at Lexington; and from the trustees of the Central College in Albemarle, of their lands and houses, subscription money, &c. on the condition that the University should be fixed at the Central College.

The question as to the location of the university was decided at the next meeting of the board on Monday the 3d August. The votes were taken by poll, and they stood thus—For the Central College in Albemarle, Messrs. C. Taylor, Randolph, Brockenbrough, Rutherford, Watkins, Madison, Mason, Holmes, Roane, Jackson, Slaughter, Cabell, Claiborne, Jefferson, Dade and Jones, 16.

Those who voted for Lexington were Messrs. Breckenridge, Pendleton, and John M. Taylor, 5.

And for Staunton, Messrs. Stuart and Wilson, 2.

A report on all the subjects referred to the board, containing a recommendation of a comprehensive system of education, was agreed to, and signed by all the members of the board on Tuesday the 4th of August. This report will be transmitted to the two branches of our next Legislature on the 1st day of its session.

Having closed the business on which they assembled, the following motion was made by Mr. Roane:—"Resolved, that the thanks of this board be given to Thomas Jefferson, Esq. for the great ability, impartiality and dignity with which he has presided over its deliberations." The motion was seconded by Mr. Breckenridge, who expressed his satisfaction at having an opportunity offered him of declaring his cordial approbation of the sentiments contained in the resolution. And on the question being put by Mr. Holmes, the resolution was carried unanimously.

The President then rose, and in a very feeling and impressive manner congratulated the members of the board on the harmony which has prevailed in their deliberations on this great and momentous concern, expressed his sincere and ardent hope that the result of their labours would conduce to the permanent interests, and happiness of our beloved country, & bade them an affectionate farewell—"The board then dissolved itself.

We are informed that the CENTRAL COLLEGE in Albemarle county, which is recommended by the Commissioners as a proper and convenient site for the University, has the advantage of being near the central point of the white population of the state. The actual centre of white population is said to be a few miles below the College.

BY AUTHORITY.

An act respecting the courts of the United States within the state of New-York.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passing of this act, the District Court of the United States, for the northern district of New-York, shall be holden by the Judge of the said district, and in case of his inability on account of sickness, absence or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the Judge of the southern district of New-York, to hold the said court, in and for the said northern district, and to do and perform all other acts and duties of the judge of the said northern district, with the like power and authority in all respects. And whenever such inability of the judge of the said northern district, to hold any term of the said court, shall exist, it shall be his duty to give previous timely notice thereof to the judge of the said southern district.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That there shall be held in each year, three terms of the district court for the northern district of New-York, to wit: at the city of Albany, on the second Tuesday of May and on the second Tuesday of November; and at the village of Utica, in the county of Oneida, on the third Tuesday of May, and all suits and proceedings in the said court shall be revived, and shall continue in full force, in the same manner as if the said court had been regularly held according to law and had been adjourned to the

term next to be holden, by virtue of this act. And all process already issued, or which may be issued out of the said court, before the passing of this act, shall be held and deemed returnable to the next term thereof, to be holden by virtue of this act. And it shall be at the discretion of the judge of the said northern district of New-York, or in case of his inability, of the Judge of the southern district, to appoint a court or courts at any other place than those before mentioned, for the said northern district, as the business herein may require.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said northern district of the State of New-York shall be, and the same is hereby, enlarged, so as to include the counties of Albany, Rensselaer, Schoenectady, Schoharie, and Delaware, to the said State.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That all proceedings hitherto had in the district courts of the United States, either for the northern, or for the southern district of New-York, in any suit at common law, or in any civil cause of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, in continuation of any such suit or cause which had been instituted in the former district court of the United States for the district of New-York, be, and the same hereby are declared, as valid and effectual as if the same suit or cause had been originally instituted in the district court in which such proceedings have been had.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the jurisdiction of every suit or cause, either at common law, or of maritime and admiralty jurisdiction, whether the same hath or hath not been instituted in the district court of the former district of New-York, wherein the cause shall have arisen, or the seizure shall have been made within the limits of the northern district of New-York, as prescribed by this act, and which hath not been proceeded into final judgment or decree, shall be vested in the district court for the northern district of New-York; and all pleadings, libels, claims, evidences, and papers whatsoever, that may have been filed, and all monies which may have been paid or deposited in the office of the clerk of the former district of New-York, or the clerk of the southern district of New-York, in every such suit or cause, shall be transferred to, and filed and deposited in, the office of the clerk of the northern district of New-York. And the said district court for the northern district of New-York, shall have as full power to hear, try, and determine, the said suits and causes, and to proceed therein to final judgment and decree, as the district court for the district of New-York, had by law. And the jurisdiction of all suits or causes, whether at common law, or of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, whether the same hath or hath not been instituted in the district court for the former district of N. York, wherein the cause of action shall have arisen, or the seizure shall have been made, within the limits of the southern district of New-York, and which have not been proceeded in to final judgment or decree, shall be vested in the district court for the said southern district of New-York, and the said court shall have as full power to hear, try, and determine the said suits and causes, as the district court for the district of New-York had by law.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the original jurisdiction of the circuit court of the southern district of New-York shall be confined to the causes arising within the said district, and shall not be construed to extend to causes of action arising within the northern district of New-York.

