

# THE WEEKLY UNION TIMES.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic Economy, and the General Interests of the People.

VOL. IX.—NEW SERIES.

UNION C. H., SOUTH CAROLINA, JANUARY 18, 1878.

NUMBER 3.

## VETERINARY ADVICE.

**Foundered Horses.**—A horse badly foundered, could scarcely walk for two weeks, but has largely improved without treatment by going barefooted in wet slough.—W. D.

Keep him unshod, but cut off any undue length of toe, let him walk mainly on his heel. Apply the following around the top of the hoof and for two inches upward:—Powdered cantharides, 1 dr.; camphor, 10 grains; alcohol, 3 oz. Rub this well in, and repeat it daily until the skin gets tender and scabs form. Suspend until the scabs fall off and then reapply the liniment.—Keep the horse as much as possible in the slough, or if this cannot be done, steep the feet occasionally for an hour in a time in tepid water and then smear them—wall, sole and frog—with the following: Wood tar, 6 oz.; yellow wax, 1 oz.; nutton fat 6 oz.; melt over a slow fire, and stir well while cooling. Overloading of the stomach is the most common cause of founder in localities where hard work and liberal feeding is the rule.

**Lost appetite.**—A mare since an attack of colic has proved dumpy and refused to eat more than half feeds of grain, when kept at work eats rather better than when idle, and takes grass and hay very well.—I. H. M.

The colic has evidently partaken of the nature of inflammation and has left effects which may or may not be remediable. In such cases fibrous bands are sometimes formed, which hamper the movements of the bowels, impair digestion, and predispose to future attacks of colic. These cannot be remedied. In other cases the lining membrane of the bowels, and even of the stomach becomes the seat of a chronic catarrhal inflammation which greatly impairs digestion and causes loss of appetite and condition. In this state the dung is likely to be passed in a partially digested state, and perhaps with an occasional film of mucus, and sourish odor. Feed mainly grass with ground oats, a handful of linseed cake daily, and carrots and turnips if available.—Give daily two drachms ground gentian; one drachm cascarrilla; ten grains nux vomica, and one drachm white bismuth. Place a piece of salt in the manger to be licked at will, and give regular exercise and good grooming. If the dung smells sour add one ounce calcined magnesias daily to the food.

**SCRATCHES OR GREASE.**—The causes of scratches are all agencies that induce irritation in the skin of the heels and pastern; standing in wet straw-yards, among decomposed manure or its liquid drainings; standing with wet, muddy limbs after work; standing in snow or snow water; currents of cold air striking on the heels; irritant ammonia fumes from decomposing dung or urine; washing the heels with caustic soap; the irritation caused by parasites on the heels; working on roads where the limbs sink in deep mud, or spatter it over them; the irritation caused by the short, bristly hair after the heels have been clipped; swelled legs, caused by long standing in deep litter; by weakness of the circulation, diseased heart, liver, or kidneys, or by sprains or other injuries to the limbs; irritation of the skin in connection with heating food and lack of exercise; and finally some unknown and constitutional tendency may all in different cases become causes of scratches.

In seeking a cure, the first thing is to ascertain the active cause of the disease and remove it. In the great majority of cases this will be a local irritant; but whatever it is, its discovery and abatement is essential to a permanent cure. Next attention must be given to soothe the irritated skin; and when there is much heat and tenderness, a poultice may be necessary. A linseed meal poultice, with a weak solution of sugar of lead poured over its surface, will be as good as any. When heat and tenderness have been subdued, any free discharge (grease) may be checked by wrapping in cloths, wet with a solution of sulphate of zinc, half a drachm of chloral-hydrate, and five ounces of glycerine, in a quart of water. When the discharge has ceased, and there remains but the somewhat raw, scabby eruption, smear daily with bruzeated oxide of zinc ointment.—N. J. Tribune.

**THE CHUFA, OR EARTH ALMOND.**—The cultivation of this plant, known botanically as the *Cyperus esculentus*, is of some interest to our readers. Its introduction is of recent date and the general report of those who have planted seed during the past year is very favorable. The chufa is undoubtedly adapted to our latitude and climate. It is very prolific, so much so, that several bushels can be raised from a small quantity of seed. The cultivation, we are informed, is not more expensive than that of peanuts. The tubers are very pleasant to the taste and are recommended by those familiar with the subject, as an excellent crop for hogs.

