

THE DEMOCRAT.
 W. H. KITCHIN - - - - EDITOR.
 FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 23, 1887.
 ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE
 AT SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., AS
 SECOND CLASS MATTER.
 Civil Service Reform.
 We prefer a Democrat to a Republican of equal character.
 No honest and true Republican
 asks to be re-elected, and one who should
 be retained. In the South a sweep with
 a clean broom is demanded by all Democrats.
 Turn the rascals out!

1888.
 FOR PRESIDENT.
DAVID B. HILL,
 OF NEW YORK.
 FOR VICE PRESIDENT.
JOHN G. CARLISLE,
 OF KENTUCKY.

Let every seed cotton buyer remember that he must keep a book, with the dates, number of pounds of cotton bought, the price paid per pound, and the name or names of the persons from whom bought on said book open to be viewed by any person. If this should not be done the penalty of the law is very severe and will be enforced. The law says you shall keep a book and enter thereon the who's transaction. Now let every body obey the law and stop the stealing of seed cotton. We can do it. We are more to blame for the negro stealing cotton than the negro is. Mean white people make mean negroes. A man who will buy stolen cotton having reason to believe it stolen is much meaner than the original thief. Every body can buy cotton, but the record must be kept, or trouble will follow.

FARMER BOYS.
 We know the farmers as a rule think they know all about farming. But this is a very serious and fatal mistake. If a man thinks he knows it all, that man is to be pitied above all men. He closes his eyes and stops up his ears to every source of information. None of us are perfect. None of us know it all. No science has yet been developed. They are all so to speak in their infancy. The light of experience and achievements are ever and anon adding to our store of knowledge. New discoveries and inventions are daily brought to light in all the departments of science and life. We rely upon the experience and accumulated wisdom and knowledge of our predecessors. If we do not we are unwise and derelict in our duty to ourselves and those who are to succeed us in the great drama of life. And to science is less developed and farther in the rear than the science of farming. The cause of this must be because the higher order of talent and genius and learning for the last five hundred years have sought their fields of labor. And the cause of this must be because of the estimation the world places on the cultivation of the soil. If the tillage of the soil was considered as honorable, dignified and as noble as the professions, such as the practice of law, medicine, or as preaching, or as being a statesman, a professor in college, or as being at the head of some of the various intellectual callings, the principles of farming would develop much more rapidly than they have in the last century. From our standpoint the profession of farming is more honorable, dignified, and elevating, and brings it devotees nearer to God and his kingdom than any other calling man can follow save and except the preaching of Christ and His crucifixion; and we don't include all who pretend to preach under this head. Every man who claims to be an apostle is not an apostle, no more than every man who claims to be a statesman is a statesman, or who claims to be a lawyer, or a doctor, or a poet, or an historian, or a farmer is what he claims to be. No man knows so much that he can not learn more in the same department. We are all dependent upon each other more or less and can learn from each other if we are not stuck up, stiff necked and self-conceited. From the most ignorant and unlettered, the wisest of us can learn something worth knowing if we are not above our calling. Now is it not true the profession, or calling of farming was placed upon the right foundation, and that it takes its proper and ordained position among the honorable and dignified callings to which the family of man belongs? The man who is too proud, too good, too learned, too highly cultivated and polished to make a farmer, is too worthless, self-conceited and puffed up to make a success in any other profession. It requires more general information, more talent, learning, true genius and noble manhood to make a scientific, successful farmer than it does to make a successful lawyer, doctor, preacher, merchant, teacher, or professor in any of the

scientific departments of learning. Yet if a boy is thick skulled, dull, or weakened minded he is at once sent to the farm. Much better send that boy to school, college, and then to traveling and finally into the professor's chair, or behind the counter, or into the legal or medical profession than to the farm. The brightest most energetic, pushing boy is the boy to put on the farm. In fact the laggard, the stupid fellow, the drone will never make a good cultivator of the soil. The legal profession is full, crammed from head to foot, many of whom ought to be plowing or burning brush. The medical profession is full to overflowing, many of whom kill more patients than they cure. The ministry, well shall we say it too is full? That would not half express the truth. It is full and surfeited. When a fellow is too lazy to work, too proud to beg, and too poor to live without either, he at once claims that the Lord has called him to preach the unsearchable riches of the kingdom not yet seen. To become a professor in our institutions of learning a man must have some ability and a little learning, so but few seek this calling. In truth there is no room in any of the legal, medical, or literary vocations of life for any but the most talented, gifted and thoroughly learned. There is always room and to spare for this class. But few attain the highest eminence in any of these professions. The number who reach the top round in the ladder is very small. Then what must be done with our young men? If possible induce them to go on the farm. Here the field is unexplored. Here is food for the mind, soul, and body. Here is contentment, happiness, and love. Here the intellect can grow, expand and develop to its fullest and grandest powers. Here he can commune with himself, with nature in all her glory and with God in all his sublimity grandeur and wonderful, stupendous and incomprehensible goodness, greatness and power. Yes, here he can be a free man, a happy man, a useful man, a good man, an honest man, yes, a man after God's own heart so to speak. Yes, send the bright, sprightly, active boy to the farm, and send the laggard, the drone, well do as you please; but please don't put him on the farm.

