

# RALPH REGISTER. AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

"Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace, unwarped by party rage, to live like brothers."

VOL. XXXIX.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1837.

NO. 3.

**JOSEPH GALES & SON,**  
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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### FOR THE REGISTER.

The MORUS MULTICAULIS, and manner of its propagation.

Messrs. Editors:—Receiving a letter by the last weekly mail to this office, from a gentleman of your City, who purchased of me last Spring, a quantity of the New Chinese Mulberry, with a request from him and another purchaser to give some directions how to manage to the best advantage for the preserving and further increase of their fine growth of the plant, I concluded to offer for publication a few hints on this subject that might not only give those gentlemen the desired information, but might perhaps be acceptable to all your readers interested in the Silk culture.

As to preserving the *Morus Multicaulis* from the rigors of winter in our climate, my experience for a few past winters (tho't by some to be severe beyond a parallel) goes to show, that trouble to this object is unnecessary. Although in Northern climates, as I have been informed, this plant has been destroyed to the ground most generally; yet my trees (the oldest I believe in the Carolinas) have never been materially injured. It is true that the tip ends of the branches, say three or four buds at each extremity, of unripened wood of last growth, have been generally killed. To guard against loss of cuttings from this circumstance, after the first biting frost which causes all the leaves to fall off, (mine now are in full leaf still) I cut off the ends of the limbs, or all the unripened parts, with a few buds of the ripened part of the limb, and if not time to plant immediately, I bury them in a dry place, or put them in my cellar for my own use, or for my own planting during the Winter or in the Spring.

Seeing the accounts of the destruction of the upper parts of this tree in the North by frost (it always grows again from the roots) I took up some last Fall and buried them in a dry place root and branch. They did no better than others that braved the winter unprotected and then were taken up and transplanted. As I have had leisure during the Fall and Winter to prepare the cuttings of two or three buds each, I have, after tying them in bundles of fifties, left them lying in a cellar till Spring. In such cases they always grow with me, except that, through press of business last Spring, a few bunches remained in my cellar till late in April, which, on removal, appeared dry and shrivelled. About the half of these failed to grow. So tenacious is this plant of life, that I have no doubt that if limbs were cut off in the Fall and left till Spring in a shaded place on the bare ground, in any situation, the cuttings of them would grow. Early last Spring we had here, a long dry spell; during this, many cuttings late planted showed no signs of growing. Not having time to water them, I left them to their fate.—The first rain thereafter, they generally sprang forth. Some of those not doing so, or the upper bud dying, were found, on removing the earth above, to be ready to shoot from a lower bud. And some apparently dead, and found alive at the lower end, when dug up in working the plants and again inserted with pressing the earth, did well. As a caution however, against putting this tenacity of life too far to the test, I would mention that a friend of mine in Williamsboro' informed me, he lost a number of cuttings by putting them in his cellar and letting them remain till Spring without inserting their ends in earth, or damp moss. Whether his case was like that of mine, letting them remain too long in the Spring, I did not learn. My manner of propagating by cuttings of two, three or four buds, has been that of opening a furrow with a plow, laying the cuttings therein slanting towards the West or South, at an angle of about 45 degrees, and then turning a furrow back upon them so as to cover all but the upper bud—Drills 3 feet apart, & plants a foot in the drill. Where the ground was poor, I have taken more pains; such as drawing with the hoe a thin layer of earth on the cuttings to the upper bud (so as not to have the manure come in contact with the plants,) then pressing thereon with the foot or otherwise, then spreading on some manure, and lastly covering again by turning a furrow thereon, and further adjusting with the hoe if necessary. But I have lately understood that the usual practice in the North with cuttings, is to have two buds only, & cover both; merely leaving the end above the upper bud out of the ground. The upper bud will shoot forth for the tree and the lower one for the roots. It is safer per-

haps, especially in case of a dry Summer, to plant cuttings of several buds. But, from an experiment I made last Spring with single buds, I am induced to try this method again.

