

Mr. Editors:—While the weather is so bad for work out doors by the Farmer, it is a good time for him to put on his cap and go to thinking. The farmers of our section are peculiarly situated—different from that of any other section of our country, in that we have the privilege of pursuing any of the various branches of farming, or diversifying it according to our environments.

As the season is at hand for us to settle our plans as to the crops we will raise this year, it would be well to look at the conditions that exist now, compared with that of one year ago.

I don't think I have ever seen a time, at least not since the war, when our rural population were in more independent circumstances, resulting from the abundance and cheapness of provisions, all through this section of our State. Corn can be bought cheaper in the country than in market, and no doubt will be shipped from our farms.

Bacon, alone, of the necessities of the Farmer, is very high and will continue so this year, as reports from the West show that hogs are very scarce, comparatively. Only 48 per cent of the usual amount is put up by the packers.

Our people have raised cotton since the war at better prices than it is likely to bring again, and when the sale was more productive than now, without any prosperity or material improvement in their condition.

They will require just such things as we ought to be able to furnish them, and will be in easy reach of our country in profitable sale for all our supplies.

Also the garden should be made a little larger and manured better, so as you will find a handsome profit from your vegetables if near a factory.

Then comes the dairy. To have milk and butter requires care and preparation. There is no better dairy country than this Pleasant section of South Carolina.

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The Weekly Union Times

R. M. STOKES, Editor

Friday, February 17, 1893.

Subscription, \$1.50 PER ANNUM

POST OFFICE DIRECTORY.

The P. O. will be opened for business from 9 A. M. to 6.00 P. M.

The Money Order Department will be opened for business from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Mail going South will close promptly at 11 A. M.

Mail going North will close promptly at 5.30 P. M.

The mail will be taken from the street box 15 minutes before closing each mail.

Any intimation or irregularities should be reported promptly to the P. M.

J. C. HUNTER, P. M.

The Editor's Poem.

Lives of poor men oft remind us, honest toil don't stand a chance; more we work we leave behind us bigger patches on our pants.

Rev. J. H. Yarborough will preach in the Baptist Church at this place on Sunday evening the 19th, at 7 1/2 o'clock.

Mr. W. S. Smith, our efficient operator, and family, who have been boarding at Mrs. Whiteside's, have moved into the Whitlock house on Church street.

The Pension Board will meet next Monday, 20th. All parties having business with the Board are requested to meet them on that day.

From all we can learn from the farmers, we do not think the oat crop has been much, if any, injured by the severe long continued frosts. They are showing fine now.

We learn that our young friend and former sprightly "local," E. C. Fant, has taken a position as night clerk at the Battery Park Hotel, at Asheville.

Our enterprising old friend, Mr. Jas. Grant set the building ball in motion by clearing off his old brick yard and preparing to make brick.

Rain! Rain! Rain! has "put a damper" on everything and everybody.

All the water courses are away out of their banks. All the fords are impassable, and it is getting a little ticklish to cross some of the bridges.

As to farm work, that is impossible, and the farmers are beginning to get restless under the prolonged wet spell, as it is delaying their work badly.

Just as we are going to press, we received the following telegram from Charleston, which is a terse synopsis of the decision in the railroad case:

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 16.—Sheriffs took \$1500 each, kept under arrest until paid. Treasurers dismissed.

A car load each of Shingles and Brick to be sold at once for CASH cheap.

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To the Teachers.

We again call your special attention to the contents of the column set apart for your special benefit. It is intended to make that column a means or source, by which Teachers may teach Teachers and assist each other in their work, for the public good.

For some weeks the Editor-in-chief provided all the matter for the column, without assistance from any one. It was a new duty suddenly imposed upon him, without preparation on his part, and without any resource but his own fertile brain from which to draw information to make it instructive and attractive.

We have a new and new cash store in Jonesville. R. W. Scott & Co. have bought out the stock of J. N. Lemaster and are conducting a business in the same house occupied by Mr. Lemaster.

Miss Carrie E. H. has taken a position in the High School here, as music teacher, and has a nice music class.

Mr. R. Whitlock lost a fine mule last Saturday morning with colic. Something unusual for a mule to die at all and more so for one to have the colic.

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The brain is the corporeal organ of the mind.

Correspondence of the Times. Matters and Things at Santos. Santos, Feb. 13.—The farmers hailed the warm weather two weeks ago with high hopes, and some began to prepare for sowing oats, but there was so much ice in the ground it was slow drying out, and the rain came before they had a chance to sow at all.

There is a quantity of fine land cleared throughout this section, and I understand that in several cases it is made more room for grain crop.

I hope there will not be an over-production of cotton this year. The cotton seed are going away so rapidly at the fancy prices, that if those reserved for planting are not perfectly sound and used with great economy, the cotton people will not be able to plant an extra large crop.