The calling is too noble, too excellent, too near in accordance with the will and fixed decrees of eternity to be thus tampered with. An honest, intelligent, active, thrifty farmer is the world's grand masterpiece of mechanism from the hand of Jehovah Himself. Yes, encourage the boys to stay at home and become farmers instead of pill makers, mortgage drawers, Bible crushers and grammar smashers. The earth and the fulness thereof belongs to the farmer. He is a king in a small domain, but if worthy and well qualified may have his queen by his side. Yes, boys quit the stores and the shade and seek the fields, the pure air, the genial rays of the sun, the dominion of a king, the farm. Yes, boys there is room and to spare here, no loafing, no seeking employment, no discharging, no insults given, no one to obey and serve but yourself and your God.

Fertilizing With Clover.
 As regards keeping up the fertility of the farm, bought manures are too expensive, and it is hardly possible to make a sufficiency of home-made manures; we then must resort to sowing clover, rotating crops, and resting part of the farm. Sowing clover is our cheapest and surest way of fertilizing, for when growing on the land, we can graze it or mow it for forage, and its effects as a fertilizer last for several years. Waldo F. Brown, of Ohio, one of the most intelligent and successful farmers of the West, says this of clover: "With thirty-five years of careful observation of the effects of clover, I have each year valued it higher than I did the previous year; a crop of clover cannot be grown on any soil without benefitting; no matter what use it is put to—whether pastured, cut for hay, allowed to mature a crop of seed, plowed under, or burned off, and each farmer who grows clover can determine for himself what is the best use he can put it to; the roots of clover are the most important factor in the fertilizing value of the soil, because their dried weight considerably exceeds that of the dried weight of the top; and also because they are richer in food elements than the tops."—*Southern Cultivator.*

Public School System.
 The more we become acquainted with the workings of the present Public School system, the more we become convinced that it is doing the whites of the State no good whatever. Nothing, it is a clog to education in this country. Our white tax-payers are taxed beyond their capacity to pay, to provide con-

stitutional rights and protection to the colored man, and yet, beyond that are taxed to educate them. We say it is all wrong. It is enough that the whites afford them protection and pay the cost of courts, which shows that the majority paid to make those same negroes law abiding, without having to educate them. We do not know of a single white district in the county where the public schools have done any good whatever. None of them obtain enough money to support a school longer than three months in the year, and if a child at seven years of age would go until he or she were 21 they could not possibly acquire even a correct idea of an English education, because they would forget in the nine months intervening between the terms what they had learned at the previous session. Besides, it is more than probable that a new teacher is employed at each term, and not knowing the standing of the scholars does not properly classify them.

We believe in thorough, practical education, and we are confident that our public school system can never be made to impart such education. Therefore it appears clear to us that it only militates against our preparatory schools and leaves many a brilliant mind that might have been properly instructed, in ignorance and darkness. If we were to express our wishes on the question, we should unhesitatingly say, abolish it *in toto*, but as the public schools are going to be retained in some manner, then we say change the system and give to the whites the benefit of their taxes and to the negro ditto. We are willing to furnish him equal rights and protection before the law, but are now and forever opposed to educating him.—*Cartha, a Blade.*

Turning Under Pen Vines.
 Apropos of the subject of green manuring, Messrs. E. M. Foscoe and L. A. Haywood, two good farmers of Jones county, say that pen vines are excellent manure but they never turn them under until the hogs have gone through them and gathered all the peas. In fact they don't turn them under until they are ready to prepare the land for planting. This is positive evidence that pen vines are good manure, but it does not prove the point that is now under discussion, not only in the columns of the *Journal* but many other papers. If Messrs. Foscoe and Haywood had turned under a portion of their pen vines while green they could have definitely determined whether it pays or not. To induce farmers to experiment in matters of this kind, though it cost but little if anything, is a hard task, yet we know of nothing that would be of more practical benefit than practical experience on the farm. Three acres sown in peas after a wheat or oat crop, one to be turned under when the vines are just beginning to fruit, one when the peas are beginning to ripen and the other in the following spring just before planting time, it seems to us would settle the question as to the proper time to turn under this crop for manure.—*New Bern Journal.*