Recollecting that Mr. Smith, known formerly as Editor of the American Farmer, had mentioned in an Editorial that his method of propagating the *Multicaulis* was with single buds in a hot bed and thence transplanted and watered; and that Mr. Robert Sinclair, of Baltimore, had also succeeded, as stated in the Farmer and Gardener, with single buds, I planted such cuttings, say half an inch long or more, as follows: After opening a shallow furrow with a coultter, I dropped them along therein about six inches apart in the drill, and covered them lightly by pressing a large weeding hoe over the top. More than half grew, and that more did not, I attribute rather to the circumstance of planting late, and taking cuttings from my cellar of such doubtful character, as before named, than to any failure of this plan. The plants thus made were, like the others, never watered, & made trees of 5, 6 and 7 feet high. Another easy mode of propagation, is by layers; or, in the early part of the season, burying the lower shoots of the trees, by digging a hole in a wet time, and leaving the end of the branch out.—They soon form roots.

As an evidence of the facility of propagation, and the encouragement thereto, I state that, four years ago last Spring, I procured from Baltimore one *Morus Multicaulis*, only about a foot long and indifferently rooted, which stood me in a dollar besides the cost of conveyance, along with Grape Vines and Fruit Trees. They all arrived so late towards the last of April, when all Spring vegetation had burst forth here, that I almost despaired of their growing. But soaking them in a branch for a few days, to relieve them from their dry shrivelled appearance, they all did well. From this single plant I have propagated several thousand rooted ones, not to name a still larger number of cuttings produced. About two years since, while at Louisville, happening to mention to a friend there, that I was negotiating with Mr. Robert Sinclair, of Baltimore, to sell him my then disposable stock of New Chinese Mulberry trees, comprising about a hundred, he remarked that, from patriotic motives, I should not send them away but dispose of them in my own State.—That our climate was better calculated for the Mulberry and Silk culture than that of the Eastern States, and that there, as he knew from having visited that region lately, they cleared \$500 an acre by Silk from a Mulberry orchard, and that an acre of such Orchard (on indifferent land) rented for \$50 a year. On replying, that the people of our State were not sufficiently awake to the subject to patronize me, he responded I should offer my Trees, and, as they were highly ornamental, some might buy them for this object only. I did offer, and by the kind assistance of this friend, a part of the hundred were disposed of in Louisville and the rest I distributed in Granville and Warren counties. One gentleman near Williamsboro', has written to me lately, that from the twenty trees he procured from me, at that time, he has increased to more than 700. It was at first a matter of doubt, whether these plants of Southern rearing would do better for propagation and growth than those procured from the North; but this question has been fully settled, in my mind at least. On writing to Mr. Sinclair that some of my trees from cuttings grew to the height of 8 and 9 feet a season, he, in reply, expressed his astonishment, as that growth far surpassed any in his establishment.

A gentleman of Brunswick county, Va. who, last winter, purchased of me near \$200 worth of the *Multicaulis*, wrote to me in the Summer that the plants he got of me did better than those he had procured from the North. The same gentleman visited me lately, to view my Nurseries and Vineyards, and engage another supply of the New Chinese Mulberry.—On viewing my *Morus Multicaulis* Trees, the original ones 16 and 18 feet high and others of corresponding height and size, he expressed his surprise at the contrast between mine and those in the North.—He stated, that having last June, taken a tour to the Eastern States to see the Silk establishments there, and to obtain information about the Silk culture, as well as to satisfy himself respecting its advantages, he had, in all that tour, seen no *Morus Multicaulis* Trees much more than knee high; that the past winter they had nearly all been killed to the ground.

I cannot here forbear mentioning, that this gentleman was so thoroughly convinced, as he stated, by his tour and otherwise, of the promised great profit of the Silk culture in the South, that he was erecting buildings to some extent, engaging appropriate help and making other preparations to commence the Silk business next Spring—and that he would devote all his *Morus Multicaulis* of last year's growth to that object. And that for the purpose of propagating, he wished to procure a hundred dollars worth from me. Shall I further digress here, and state that, having pointed him to a lot of my Trees and telling him that as he was a liberal patron I would let him have them at \$15 a hun-