Small quantities of seed have been distributed by the Agricultural Bureau at Washington. One of our subscribers in Robeson county, who has experimented during the past year thinks that with proper cultivation, and with comparatively small expense he can raise 100 bushels per acre.

We advise our readers to plant seed of the "earth almond" during the present year.

## THE FUTURE OF COTTON IN THE CAROLINAS.

The cultivation of cotton in the Carolinas for several years past has been attended with little profit. Instances may be cited where individuals have been successful, but these instances are rare. Generally the cultivation has been carried on under a high pressure system by use of expensive fertilizers and by perilling the landed and personal property of the farmer. Too little attention has been paid to the permanent improvement of the soil. The natural consequence is that the soil is becoming exhausted by this expensive and hazardous tillage. A disastrous crop year brings ruin to thousands of farmers. Credit has become so impaired in farming communities that those farmers who have accumulated money, deposit it in banks where the use of it is enjoyed almost exclusively by merchants. The only way in which farmers are benefited by the capital of the country is in supplies advanced by their factors at high rates of interest. Homesteads and personally exemptions have rendered necessary the enactment of laws for the protection of factors who make advances. The credit of the farmer who mortgages his crop is necessarily confined to his factor. Credit, even with the protection of a crop lien, is generally hazardous, and the rate of interest charged is necessarily high. We venture the opinion that nine-tenths of the farmers are opposed to paying more than 8 per cent. for the loan of money. It is among this class that usury laws find their sturdiest defenders, yet farmers unhesitatingly contract debts for supplies at higher rates of interest than are paid by any other class of people. The farmer, perhaps unwittingly, pays from 20 to 25 per cent. for credit on advances made on his crop, while he would refuse to pay more than 8 per cent. for loan of money.

By our expensive system of cultivating cotton our farming communities are yearly depleted of capital which is seeking a safe investment elsewhere. Farmers are in debt. Judgments, mortgages and crop liens are hanging threateningly over them. Instances where individuals have grown suddenly rich afford no evidence of general prosperity. Under the present system cotton does not pay. While prices ruled high, its cultivation was a great success. Nothing short of desperation is it to persist in any business where experience tells of loss. Unless we immediately adopt a line of policy in this matter, necessity will drive the cultivation of cotton to sections where it more naturally belongs. If the farmers of the Carolinas will realize and practice the necessity of raising their own supplies, then we believe cotton culture will be a blessing; otherwise it will continue to be a hazardous business and fraught with ruin to thousands of our citizens. The cry so frequently heard of paying too high for labor is perhaps true, but the main trouble consists in paying too high for credit. Labor is as cheap to-day in the Carolinas as in any portion of the South, while the rate of interest charged, and perhaps necessarily so, is higher than that paid in any other part of the world. Unless we cultivate our own breadstuffs, and adopt a better and less expensive system of tillage, the future of cotton in the Carolinas is not encouraging.—Carolina Farmer.

**PHOSPHATE FLOUR AND GERMAN KAINIT.**—Week before last we suggested to farmers the economy of using the Phosphate Flour, German Kainit and Land Plaster, in compost, instead of buying the more costly Super-Phosphates. The following, from the Anderson Intelligencer, furnishes further information on this subject:

"Farmers, now is the time to prepare to make up your compost heaps. A Georgia farmer says: 'Do not waste your cotton seed by putting it upon your land in a raw state, when, by composting it with stable manure, phosphate flour and a small amount of German kainit, one pound will go as far as ten pounds applied in a green state.' The phosphate flour can be obtained from the manufactory in Charleston at about \$16.50 per ton, and is the basis of nearly all the super-phosphates now sold as fertilizers, and is superior to the acid phosphate, and not near so costly. A few farmers in this County ordered a car load last spring for composting, and are well pleased with the experiment, and expect to try it again, when they will have a longer time for the compost heap to mature itself. One ton of phosphate flour, one ton cotton seed and one ton stable manure, with two hundred pounds of German kainit, properly composted, will make three tons of fertilizer at a cost of \$12 per ton not inferior to that which costs you \$10 per ton at the factory."

