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AND STAR

A WEEKLY

FOR THE FARM &

FIRESIDE

FARMERS, WRITE FOR YOUR PAPER.

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any matter of farming when such sources of information are accessible at so small an expense. There are a number of these publications, several in our own State, the *Carolina Farmer* among them, published weekly at Wilmington, both the Proprietor and Editor of which were lately of our citizenship, entitled to our favor and patronage, and each in his department well prepared to furnish an interesting and profitable paper.

Many of these publications are devoted to southern interests and embody a large amount of information contributed by the most intelligent, scientific and practical farmers in the country on almost every subject of husbandry and domestic pursuits. I rarely open one of these publications that I do not see some single article worth more than the year's price. During the last summer I noticed an article in the *Southern Cultivator* giving an account of the mode of cultivation and the fabulous products of an acre of land in a new variety of turnips, "Johnny Rebs." I wrote for some of the seed, which were very promptly sent me. My success was by no means such as it would have been with heavy manuring and proper cultivation.

With \$15 worth of Baugh's Raw Bone Super-phosphate, I obtained on a little over half an acre about 200 bushels of turnips. A neighbor friend of mine, Mr. J. A. Worth, to whom I gave part of the seed informed me that he raised turnips weighing from 7 to 14 pounds each. Any of your readers can calculate the products of an acre of land in such turnips as these produced at proper distances, and will doubtless be amazed at the result.—They can estimate the number of milk cows that could be fed through the winter, the milk and butter furnished, the value of the manure carefully saved for future crops. These are calculations that enter largely into their success as farmers and into their family comforts; every farmer should cultivate a few acres in turnips.

Another article I noticed was the experiment of two young men in Georgia.—I wish the article could be placed in the hands of the large class of young men who are flocking to the towns and villages seeking employment, and also in the hands of those trying to place themselves in some of the learned professions, often without qualifications, and always without reflecting that no one of these professions ever adds a single dollar to the wealth of the country. No lawyer that ever lived in the pursuit of his profession ever added anything to the wealth of the country; no physician ever did; no preacher ever did; no banker ever did. They are all useful in their several vocations in life, but it is their business to take advantage of the follies and misfortunes of other men, and when they have earned a dollar put it in their pockets. There are three sources of wealth to the country. The man who goes down in the mine and labors there and brings up from the bowels of the earth, the gold and the lead, the tin and the silver, produces wealth; the man who from early in the morning till late in the evening, from January to December, toils upon the surface of the ground and makes it bring forth things necessary for the support of human life; and the man who, with his skill and labor takes those things that are brought up from the bowels of the earth and that are culled from its surface and binds and fashions them for the use of man into the implements of civilized life, these are the three products of wealth, and labor is necessary to them all. That primeval denunciation to our progenitors that we should "earn our bread by the sweat of our face" is still in force, and is being verified in the lives of many of us to-day, not as a curse but a hopeful provision, as a peaceful result; for if there is any man that can eat his bread in peace with God and man, it is that man who draws that bread out of the ground or wins it by his honest industry. It is tainted with no fraud, it is wet with no tears, it is stained with no blood. But, to go back to the experiment of the two young men of Georgia. One of them with his own labor entirely, made one hundred bushels of corn and five bales of cot-

ton, the other with some help made two hundred bushels of corn and five bales of cotton. Both of them cultivated very poor land, for it took 16 acres to produce the 100 bushels of corn. Now there was no great skill nor judgment in this case: if there had been, I think the experiment would have been more of a success, but it shows what industry and energy can accomplish. These are the men we are to look to, to build up our ruined fortunes and to restore our former prosperity, and not to the importation of a material prosperity accompanied with the curse of a material civilization. These are the men in whose hands will be the future destiny of the country. It has already passed from the hands of the old scrambling politicians and must and will settle in the hands and control of the young white men of the country, born and bred in our midst.—For I regard it as a thing very improbable that you can populate the south with an intelligent and respectable citizenship from Europe or from the Northern States, while all the governments of the South are being placed in the hands of your newly made citizens of African descent.—It is difficult to realize the situation if one half of the young men in our State were to adopt the course of the young men of Georgia. We should soon have the most prosperous, the most plentiful and bounteous country in the world. We should have no ladless young men moping about our streets without employment, or such things as three able-bodied young men engaged in keeping one small bar-room.—No hungry starving poor among us, not the same necessity for importing laborers from the prisons and poor-houses of Europe to make your bread, that there was for the importation of soldiers to assist in your subjugation. But your barns and store houses would be able not only to stay the ravages of hunger and famine in your own country, but in other lands.