The time has come for us to know what the Democratic party is; whether it be those time honored principles set forth in her platform, and for which so much has been sacrificed, or the ipse dixit of one man, whose vagaries are as uncertain as the "Shade By the light quivering aspen made." We do not expect Mr. Cleveland to be immaculate, but if Democracy requires us to sanction his conduct in setting at defiance the wish of the party in the appointment of Register of Deeds for the District of Columbia, we emphatically decline any participation in such Democracy; if it requires us to applaud the keeping of Republicans in responsible and lucrative positions—the giving of the spoils to the vanquished party, or if it requires a blind worship of the man, in utter disregard of principles, then we most devoutly pray to be delivered from such Democracy.—*Henderson Gold Leaf.*

There are a few rules in regard to maintaining fertility which should be followed. One is that all the unsold or unfed portions of crops should, if possible, be returned to the soil upon which they grew, or an equivalent should be returned. Thus, if wheat is raised, the grain sold and the straw composted with the dung of animals, we form a manure which returns much that was removed by the crop. If the straw be partly or wholly fed to animals, still a large portion naturally finds its way back to the soil. A portion of the plant food supply of the soil is irrevocably lost in the grain sold, in the bones of the animals, in the milk sold off the farm, etc. But we can calculate very nearly what this

loss is and make it good at small expense if we do not delay too long. It is much better to feed than to sell hay and straw, because the tax upon the soil is so much less, and whoever does sell these products should surely plan to buy fertilizers to make his drafts upon the soil. Near cities it is always easy to buy stable manure, and this is obviously the most economical. The hay, grain and straw are thus returned, the loss is not only made good, but the condition of the land is improving all the time, for that is the natural result of tillage.—*American Agriculturist.*

Green Manuring.
 NUMBER 3.
 A farmer is supposed to be practically acquainted with everything concerning agriculture, and to know what is best to do under all circumstances in order to obtain remunerative crops; but the fact is that no farmer in an average life-time can try enough experiments to know everything, and he must embrace every opportunity to find out and to study the recorded experiments of others.

The information regarding when and how to break land, and when to turn under sod stubble, or a crop grown for manure, has come down to us from our ancestors, and has not been verified by experiments. One farmer continues to break the stubble land in October, another always burns off the weeds and stubble in February, and then breaks the land for corn or cotton, and each thinks his plan right because his father did so. Very few have experimented to find whether there is not a better plan. Many of our ideas have been received from Northern farmers and writers, where the conditions of climate are quite the reverse of those existing in the South. If the plowing is not done in the Northern States before October it cannot be done until after the first of May, as the land is covered with snow or buried fast with ice.

The Northern farmer often breaks his sod land in September, and either sows wheat or expects the freezing and thawing weather of October to pulverize and to prepare the land to receive the annual covering of snow, and with it a supply of ammonia, which the Southern farmer must buy in commercial fertilizers or obtain by growing a green crop for manure. In the South the conditions are quite different. September is a hot month; October is frequently almost as warm. Drying winds sweep the bare fields; winter rains wash the cotton and corn lands into gullies, and all the elements seem to conspire to rob the soil of nitrogen.

How can this great loss be prevented? Cannot the farmer, to some extent at least, cover his land with manuring crops which will shade and protect the land from sun, wind and washing rain until he is ready to plant the spring crop? This covering, after serving the purpose of shading the land for several months, and in that way improving the condition of the soil, will be equal in value, when turned under, to many wagon loads of manure per acre, and will go far towards improving larger and more profitable crops.—*A. in New Bern Journal.*

Ensilaging Corn Stalks After Husking.

Mr. O. B. Potter, of New York, in writing to the *Husbandman* of his ten years' experience in making ensilage, describes his management of his corn crop as follows: "During the last four years, I have practiced a new method of ensilaging corn, of which I raise from 25 to 40 acres per year. I had previously cut the corn up by the roots, stacked, cured and husked it the ordinary way from the stalk, and then stacked or stored the stalks in the barn, cutting them up and feeding them dry, or moistened in winter. By the new method I husk directly from the standing corn in the field as soon as the corn is dry enough to permit this. The corn when husked is spread to the depth of about twelve inches upon slatted floors or shelves inside my buildings, placed one above the other and about three feet apart, the air passing freely under and over these floors and through the corn. As fast as the corn is husked, the stalks are cut up close to the ground and immediately put into ensilage pits, the cutting and filling proceeding in the method before described. The juice remaining in the stalk, in the untried portions of the leaves, and in the thicker leaves, is sufficient to establish active fermentation, and the whole mass settles and compacts so as to be perfectly preserved as ensilage. If the corn is very dry before husking the stalks when cut up may be moistened with water to secure the perfect fermentation and settlement of the mass. When the husking is complete, the