**TO BANISH RATS.**—Rats can be banished by covering the floor near the rat hole with a thin layer of moist caustic potash. When the rats walk on this it makes their feet sore. These they lick with their tongues, which makes their mouths sore, and the result is that they not only shun this locality, but appear to tell all the neighboring rats about it, and eventually the house is entirely abandoned by them.

**WOMAN'S WIFE.**—See here, wife, you indulge that boy too much. He's a perfect mule. "Oh, husband, please don't accuse our poor boy of having an ass for a father." The old gentleman was silent.

## THE TEA PLANT.

The United States Commissioner of Agriculture, General Le Duc, is alive to the fact that farmers are not careful, thoughtful and methodical enough, and rely too much upon the habits and manners that have come down perhaps from a long line of ancestors. He knows they too frequently fail to calculate the cost of growing a crop, and perhaps never know till the end of the year whether a crop has or has not any net money in it. He is therefore particularly anxious to test a variety of vegetables and plants in different latitudes, and learn whether or not they would not be more profitable as crops than those now cultivated.

Introduce the tea plant into South Carolina, and think that if our people are really as poor as they say they are, the tea plant might supplant many of the roses and evergreens seen in the front of most of our dwellings; for while these latter simply please the eye or refresh the olfactory, the former, if cultivated properly, would be made to help the pocket.

No one receives material payment for cultivating flowers, and it is quite an expense and labor; and hence all over South Carolina those grand and beautiful old flower gardens, which were so handsome in ante-bellum times, are now frequently given up to weeds and briars.

It would not be so with the tea plant; for after a year or two, it would become a source of profit, and this profit would increase annually.

At present the United States are importing annually several millions of dollars' worth of Chinese teas, and they are all, more or less, so medicated that, 'tis said, the original grower could scarcely recognize the beverage if he were to quaff it in America. If South Carolina were half as devoted to tea culture as she is to the culture and improvement of cotton, there could be millions of dollars worth of tea grown and sold in this State annually; and that, too, by the intelligent, industrious, lovely South Carolina women. Only think what we are losing by our ignorance.

General Le Duc has received valuable information upon this subject from Mr. James Edward Calhoun, of Abbeville county, S. C., who for years has grown the tea plant, and drunk it pure and unadulterated. Mr. Calhoun writes him the fruit of the tea plant is a capsule, the hull of which has many of the same properties as the tea plant.

About two thousand plants have this fall been sent into South Carolina by the Commissioner, and it is about all he had. He is preparing to have a million plants ready by next fall, and if the parties to whom he has sent these plants in South Carolina will aid him in his efforts, and report, as promised, their success with the plants given them, he anticipates that in a few years he will be able to have the tea prepared for market, with much profit, in several portions of the State. His idea is to induce the cultivation of the plant at many points and when the area becomes large enough, then to establish in some central point, perhaps Columbia, the manufactory of the merchantable article.

We sincerely hope the parties to whom these plants have been sent will bestow more than ordinary care upon them, and at the proper time report their success to the department.

General Le Duc is also very anxious to subject the sweet potato (yam) to chemical analysis, with a view to test whether or not it would be a profitable business to engage in the manufacture of sugar from the yam. Millions of dollars' worth of sugar are made annually by the French and by the Canadians on this side of the Atlantic, from the beet, and if the palate is qualified to judge it can bear testimony to the superior sweetness of the yam over the beet. We have written to a friend to send a few yams to the department, and we will watch with much interest the result of this analysis, and report it.

There is now a... upon sugar, and every lump... the parent more than it... the necessity and advisability of just such experiments as are proposed to be made at the department. The object is to learn if we cannot manufacture sugar to export, and prevent the necessity of any importation. Let us hold up the Commissioner's hand in his efforts.

**NEURALGIA AND RHEUMATISM.**—A very simple relief for neuralgia is to boil a small handful of lobelia in half a pint of water till the strength is out of the herb, then strain it off and add a teaspoonful of fine salt. Wring cloths out of the liquid as hot as possible and spread over the part affected. It acts like a charm. Change the cloths as soon as cold till the pain is all gone; then cover the place with a soft, dry covering till all perspiration is dried, so as to prevent taking cold. Rheumatism can often be relieved by application to the painful parts of cloths wet in a weak solution of sal-soda in water. If there is inflammation in the joints, the cure is very quick; the wash needs to be lukewarm.—Country Gentleman.