I have some other measures I intended to mention in this paper, intended to create an interest in our farm pursuits, but I am reminded that I have already exhausted the sheet and I suppose you will think this scroll long enough.

Yours,  
THOS. J. CURTIS.  
—*Fayetteville Eagle.*

### The Condition of the Grain Farmers in the Northwest.

At the commencement of 1870, is almost deplorable. For two seasons there have been failures of both the Spring wheat and the corn crops. There are thousands of this class in the State to-day, who seeding from 5 to 50 acres of wheat, and from 20 to 100 acres of corn, have not enough of the first for bread, nor of the second to carry their stock over the Winter. This condition of things is due partly to the season; partly to the use of machinery, and partly to the high price of labor. If the season is favorable, if the machinery works well, and if the price of grain is high, a wheat and a corn crop, both in one year, is such a success as puts most men on the road to fortune. All these happy circumstances seldom come together; but because they have so come two or three times since 1860, men hope for them every year, and are repeatedly deluded and disappointed. Had these farmers instead of trying to crop 40 or 50, or 100 acres by machinery, rejected it and restricted their labors to a tenth their area, they would both in 1868 and 1869, have had reasonable crops. I see no greater peril to the cotton crop of the South, than that the planters, taking Northern example for guide, will try to make their crops by machinery. Let me warn them in season, of the danger of too much reliance on machinery.—*Illinois Correspondent of Country Gentleman.*

The municipal and State authorities are after the lottery dealers in Philadelphia. Six dealers have been arrested and held to bail; one refused to give bail and was committed, and in his case habeas corpus will be invoked this week.

Young New York has had but a single day's skating this winter.

### Wormy Apples.

*Editors Country Gentleman*—As it is generally presumed that you should know everything—at least I should so suppose by the many questions and inquiries made by your readers—I will by your permission add one to that number. I have a young apple orchard which has been in bearing some four or five years; the soil on which it stands is a gravelly loam and very rich; consequently the trees are growing finely, and are generally heavily fruited. The apples, particularly the Baldwins, are almost universally wormy—seldom I find a perfect one. Can you, or some one of your readers, tell me the cause and a remedy?  
M. A. Great Barrington, Mass.

Doubtless the difficulty originates with the apple worm, the eggs being laid by a miller known as the Codling moth, at the blossom end, from which the larvæ pass to the core, causing the fruit to drop prematurely if the mischief is done early, and making wormy and defective fruit if the apples hang till the usual period for gathering. This insect is a formidable enemy to the apple, probably more so than all others put together, as it nearly destroys the market value of much fruit, and badly injures it for home consumption. It is the more formidable because no satisfactory, efficient and well established remedy has yet been devised. The numbers of the insects may however be greatly reduced by allowing herds of swine, and if these are not numerous enough, herds of sheep, to run in the orchard while the fruit is growing and the affected portion of the crop is dropping from the tree.—The animals pick up and devour the worms in the young fruit, and lessen their numbers. Sheep are not apt to gnaw the bark in the growing season, but if there is danger, rub the bark of each tree with a piece of fresh liver from the butcher's, and they will not touch it for weeks. When the affected fruit falls to the ground, the worms escape, and many crawl up the trunk, and hide in the rough bark to pass the cocoon state, preparatory to emerging as the perfect miller. Dr. Trimble has adopted the remedy of winding hay ropes two or three times around each tree, under which the worms crawl and form cocoons, and where they may be destroyed every two weeks or so, before they escape in the winged form. Dr. Trimble has shown us trees where he had destroyed from 50 to 100 on a single trunk, but we are unable to show what proportion these were to the entire brood. We are inclined to look to the remedy of swine and sheep as most efficient, and to regard Dr. Trimble's remedy as a useful auxiliary.—*Country Gentleman.*

### Carrots for Stock.

It is very little trouble to raise root crops of any kind, and particularly so with the carrot. All the attention necessary upon a quarter of an acre can be given for "noon-spells," or in rainy half days, and between times of other work, and thus cost the farmer comparatively nothing until they are ready to pull, and fit for use. This should be done before the frost disturbs them much. Sow your seed in drills about fifteen inches apart, and then thin to four or six inches, as you choose. The seed should be placed in the ground about the first of June, or earlier. The ground should be made as mellow as time and convenience will allow. The more attention you pay to having your soil in good order to receive the seed, the surer you are of a good crop. Cover your seed with the earth very lightly. A brush dragged across the drills will cover them sufficiently. Make your rows straight, to admit of easy culture.