H. CLAY, Speaker of the House of Representatives. JOHN GAILLARD, President of the Senate pro tempore April 3, 1818.—Approved. JAMES MONROE.

NOTICE is hereby given, to the Proprietors of Stock issued under the convention with France, of the 30th April, 1803, commonly called Louisiana Stock. That one moiety, or half of the principal of said Stock, will be redeemed on the 21st of October next ensuing the date hereof, & that the same will be paid to the respective proprietors, or to their attorneys duly authorised, on the day before mentioned, at the Treasury in Washington, or at such Loan Office, on the books whereof any portion of said Stock may then stand.

INFORMATION IS FURTHER GIVEN, That the interest due at the time of redemption, on such part of said Stock as is held in Europe, will be paid as heretofore in London and Amsterdam; and that the interest on such part of said Stock as has been domesticated will be paid at the same time with the principal, either at the Treasury or at the Loan Offices as before mentioned. And it is also hereby made known, That interest on the moiety or half of said Louisiana Stock intended to be redeemed as aforesaid, will cease and determine after the 21st day of October, 1818.

WM. H. CRAWFORD, Secretary of the Treasury.

NOTICE.

THE Firm of JAMES S. SMITH & CO. is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Those that are indebted to said firm will find their accounts in the hands of Thomas D. Watts, who is authorised to collect the debts due said firm.

J. S. SMITH, FRANK JONES. Hillsboro', August 5 86 3w.

STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA, Mecklenburg County. Superior Court of Law, May Term, 1818. Elizabeth Smith vs William Smith

Petition for Divorce and Alimony.

Appearing to the Court that the Defendant, William Smith, is not a citizen of this State, it is therefore ordered, that publication be made for three months in the Star, and Raleigh Register, newspapers printed in the City of Raleigh, that unless the said William Smith appear at the next term of said Court to be held on the 6th Monday after the 4th Monday in September next, and plead, answer, or demur to the plaintiff's petition, it will be heard ex-parte, and judgment pro confesso entered against him.

GEORGE GRAHAM, c. s. c. l.

By the President of the United States.

WHEREAS, by an act of Congress, passed on the 12th December, 1817, entitled "An act extending the time for opening the several Land Offices established in the Territory of Orleans," the President of the United States is authorised to cause the Land Offices in the said territory [now State of Louisiana] to be opened, and the land offered for sale:

Therefore, I, JAMES MONROE, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known, that public sales shall be held at Opelousas, in the State of Louisiana, for the disposal of the following lands, agreeably to law, in the western land district of Louisiana, viz: On the first Monday in December next, for the sale of Townships No. 1 and 2 South of the base line in Ranges 2 3 4 5 and 2 North in Ranges 1 2 3 6 3 North 3 4 5

West of the principal meridian. On the first Monday in February next, for the sale of Townships: 3 South of the base line 2 3 4 5 4 South in Ranges 3 4 5 6 5 South 4 5 6 6 7 8 9 10 South 4 5 6 11 South 4 12 South 3

West of the principal meridian. Excepting the land reserved by law for the support of schools, and for other purposes. Each sale shall continue open for three weeks and no longer, and the sales shall be in regular numerical order.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the 20th day of June, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen. JAMES MONROE.

By the President. JOSIAH MEIGS, Commissioner of the General Land Office.

A Map of the above Land District is preparing, and will be for sale at Opelousas, and at the General Land Office, by JOHN GARDINER, Ch. Clk.

By the President of the United States.

WHEREAS, by an act of Congress, passed on the 2d of March, 1815, entitled "an act to provide for the ascertaining and surveying of the boundary lines fixed by the treaty with the Creek Indians, and for other purposes," the President of the U. States is authorised to cause the lands acquired by the said treaty to be offered for sale when surveyed.

Therefore, I, JAMES MONROE, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known, that public sales for the disposal (agreeably to law) of certain lands in the Alabama territory, shall be held at Milledgeville, in Georgia, viz: On the first Monday in October next, for the sale of town lots, in the town of Cahaba, in the said territory, situate at the junction of the rivers Alabama and Cahaba.

On the third Monday in October next, for the sale of Townships 13, 14, 15, 16, in ranges 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; and of Townships 14, 15, 16, in ranges 14 and 16 of the land district in Alabama territory, directed by law to be sold at Milledgeville, excepting such lands as have been reserved by law for the support of schools or for other purposes; each public sale shall continue open for two weeks, and no longer. The town lots, and other lands, shall be offered for sale in regular numerical order, commencing with the lowest number of lots, sections, townships and ranges.

And I further declare and make known, that the officers of the register and receiver of public monies for the said district, shall be removed from Milledgeville to the aforesaid town of Cahaba, on the first day of January, 1819.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, this twenty-third day of May, 1818. JAMES MONROE.

By the President. JOSIAH MEIGS, Commissioner of the General Land Office.

A MAP of the above District, and a PLAN of the Town of Cahaba, will be engraved as speedily as practicable, for JOHN GARDINER, Chief Clerk General Land Office, And sold by him at Milledgeville.