dred, this noble son of the Old Dominion, and I may add this *honest*, as well as truly honorable man, or according to the Poet, "one of the noblest works of God," replied that he knew the prices of the *Multicaulis*, & that this was too low; he would give me \$20 a hundred for those in question. And for an object like his own, he negotiated that a friend of his should take another lot of Trees of a larger description, at \$25 a hundred. He, moreover, stated that he found in his tour that much deception was in practice on the public regarding pretended seed and seedlings of the *Morus Multicaulis* and other boasted superior Mulberry, as *Brussa* and *Florence*; but all, he had reason to believe, from inspection and good information, far inferior to the true *Morus Multicaulis*. I would here observe, that the *Morus Alba*, or White Italian Mulberry, ranks by the best authorities, next to the *Multicaulis*. But Mr. Smith, before alluded to, in a late most able essay, on the Mulberry and Silk culture, appearing in the Farmer and Gardener, successor to the American Farmer, holds the following language respecting the comparative excellencies of the two species: "I, he says, consider the *Morus Multicaulis* worth one hundred per cent more than the White Italian. It saves nine-tenths of the labor in gathering the leaves, on account of their being at least ten times the size of the White. One pound of *Morus Multicaulis* leaves contains one-third more nutritive matter than a pound of the best White Mulberry leaves. The *Morus Multicaulis* affords leaves, and is not injured by the loss of them the first season. All they require, is a few to be left on the tops and ends of the branches. The White requires to be 3 or 4 years old before it can be used."

I consider another comparative disadvantage of the White Italian not named by Mr. Smith, is that it is more difficult of propagation. About eight years since, a neighbor and myself understanding that the White Mulberry would grow from cuttings, procured at some cost and trouble a considerable number; but we lost nearly all during the Summer. Near three years since, having heard it suggested that the White Italian budded forth earlier in the Spring than the *Multicaulis*, and was therefore desirable in case the worms appeared too early for the latter, I procured a supply of seed of the former. I found the young seedlings more trouble the first season, than the plants from *Morus Multicaulis* cuttings. And my observation proves, that there is any priority of budding, the *Multicaulis* has it. I give the seedlings to those purchasers of the *Multicaulis*, who will have them. I intended to quote largely from Mr. Smith's late essay, but finding my piece has now become much longer than anticipated I must content myself at this time with one more quotation only, regarding the location of a *Multicaulis* Orchard. That part of the essay regarding the true marks of the *Morus Multicaulis*, to guard against the increasing attempts at imposition upon the public, and some other matters equally important, I may offer you, Mr. Editors, at another time, by way of extract and comment.—"The *Morus Multicaulis*," says Mr. Smith, "is perfectly hardy when grown on its own peculiar and natural soil, which is light, dry, and not over rich. On low rich soils, their growth is protracted to so late a season that they do not ripen their wood, and of course they are killed to the ground in Winter. I have uniformly grown them on high dry rather sandy soil, and never lost a branch or a bud; while others, who planted them on low alluvial rich soils, have lost them every Winter."

Mr. Smith speaks of the region of Baltimore. I have grown them in a diversity of soils and situations, without their being injured by the Winter. I believe they will grow South, on almost the poorest of soils, tolerably well; while, on the richest ground, they will show a corresponding growth.—But the ground should, in all cases, for two or three years at least, be kept stirred and loose around them. I have planted cuttings and rooted ones with entire success, from the time of the first falling of the leaves, till the buds were ready to expand in the Spring. Yet, I join in the concurrent advice, to procure them in the Fall, and after being secured during the Winter, to plant in the Spring. But this course applies particularly to those procured from the North.

It is desirable, I conceive, for the good of our country and all concerned, that the cultivation of the *Morus Multicaulis* should be greatly extended, in order to the speedy and complete success of the Silk business. With all due deference, I would advise especially all intelligent patriotic Agriculturists of the South to commence immediately, on a small scale at least, upon the cultivation of this plant. I have no doubt that for some years, this cultivation will be very profitable as well as pleasant.

