

The Greensboro Patriot

GREENSBORO, N. C., JUNE 30, 1885.

JOHN B. HUNSEY, Editor and Prop'r.

HOME AND FARM.

(See Communications for this Department of the PATRIOT are earnestly solicited. Write plain, on one side of the paper, and the communication will be put in shape for publication.—Ed. PATRIOT.)

Agricultural Items.

For sowing fodder corn the drill should be used.

Elm is a very tough wood and useful for barn floors.

The grasses number 6000 and more.

Wheat, a native calla lily.

Cheap American wheat has reduced rent rolls in England.

Many farmers in Kentucky are planting tobacco land to corn.

Morgan blood in horses is still in demand by New York breeders.

There is a certain profit in renting good land but not in poor land.

Oats and peas cut green are said to make a splendid crop for ensilage.

A new chrysanthemum is represented as being over nine inches in diameter.

There is a great advantage in deep soil for growing fruits and vegetables.

Keep a record of all events on the farm and try to improve methods always.

One or two quarts of meal will do cows great benefit given night and morning.

Co-operation in farming operation is gaining in favor and proving beneficial.

The average Kansas farm is said not to pay two per cent, on a low valuation.

A few seasons' cultivation with hood crops will make any land reasonably clean.

Cows exposed to severe storms give milk less in quantity and thin and poor in quality.

Dead limbs on trees should be promptly removed or further decay or damage will ensue.

Light crops oftentimes bring as much return to the farmers owing to the increase in price.

An apple tree in West Bath, Me., has yielded 25 bushels of apples every year for thirty years.

In soils deficient in vegetable matter phosphate often becomes insoluble before it can do any good.

Fowls should be given as much free range as possible in the summer. They will destroy many insects.

A very small plantation of locust trees set closely together will soon give an adequate supply of hop poles.

For stone fruits potash is absolutely necessary in the soil. Apply liberally wood ashes or muriate of potash.

Heavy rains when fruit trees are in blossom wash the pollen off and prevent in a measure, proper setting of the fruit.

Low tops on fruit trees are convenient for gathering fruit; no fruit trees should be allowed to grow like hop poles.

The indications are that the peach crop this season will be the largest for ten years on the Delaware peninsula.

Some regulations concerning the size and dimensions of fruit packages should be made and strictly adhered to.

In potato growth, the roots start from the base of the eye and need firmer soil than is usually scraped over them.

In setting out bedding plants care should be taken so that the taller plants do not overshadow the lower smaller plants.

Wheat is not adapted to feeding whole except to poultry as its skin is very tough and the berry passes through undigested.

The use of paper bags in grape culture is a great advance in grading, especially when the sun's rays are extremely powerful.

The green growth on the surface of the soil of pot plants is an alga and should be scraped away and the surface soil loosened.

A Marechal Niel rose tree at the new gardens in Whitby, England, is 20 years old and has 3000 buds on it this present season.

A serious loss occurs when fertilizers are not evenly distributed as the crop will run unequally and be poor in quality and quantity.

The horse's stomach is relatively smaller than that of any other domestic animal, so he needs to be fed a little at a time and often.

Cotton planting in the South has been retarded somewhat by the weather, but not sufficiently to appreciably injure the prospects of the crop.

One of the peculiarities of the Hessian fly is its inability to sustain long flight, which prevents them from spreading quickly over a large area.

The grass which grows on dry, rich soil with free sunlight warming it, is much more nutritious than that grown on land filled with stagnant water.

The corn crop in the Mississippi and Missouri valley has all been planted. The Michigan wheat crop promises to equal the heaviest yield in that State.

Mowing fields that do not yield a profit can be ploughed after the crop is taken off and reseeded in August or sown next month with Hungarian grass or millet.

The depth to which soil land may be most profitably ploughed depends greatly on the character of the grasses and somewhat on the time when ploughing is done.

There are sixteen species of trees in the United States whose perfectly dry wood sinks in water. They nearly all grow in Florida or the arid interior of the Pacific.

The common willow is a rapid grower but should never be planted

About the Crops.

(Raleigh Observer.)

Most people who raised clover this season have been successful with it. Capt. B. P. Williamson has harvested from twenty acres thirty tons of fine clover which has cured beautifully. This was in addition to what he had fed green to his stock. Mr. W. C. Stronach says he got two tons of an acre from his clover fields. Maj. John Galling, a reporter was told, lost most of the clover on twenty-five acres, by decay after cutting. He had some fine fields.