## HOW FARMERS SHOULD EDUCATE THEIR SONS.

The general practice in the South among farmers is to give their sons a classical education, fitting them for the professions of law, medicine and divinity, to the neglect of the practical sciences. The natural consequence is that the land is filled with poorly paid doctors and preachers, and second rate lawyers. The farmers' interests of the country are confided generally to those whose education has been neglected. The tendency of this pernicious system is to create among the educated youth of the land a contempt for any business that requires manual labor to sustain it. Instances are rare where young men adopt mechan-

While our country is sadly in need of skilled labor, our schools are turning out annually fresh supplies of professional men who expect to live upon the labor of others. What the South needs is a change, a thorough, radical change, in her educational system. We need mechanics, miners, engineers and educated farmers.

Our country needs development, but this development will never be attained by confining the attention of young men to the study of classical literature, to the neglect of mathematics and natural science. The educated Carolinian frequently knows more of Horace's Art of Poetry than of guiding the plough or harvesting a crop. He is better acquainted with the Sabine form of the heathen poet than with that of his father who has by a life of toil accumulated means to educate him. We do not decry a study of the dead languages, but we decry the practice of giving an ornamental education the preference over that which so nearly concerns the prosperity of our country. Life is too short to attempt to teach a man everything. Practical education is what we need. This is what the South needed before the late war and what she needs now. The want of skilled labor is not owing to a want of intellect among our people. It is due to that pernicious system of education which allures the young from the plow, the loom and the workshop, to the already crowded fields of professional life.—Carolina Farmer.

## MAXIMS ON THE HORSE.

1. Let your colt be domesticated and live with you from his tenderest age, and, when a horse he will be simple, docile, faithful, and inured to hardships and fatigue.

2. Do not get angry with them, but kindly reprove their faults; they will do better thereafter, for they understand the language of man and its meaning.

3. If you have a long day's journey before you, spare your horse at the start; let him frequently walk to recover his wind.—Continue this until he has sweated and dried three times, and you may ask of him whatever you please, he will not leave you in difficulty.

4. Observe your horse when he is drinking at a brook. If in bringing down his head he remains square, without bending his limbs, he possesses sterling qualities, and all parts of his body are built symmetrically.

5. Four things he must have broad—front, chest, loins and limbs; four things long—neck, fore-arm and croup; four things short—pasterns, back, ears and tail.—Tribune.

**POSTAL REGULATIONS.**—It is the duty of postmasters at other than letter carrier offices to distribute local newspapers from the boxes or general delivery of their offices free of postage, when the same are properly dried, folded and addressed, one copy to each actual subscriber residing in the county where the papers are printed, in whole or in part, and published. Subscribers to such papers are not required to rent post office boxes in order to have their papers delivered free of postage when called for.

Postmasters are required to be always in readiness, in person or by their assistants, to receive the mail when it arrives, and when the mail stops over night where there is a post office it must be kept in the office.

Letters having one full rate—three cents prepaid thereon—must be forwarded in the mails. Should they weigh more than one-half ounce the additional amount due for postage should be rated up thereon, to be collected on delivery. The postage on second and third class matter must be prepaid in full, or not to be forwarded.

Mail contractors must pay the postage on their communications to postmasters and the department with the ordinary stamps, the same as private individuals.

**DIPHTHERIA.**—We feel it our duty to give a recipe for the cure of diphtheria, which we know from personal knowledge has cured several severe cases. It is simply to put some pure tar on a plate and apply hot coals to it, not hot enough, however, to create a blaze. Then place a funnel upside down over the tar and let the patient inhale the fumes arising from the burning tar through the spout of the funnel. It will give instant relief, and may be repeated as often as may be necessary. Tar spread on a piece of cloth and applied to the throat in connection with the inhaling process is also good, much better than old fitch and liniments. It should not be removed until the throat is relieved of all soreness.