And even, after we may behold many of our old, and at present barren fields, covered with the green verdure of this plant, and the cottages of the superannuated widows and children adjoining the Mulberry Orchards, most profitably employed in the Silk culture; and after we may see almost every great house, college and hamlet set around with these most beautiful, of moderate sized ornamental trees, still, the *Morus Multicaulis* cultivation may be more profitable than that of Cotton, in our State, when the

comparative short seasons of growth for the latter plant (long enough for the former) may render it impossible to compete profitably with Texas and other more Southern regions, peculiarly fitted for the growth of Cotton. I am aware that the above will be pronounced by some a mere effusion of a brain, too visionary. But I remark that cool heads are liable to be mistaken sometimes as well as warm ones. So it has happened with some of my cool calculating acquaintances, who, a few years since, knowing that when I was then in debt, I expended more than a dollar for a small Tree and quarters of dollars for small Vines, were quite incredulous of the issue, and ready to pronounce me very imprudent, in so far as crediting "book farming theories," as to leave certainties for uncertainties, as that of neglecting Cotton and Corn for Mulberry and Grape Vine cultivation. But finding from that dollar's outlay, I have already sold to the amount of near a thousand dollars, & have a stock on hand worth in the market several hundred dollars, that I have realized a hundred dollars a season, from about a half quarter of an acre by the Mulberry culture, and am likely to make even more by the Vine culture, or more than a hundred fold greater profit than by Cotton and Corn, they have changed their opinions; and I believe, are less incredulous about the advantages of book farming and new objects of husbandry.

And, as a further encouragement for others to compete with me, in these matters of Agriculture, the promotion of which all enlightened Patriots will consider of public utility, I mention, that I have never yet been disappointed in obtaining a good and ready market for my Nursery articles, by taking proper pains thereto with a generous public.

Yours, &c. with all due respect and esteem,

SIDNEY WELLER.

Brinkleyville, Halifax Co. N. C.?  
Nov. 2, 1837.

The following beautiful eulogy on "THE LAW," is extracted from an article in the Southern Literary Messenger:

"The spirit of the law is all equity and justice. In a government based on true principles, the law is the sole sovereign of a nation. It watches over its subjects in their business, in their recreation, and their sleep, it guards their fortunes, their lives, and their honors. In the broad noonday and the dark midnight it ministers to their security. It accompanies them to the altar and the festival board. It watches over the ship of the merchant, though a thousand leagues intervenes; over the seed of the husbandman abandoned for a season to the earth; over the studies of the student, the labors of the mechanic, the opinions of every man. None are high enough to offend it with impunity, none so low that it scorns to protect them. It is throned with the king, and sits in the seat of the republican magistrate; but it also hovers over the couch of the lovely, and stands sentinel at the prison, scrupulously preserving to the felon whatever right he has not forfeited.

The light of the law illumines the palace and the hovel, and surrounds the cradle and the bier. The strength of the law laughs fortresses to scorn, and spurns the intrenchments of iniquity. The power of the law crushes the power of man and strips wealth of unrighteous immunity. It is the thread of Daedalus, to guide us through theabyrinths of cunning. It is the spear of Athurilla to detect falsehood and deceit. It is the faith of the martyr to shield us from the fires of persecution—it is the good man's reliance—the wicked one's dread—the bulwark of piety—the upholder of morality—the guardian of right—the distributor of justice—its power is irresistible—its dominion indisputable. It is above us and around us, and within us—we cannot fly from its protection—we cannot avert its vengeance.

"Such is the law in its essence; such it should be in its enactments; such, too, it would be, if none aspired to its administration, but those with pure hearts, enlarged views, and cultivated minds."

The Steward of the Steamboat Home, who has arrived at New-York, where he resides, contradicts the assertions of certain passengers, that Capt. White was intoxicated and helpless in his office when the packet was lost. He says there was a Captain on board—a Captain Hill—who, from his officiousness, was supposed by many passengers to be the Captain of the boat, and he heard as often as twenty times the remark, how drunk the Captain is—the remark being made in allusion to Capt. Hill, a passenger, and not to Capt. White the commander of the boat.