Mr. W. G. Upchurch says his crop of wheat will be a fair one. To-morrow he will put in a binder and begin the harvest. The average last year was 153 bushels to the acre; this year he thinks the average will be about 15. This is a poor crop for him. He reports his winter-sown oats as poor, but the spring sown as looking very well.

Capt. B. P. Williamson says he sowed winter oats in the spring and that they look remarkably well.

Farmers say that cotton is now beginning to get healthy and strong. It is, however, fully ten days behind last year.

Mr. W. A. Slater says that at the Oaks plantation (operated by the State) the 100 acres in tobacco present a grand appearance. The plants are vigorous and the field is a rich green. Yesterday the replanting was completed. The stand is a good one. Some of the plants measure thirty inches across. The crop may be said to be looking extremely well. One of the men at the farm made a trip to Person county, and says the plants here are fully twice as large as there, and look more vigorous.

The Pear.

(Orange County Farmer.)

While the pear is apparently widely different from the apple, the skillful botanist find but few points of difference, it being so closely related. It belongs to the tribe pomace rosacea or rose family and evolutionists tell us that it, the apple and numerous other fruits are descendants of the common wild rose. The pear is a native of the Caucasus and was known in very early times. In Pliny's day the first century of the Christian era, there were numerous varieties, but they must have been of very inferior quality, for that writer speaks of them as follows: "All pears whatsoever are but a heavy meat unless well boiled or baked." It is only within the last two hundred years that we have any intimations that they had much improved. Philip Miller, who died in 1771 enumerated 250 varieties, about 75 of which he rated as being select. At the present time there are, according to some of the best authorities, not less than 3,000 known varieties. In Downing's book he describes over 1,000 varieties. The list of the American Pomological Society, which contains only reliable and standard sorts of qualities ranging from good to best, comprises over 100 kinds.

Van Mons, of Belgium, in his efforts to improve the pear raised about 80,000 seedlings, but the fact still remains that most of the best varieties are chance seedlings, such as the Seckel. The pear is a long lived tree and cases have been known where it lived and bore crops until it had passed the age of 200 years.

Ideal Tea.

(Wong Chin Fook in the Cook.)

Use a china or porcelain pot. If you do use metal let it be tin, new, bright and clean; never use it when the tin is worn out and the iron exposed. If you do you are playing chemist and forming a tannate or tea-tea of iron.

Use black tea. Green tea when good is kept at home. What goes abroad is bad, very bad and horrible. Besides containing the 203 adulterations the Chinese philanthropist puts up for the outside barbarian, it is always pervaded by copper dust from the dirty crimping of the growers.

Infuse your tea. Don't boil it! Place one teaspoonful of tea in the pot and pour over it one and a half cups of boiling water, that is, water really boiling. If your tea is poor, use more. It is cheaper, though, to buy good tea at the outset. Put your pot on the back part of the stove, carefully covered, so that it shall not lose its heat and the tea its bouquet. Let it remain there five minutes. Then drink it.

Drink your tea plain. Don't add milk nor sugar. Tea-brokers and tea-tasters never do; epicures never do; the Chinese never do. Milk contains fibrin, albumen and some other such stuff, and the tea a delicate amount of tannin. Mixing the two makes the liquid turbid. This turbidity, if I remember the cyclopaedia aright, is tannate of fibrin, or leather. People who put milk in tea are therefore drinking boots and shoes in mild disguise.

Improvement in Poultry.

(Orange County Farmer.)

Nearly all the ordinary breeds of American poultry existing in this country a quarter of a century ago, says an exchange, have wondrously "improved" in shape, size and weight for age, comeliness, thriftiness and in egg-producing capacity, within that period; and this alone through the manipulation and care exercised in crossing the old stock with the new or modern importations by our farmers, poultrymen and American fanciers. So much for the fancier's labors. The low qualities of our barnyard fowls, crossed with these breeds within the past score of years, have been eminently improved. The average size of the present "dunghill" birds in farmer's yards in the country, east, west or south, shows how this point has been effected. These "naturally" indifferent layers hitherto have now come to be largely improved, too, in this respect. And wherever we turn, or whatever portion of the country we visit, we may find the stamp of the imported "fancy" fowls grafted upon our formerly insignificant puny, measly, ill-shaped stock, that was so commonly seen around the door yards of farmer and country residents twenty five years ago.

Skill in Breeding Horses.

(Live Stock Journal.)