stalks are in the ensilage pit and ready for feeding. The ensilage, although not as rich as that made from stalks before the grain has become hardened, I find better either for milch cows or dry stock than the same weight of fair hay; and this ensilage is eaten by the cattle without one particle of waste. Every part of it is eaten eagerly. From my experience, I am of the opinion that the profit of the corn crop to the farmer will be found to be considerably increased by the adoption of this method of harvesting. The labor required for gathering and ensilaging these stalks in the manner I have described, is very much less, I think not more than half that required for binding, shocking, pre-ensiling and cutting up and feeding dry as hitherto practiced; while the value of the stalks preserved as ensilage in the way I have described, is, in my judgment, quite doubled. I have no doubt that the State of Illinois by the practice of this method, without diminishing, but rather increasing, its yield of corn, would nearly double its capacity for growing and feeding cattle, especially in winter. It will be important in practicing this method to take care that husking commence early, and that fields are husked successively in the order of their being planted, so that each be husked at its proper maturity and before becoming unnecessarily dry. Corn cured in the manner I have described will be found brighter than that which is allowed to remain upon the stalk in the field until completely dried, and will be equally as heavy, while a considerable percentage of ears now lost or injured by falling upon the ground will be saved.—*Ex.*

A Haymaker's Hints.

Mr. Robert K. Tomlinson's essay on cutting, curing and storing hay—principal parts of which we append—was judged to be the best of eleven offered in competition for a "Farm Journal" prize: "For hard-working or driving horses, cut when about half of the clover heads are brown, or when the timothy is just past bloom. If for dairy cows, milk horses, or sheep, cut when the clover is in full bloom, or when the timothy is just heading. A week or ten days before the time for cutting the early or cow hay, begin to watch the weather sharply and without regard to the weather fore-castings from Washington. On the first of a clear day, especially if after a general storm and the wind north and cool for the season, begin mowing at once, and, if convenient, with two machines, so as to get a quantity making as soon as possible. The clover are due out of ten, if not ninety-nine out of 100, that there will follow, in this locality, at least, three days of good hay weather; hence it is best to cut down at once and that can be hauled in that time. "The young grass on the damp ground and in the cool air will cure slowly (as it should do) to make the finest cow hay, and the machine probably need not be stopped the first day to rake the hay. But the bunches and thick places should be shaken up and scattered about, and as soon as the steel-tooth rake can perform properly the grass should be gathered in windrows—into small ones if it is curing slowly, and large ones if it is curing rapidly. The time of raking and the size of the windrows give us complete control of the operation of curing. If cured too rapidly we lose part of the heads and leaves, and lose at the same time the best quality and aroma of the hay. If cured too slowly we run too great risk from the weather. The windrows should be turned or rolled over once or twice to expose new surfaces to the sun and air, but need not be re-spread as in the method of cocking. The latter, indeed, is too costly in time and labor for modern farming.

"If partly cured hay is likely to be caught in a storm, cocking and hay caps may be resorted to; but the great secret of successful haymaking is not to be thus caught. In hay-making, as usually practiced, the cutting can be done in the morning; the raking toward evening, and the hauling next day. In this case, and still more when the already partly dried grass can be cut and secured on the same day, but little risk of rain, with ordinary observation and prudence, need be run. Even the extra early succulent grass, which makes the finest cow hay, can be cut, properly cured and housed in three days, which is within the limit of the extra fine weather conditions noted above. But these must be watched for, prepared for, and when they come, must be improved with an extra force and energy. And, in my opinion, no extra outlay will so well repay the dairyman as that which secures such winter feed. The amount of drying or curing needed depends very much upon the storing. "If the mows are mere shelves

where the hay will be only a few feet in depth and width, then the hay must be well cured or mould will surely appear. If, on the contrary, they are deep and wide mows, exposed to the air—approximating, in fact, the principles of the silo—then the hay needs to be cured only sufficiently to keep it from charring or being with the heat of fermentation; provided, that a large quantity is put in at one time, and that the top-layers consist of straw or well-cured hay. With an abundance of early cut clover or mixed hay, cured lightly in the field and stored in such mows, neither the dairy farmer nor his cattle need banker after ensilage; for the degree of succulence in such hay (much greater than ordinary hay) is nearer right for a general winter feed than the still greater succulence of corn. Again, its feeding value is much greater than fodder corn whether green, dry or ensilaged. Lastly, partly drying in the field and disposing with weights in storing, causes the labor to be less than that of ensilage.—*Farmer's Friend.*

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