**Profitable Cow.**—A farmer in this town has a cow ten years old last spring, whose children are as follows: 2 yoke of oxen, worth \$260; 2 cows, worth \$30 apiece; a two year old heifer, \$20; a pair of twins, a year old last spring, \$40; and a calf, \$15. Her grand children are three calves, worth \$6 apiece. The milk of the mother cow for nine years he estimates worth \$15 a year, and so also for the other two cows, one for two and the other for one year—making the whole yield of the cow a little short of \$600. Eight of her children and one of her grand children are now with the old lady on the farm.—*Claremont Eagle.*

**Extracts from the Speech of Hon. BEDFORD BROWN, in the Senate of the United States, in Favor of the Sub-Treasury System:—**

Mr. BROWN said, in rising to address the Senate, after the very able and luminous investigation which the subject then before them had undergone, he did so from no vain expectation that he should be able, by anything he might say, to impart any new interest to the debate, which had been listened to so attentively, or to add any thing of force to the argument by which it had been sustained. The acknowledged importance of the question they were called on to decide, the powerful influence which it would exert on the future destinies of the country, either for good or evil, and the deep interest felt in relation to it by the citizens of the State which he, in part, represented, would, he trusted, excuse him for presenting some of the leading considerations which would govern his course on that occasion.

Before, however, he entered into an examination of the merits of the proposed measure, he would notice very briefly some observations that had fallen from several Senators who had preceded him in the debate. The honorable gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Preston,) who had just taken his seat, in the commencement of his remarks, had alleged that the late Bank of the United States, had been constantly the subject of reference, by those who had spoken in this body in defence of the measures of the Administration, and had deprecated its introduction into this debate, as tending to make up an erroneous issue before the country. It surely could not have escaped the observation of that gentleman, that the course of the late Administration, in relation to that institution, had been severely arraigned by many of those who were politically associated with him, in the progress of the present discussion. Thus invited by the political friends of that gentleman, in some measure, to bring into review the character and conduct of that institution, it could not justly be complained of, either by them or himself, that the invitation had been accepted, and that some reminiscences had been called up, nor, perhaps, the most gratifying to its friends, and but little calculated to recommend it to the public favor.

While, said Mr. B. the gentleman evinces so much anxiety that we should avoid making false issues before the country, is he quite certain that he is not himself obnoxious to the same charge? When he imputes to the administration and its supporters, the design of attempting to establish an exclusive metallic currency throughout the country, is he certain that he presents the question fairly? Does he, when he represents them as entering on a crusade to annihilate the State banks, and destroy the paper system, make up an impartial issue? He was well aware, that many of the opponents of the administration had used no ordinary industry, for some time past, to produce the impression on the public mind, that it was a part of its system of policy to attempt the introduction of an exclusive metallic currency. The friends of a national bank, had been especially distinguished for their untinged zeal, in endeavoring to create this impression, no doubt hoping to profit by the apprehensions and distrusts which they expected to engender in the public mind, by the use of it against those in power. Neither the late administration, nor the present, had, on any occasion, promulgated this as a part of its policy. Neither, he was entirely confident, had at any time entertained a design so utterly visionary and impracticable in the present condition of the country. How, he would ask, could any well-informed person believe, for a single moment, that such was the design of those now in authority, when the Federal Government was entirely powerless to accomplish, by legislation, any such purpose? The States had been in the undisturbed exercise of the right to incorporate banking institutions, from the adoption of the Federal Constitution down to the present time. A right now universally conceded by all parties, and which none were disposed to call into question. Congress could not, therefore, interpose its authority, either to suppress existing institutions, or to prevent the establishment of new ones, and could only exercise some indirect control over them through its revenue laws.—Notwithstanding the insuperable difficulties which stood in the way of such an attempt, as well from the want of constitutional power in Congress to effect it, as its own absolute inexpediency, yet we daily heard attributed to the administration, as a part of its policy, the intention to destroy the banking institutions of the country, and to substitute in their stead an entire metallic currency.—Although the power of Congress was impotent for such purposes of destruction as were intimated, yet apprehensions were gravely expressed, here and elsewhere, that some such deep design was in agitation against the entire paper system, and that the country was to be visited with ruin and desolation, in all its branches of business and industry.