Without having had the advantages of study and careful research, no man can safely set himself up as a judge or critic of the merits of a horse to be used as a sire.

Successful horse breeding has now reached a point of intricacy where really professional skill must determine the merits of an animal and his potential powers in the stud; then, too, the lines of breeding are becoming so clearly marked between the draft horse, the race horse, the carriage horse, that a breeder must concentrate his work in the direction of specialties. It is no longer true, as it was even twenty-five years ago, that indiscriminate copulation will prove in any form lucrative. Competition has made this impossible. To day, the critic and judge in matters of horse breeding is something more than a mere country horse trader—he is a man of deep reading and experience—competence with him means skill drawn from scientific research and observation.

Tobacco Items.

—Tobacco is looking well throughout the State.

—Wake county will plant this season 6,000 acres in tobacco; ten times as much as last year.

—Between May 11 and May 16 there were sold in Winston and Salem no fewer than 1,174,000 pounds of tobacco fertilizers.

—W. W. Doub, of Forsyth county, cut and cured plants from 12,000 hills of tobacco (less than three acres) and sold the same at Piedmont Warehouse, Winston, N. C., for \$671.56.

—Messrs. Williamson and Smith, leaf tobacco dealers of Winston, shipped last Saturday to various parts of the United States, 60 hogsheads of tobacco approximating about 75,000 pounds.

Notes.

—The home consumption of beef argues that our farmers should devote more time and labor to the cultivation of grass and stock raising, to which the lands are so well adapted.

The dairy products of this country exceed the oat crop \$350,000,000, the wheat crop \$100,000,000, the cotton crop, \$220,000,000, the product of iron bars and steel \$257,000,000, and the pig iron output \$419,000,000.

—Mrs. C. L. S. Corpening, of Marion, N. C., has recently received from Ohio four Jersey cattle that cost her \$1,000. She has now 26 head of Jerseys, all registered, and has been offered as much as \$1,000 for one of them.

A correspondent of the Farm, Stock and Home says that he has discovered a secret in butter making, which is to keep the water in which the milk is placed cold with ice, and that a large amount of cream is lost by not keeping the water cold enough. The more degrees of temperature one can carry the milk without freezing the more cream. Any one who will do so can always sell butter on its merits, and it will be better than the best creamery butter.

A decidedly interesting importation of horses has been imported by Mr. J. B. Haggin, a millionaire miner, and breeder and racer of horses. He needs a new stallion, and his trainer's choice appears to have settled on Commotion, an Australian horse, the winner of a three mile race in 5:26, with 126 pounds up—an unparalleled performance. He is by Pauc, an English sire. It will seem odd to Englishmen that this country should send to Australia for running horses.

It is perfectly alarming to note the growing tendency among the farmers in this State toward the policy which has brought wreck and ruin to the farmers in the east and reduced many of those in South Carolina to beggary. We allude, of course, to the system of buying corn, meat and flour, giving mortgages on all they have to secure payment in the fall, and paying heavy interest on the notes. We tell our farmers solemnly that they are inviting certain disaster when they go into this sort of business.

Greedy Dogs.

(Asheville Citizen.)

The ambition or the languery of dogs about here has inspired them to strike for higher game than sheep, and lately they have levied contribution on calves, or even grown cattle. Mr. Hildebrand who lives over the mountain in the valley of Shelton's Creek, has been the victim of such depredations, and determined to find out who were the marauders. Yesterday, in the remains of an unconscious calf left over after a night's meal, he placed a liberal quantity of strychnine. This morning he had the satisfaction to find that the feast had been renewed and that the revellers were still on the spot, but dead, all sorts and conditions of dogs, to the number of about twenty. In this case poison reached only those to which it was applied, the thieves, the vicious class, the very ones it is desirable to embrace in the provisions of a dog law.

Rapid Growth of a Territorial Town.

On the first day of January, 1885, there was only one building on the site of North Yakima, Washington Territory. There are now between 1,000 and 1,200 people and 243 dwellings and business houses. There are under construction 14 pretentious buildings, including six two-story structures. Roads have been built in all directions radiating from the place; 20 miles of irrigating trenches dug to supply the town with water; 4,000 shade trees planted; three miles of sidewalk laid; street lamps erected on all the principal business avenues, and with all this work the town has no charter and no government other than a provisional one.

The rector of an Episcopal church at Kansas City, Mo., is charged with having served a term in a penitentiary for burglary.

Clover seed germinates very slowly.

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