Now, brother farmers, if you have a spare piece of ground, (and if not, make some vacant,) plant enough carrots to feed your stock, and if you have not cattle to feed, give them to your horses or to your sheep; they will answer them equally as well, and if you are not satisfied with the result arising therefrom, then it will be time for you to object.—J. W. L., in *Rural American*.

### The Poultry Yard.

#### The Brahmas.

A correspondent desires us to say something more of the Brahma fowls. We gave a pretty full account of the origin and history of this breed in the *Ploughman* three or four years ago and presented some original information upon them, which we supposed would be appreciated and remembered as throwing some light upon the breed, which may be regarded as the only valuable contribution made to our list of breeds as the result of the "hen fever" which raged with so much virulence, fifteen or twenty years ago.

The Brahmas or "Botherum Pootrums" are a New England production in every sense of the word, although they now possess a reputation not only in this country but in England and on the continent. They are recognised in all the authoritative works upon poultry as among the best of fowls of Asiatic origin, and take them all in all, we don't know as we could select a breed which united more good qualities.

The Brahmas are, as a rule, very excellent winter layers. Perhaps the present winter may be regarded as an exception, as we know of many flocks that are not laying up to their acknowledged winter capacity. We think however that we can ascribe this to bad fall management. The Brahmas are inclined to run to fat especially if too highly fed on corn or other too fattening food along in the fall. The difficulty is probably to be traced to that. Perhaps there is no breed that has a greater tendency to the accumulation of internal abdominal fat than the Brahmas, and the result is sometimes to cause them to "go down behind," as it is called, to a greater extent than some other breeds, and this is apt to lead to irregularity in the egg organs.

We must consider the Brahmas as a well fixed breed. They come as true to their well marked characteristics as most other breeds, that is with judicious care in selection and breeding.

When we consider that the profitable time to produce eggs for the market is from November to April, and that no breed surpasses the Brahmas as winter layers, in connection with their other excellent qualities, good temper, good size, early maturity as spring chickens, and quiet habits, we should hardly know where to look for their superiors. Perhaps the white Leghorns would produce more eggs taking the year through, and if we did not breed Brahmas, we should probably take to the Leghorns, but in other respects the Brahmas are quite equal.

The comb is not an imperative point in the Brahmas, though we prefer the double or pea comb, which is rather singular in appearance, thick at the base, and like three combs joined in one, the centre one higher than the others, but it must be a low comb rounded at the top, and the indentations must not be deep. The legs should be short and wide apart. This is an important point as it adds greatly to their beauty, and in both cock and hen the outer toes should be shorter than the others and feathered to the point. The beak is yellow.

A cross of the Crevecoeur on the Brahma is excellent, the chickens coming forward early and attaining to a large size. The Dorking and the Brahma makes a good cross. Except for the production of chickens for the market merely, we prefer to keep the breeds pure, however, as all the economic objects of poultry may be obtained equally well with some one pure breed, and there is greater satisfaction derived from them.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Last week somebody in Cleveland, Ohio, sent Gen. Grant a black spaniel, which the President declined, saying that he did not keep dogs. There were \$10 express charges on the animal.

The druggists of Newark, N. J., propose a law regulating the sale of poisons.

### Agricultural.

#### Agricultural Papers, &c.

*Editor of the Eagle*—In a communication in your paper of the 13th inst., I proposed to take up the subject of our country agricultural interests. I am collecting some statistics as to the capacity, and the different products that could be realized with the greatest profits, which will appear hereafter. In this I wish to speak of some of the measures that will create the greatest interest with the farmers in their improvements in our County Husbandry. One that I have constantly urged in our agricultural meetings was that every member of our society should take one or more agricultural papers, and use their influence to induce every tiller of the soil to become a member of our society, and either on a large or small scale to do likewise. If we can succeed in this to any valuable extent we shall soon see a grand and successful and profitable change in all our farming operations. It does not seem to require any ingenuity or argument to convince every one of the advantage of such information, as will constantly advance their material interests and add to the comfort of all their domestic affairs withal. It is essential in any farmer to be ignorant on