## THE CONFEDERATE GOLD.

WASHINGTON, January 6.—It appears that the claim made for the coin of the Richmond Banks covered into the treasury is now presented by Wm. A. Isaacs & Co., of Richmond, who in 1871 purchased the claim. The assets of the Bank of Virginia and the Farmers' Bank of Virginia were sold by order of the United States Court in 1871, and the coin and bullion covered into the treasury were considered as part of the assets. The history of this coin and bullion is quite interesting. On the day Richmond was evacuated by the Confederate forces the coin and bullion, amounting to about \$450,000, was loaded on one of the last trains to leave the city for Washington, D. C. From that place it was transported in wagons to the town of Washington, in Georgia.

In May, 1865, the banks obtained from General Patrick, then in command of the United States troops at Richmond, a permit to bring their property back. Several of the officers of the banks went to Washington and started back with their treasure. When about eighteen miles from Washington, it is stated, they were met by a roving band of ex-Confederate soldiers and relieved of \$250,000. The remaining \$200,000 was safely carried to Richmond and delivered to the banks. Of the stolen \$250,000 about \$100,000 was subsequently recovered and taken back to Washington, Ga. In July the agents of the banks made another attempt to remove this money, but General Wild, in charge of the freedmen's bureau, objected, and said he would take possession of it for the benefit of that institution.—They then appealed to General Steadman, in command of the department of Georgia, who overruled General Wild. By the advice of General Steadman it was then taken to Augusta as a safer place than Washington. General Wild, however, sent word to Secretary Stanton and others about it.—Just as the bank officers were starting from Augusta, with a permit from General Terry and a safe conduct from General Steadman, a special treasury agent arrived with orders from Mr. Stanton to transport the coin and bullion to this city, where it was placed as a special deposit in the treasury. The banks then made application here, and after a full consideration President Johnson, upon the advice of Attorney-General Speed, ordered the Secretary of the Treasury to turn it over to the... with this order, and went down to the capital personally and procured the passage of a joint resolution through both Houses, ordering the whole amount to be covered into the treasury. The resolution was referred to no committee, but passed both Houses the same day it was introduced. General Spinner then immediately sent the bullion to the mints to be coined, in order that all trace of its identity might be lost.—Balt. Sun.

**EFFECTS OF BREATHING FOUL AIR.**—The air we breathe, which a great English physician calls gaseous food, may become impure to the degree of being indigestible to our lungs and utterly unfit for the performance of functions which are quite as important as those of our solid and fluid vitals. Dull headaches, nausea, loss of appetite and of the sense of smell, and the sadness produced by the unsatisfied hunger of oxygen, are only incidental and secondary evils; the great principal cause of the troglodyte habit is its influence on the respiratory organs. In 1853, when Hanover and other parts of northern Germany were visited by a very malignant kind of small-pox, the great anatomist Liebig tried to discover "the peculiarity of organic structure which disposes one man to catch the disease while his neighbor escapes. I have cut up more human bodies than the Old Man of the Mountain with all his accomplices," he writes from Gottingen in his semi annual report, "and, speaking only of my primary object, I must confess that I am no wiser than before. But, though the mystery of small-pox has eluded my search, my labors have not been in vain; they have revealed to me something else—the origin of consumption. I am sure now of what I suspected long ago, viz, that pulmonary diseases have very little to do with intemperance or with erotic excesses, and much less with cold weather, but are nearly exclusively (if we except tuberculous tendencies inherited from both parents, I say quite exclusively) produced by the breathing of foul air. The lungs of all persons, minors included, who had worked for some years in close workshops and dusty factories, showed the germs of the fatal disease, while confirmed inebriates, who had passed their days in open air, had preserved their respiratory organs intact, whatever inroads their excesses had made on the rest of their system. If I should go into practice and undertake the cure of a consumptive, I should begin by driving him into the Deister (a densely wooded mountain range of Hanover) and prevent him from entering a house for a year or two."—Popular Science.

"Soak" is the only Japanese equivalent of "baptize," and the Japanese Bible consequently reads, according to a religious paper, the Alliance: "In those days came John, the soaker, preaching to soaking of repentance. Repent and be soaked, every one of you."

Clerk's office  
2783  
15-24  
4307