Mr. B. said he thought gentlemen might well dismiss all apprehensions which they seemed to entertain for the safety of that system, as the danger, in his opinion, was much greater of its extending its power over the country, than of its being restrained within any reasonable limits. It had acquired a power, he feared, stronger than the Government, and above the control of the

people themselves; a power which, if it remained unchecked, would, in his opinion, eventually overthrow our republican form of Government.

The friends of the administration had been reproached by the same gentleman, in no very measured terms, with having abandoned the State banks at this, the period of their greatest difficulty, and with having practised bad faith towards them, by refusing longer to employ them as depositories of the public revenue.

This charge was particularly applicable, said Mr. B. to the banks, and not to the Government. It was they who had abandoned the Government, and violated the trust reposed in them. By refusing to pay over large sums of the public money entrusted to them, they had deprived it, so far as depended on them, of the means necessary to conduct its ordinary operations. In having done this, they had voluntarily changed the relation which they had before stood in to the Government, and had incurred a forfeiture of their right to a longer continuance as its fiscal agents, under a provision of the deposit act. In this condition of things, when the trust reposed in them had been so grossly abused, was there any thing to justify the reproaches, which were thus attempted to be cast on the friends of the administration, because they could not again give the banks their confidence, and place the Government again in a situation to be embarrassed by them? The gentleman who had preferred these charges, seemed to adopt a rule which was the very reverse of that generally acted on in such cases. Precisely in proportion as the banks have abused the trust confided to them, does he give them his confidence, and insist on their worthiness to be continued as the depositories of the public money. When an individual employed an agent to transact his business, a flagrant abuse of the trust confided to him, was the best of reasons for his dismissal.

Those in opposition seemed, on the present occasion, to discard this valuable rule, founded as it was in common prudence; and the very banks not long since so unceasingly denounced by them as wholly unfit to take charge of the public moneys, had suddenly become worthy of all confidence.—The pet banks, as the gentleman from South Carolina had designated them, had cause to congratulate themselves that they had been so ably defended at this time by him, who but a short time since denounced their employment in the character of fiscal agents of the Government, as fraught with the most pernicious consequences to the country.

The same gentleman, said Mr. B. had alluded, in terms of sarcasm, to what he was pleased to call the repeated experiments of the party who for some time past had been in power, on the happiness and prosperity of the people of our country. He (Mr. B.) would ask what party was it that first commenced experiments on this subject, so far as the action of the Federal Government was concerned? Was it not those who had defeated the obvious intention of the framers of the Federal Constitution, to make it a hard-money Government? Was it not those who, in the early history of this Government, had established a national bank, and thus fixed on the country the paper system? The often-repeated charge of tampering with the currency, and experimenting on the delicate question, was due, and most appropriately due, to that party who had introduced, and continued to advocate, a paper system under the Federal Government; in doing which, they had not only experimented on the currency, but also on the Constitution under which they had professed to act. To recall the Government to the course on this subject, which he solemnly believed to be that originally designed by those who formed it, and to rescuse it from the paper money experiments of those who advocated a national bank, was the great object which the friends of the present administration were endeavoring to accomplish.

If to bring the Government back, in this respect, to what its framers intended it, if to restore it to the true constitutional currency, constitute experiments, he, for one, was content to share in the reproach, in common with his political friends, which might be incurred by it.

But it seemed that the gentleman from South Carolina was not only opposed to what he had characterized as experiments, but he was not anxious that the people should get rid also of the experiments. In this he was unquestionably sincere, as it would no doubt gratify that gentleman to see his political friends placed in power. The public good which the gentleman held out as likely to result from this charge, reminded him, however, of an anecdote he had read of a Queen of England, of German origin, who had but shortly before arrived in that country. While riding out one day in her carriage, she was saluted by many of the people of London with exclamations of great joy and respect, in return for which she most graciously assured them that she had "come to England for their goods." "Yes," added one of those in the crowd, "and for our chattels too." Mr. B. must be excused if he expressed the belief that the gentleman and his friends felt quite as much interest in the latter as they did about the former of those considerations.

Having, said Mr. B. replied to the marks of honorable gentlemen considered of a character