I am very glad to see Union county becoming so interested in cotton factories—home factories. I hope that all three of the proposed factories will be built in time to work up some of our this year's crop.

Your correspondent has been somewhat "under the weather" for a week or two, and did not feel like writing to the Times.

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Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Sims and family, is on a visit to W. C. E. Sims and family. E. W. J.

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Edward Parker Deason has been granted a divorce from his wife by the French courts.

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The Week's Doings in Jonesville. JONESVILLE, Feb. 14.—The weather, after many changes and three days of a most continuous rain, has settled down to a steady spring-like weather; but how long it will continue remains to be seen.

When will those people do who won't plant Irish potatoes any other time but in the full moon in February? We have no full moon in February this year. Perhaps they won't plant at all, but will wait another year.

A colored child, about five years old, was burned to death near Jonesville last Friday. Its mother left it and another child, still younger, in the house and went off visiting and it is supposed the child's clothes caught by playing in the fire. The door was fastened, but somehow or other in its agony it forced the door open and ran into the yard. No help came until the clothing was all burned off. Dr. Southard was called to attend it, but he could do nothing for it, except to administer some morphine. It died the same night. Emma Simmons was his mother. No inquest was held.

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TEACHERS' COLUMN.

JAS. L. STRAIN, Editor. Etta Jane, S. C. MRS. B. G. CLIFFORD, Assistant. L. W. DECK.

To the Teachers of Union County.

A part of this column, so generously placed at the disposal of the Teachers' Association by the Editor of the Times, can be set apart for queries and answers.

If there is any point upon which a teacher wishes information or assistance, let a question be sent to either of the persons whose names are placed at the head of this column, and it will be answered, or brought before the teachers for thoughtful consideration and discussion.

It is time for the Teachers of Union county to rouse up and take an interest in educational questions, and this column affords an excellent opportunity for pleasant and profitable interchange of ideas.

How to Make Geography Attractive. The following paper was read before the Teachers' Association at the November meeting, and it is published this week by special request.

I will give very briefly some of the methods which I employ to make the study of Geography attractive to the children, believing that any method that is interesting is a good one: If the method used does not interest the teacher, it is safe to infer it will not interest the pupil.

I must confess that there never was anything very attractive to me in the columns of "questions and answers" with which most Geographies are filled, varied principally by lists of map questions. Remembering the unattractiveness of this study, I have been led to adopt a plan, in following which the pupil is interested as well as instructed.

I first endeavor to show the pupils the difference between Physical and Political Geography, so that in the descriptions they are afterward required to give they may have clear ideas of the subject before them.

I then take up one continent at a time requiring of each pupil a written description of it, considered as a whole. This description includes its position, its relative size, its boundaries, and any other important features that will fix it on the pupils' minds.

At the same time each pupil brings me a map of the continent, which shall, as nearly as possible, correspond with the description given. This outline is referred to in the lessons that follow.

The next lessons are devoted to learning the divisions of the continent and their situations. Then, taking up each division, I require of each pupil a written description of it, as far as possible, in his own words; though a small amount of copying is not objected to, since it has been found that the mere act of copying serves to impress the facts on the memory.

Then the descriptions are brought together, and it is shown how they make up the map of the continent as a whole. Thus the subject is both analyzed and unified, and fixed upon the mind.

The extent of this sub-division is limited by the country under consideration: In our own continent it may come down to States and counties; in other continents less information is needed and there are few divisions.

In order to make the subject vivid, after a good general knowledge has been obtained, we have what we call "Our days of travel," on which we "visit" the cities of note in the countries which we have been studying. The children write as full a description as possible from any information they can get from books to which they may have access; frequently the teacher is able to add something of interest concerning the place which has escaped the pupils' notice, or of which they have never known.

Finally, before leaving the continent, we have what is called, "Our Topic Party," and in this the children take the greatest interest imaginable. The day before we are to have the "party" interesting questions concerning the lands about which we have been studying, are selected and written on slips of paper, which are numbered. These slips are distributed to the pupils, two being given to each of a class of eight. These are as many as can be discussed in the allotted time. A list of the questions, numbered in the same way as the slips, is kept, and the next day's lesson a number is called out by the teacher and the pupil with the corresponding number responds, by reading the question, and the answer, if she has succeeded in finding it. If she has no answer, it is submitted to the class, and if it still remains unanswered it gives the teacher an opportunity to talk on the subject, and to give such explanations as may be necessary. As an aid in selecting topics, I use "Hathaway's 1001 Questions and Answers on Geography," although I do not confine myself to any book in making these selections.

These are a few of the ways in which I endeavor to make this an interesting and inspiring study. Of course the exercises are varied frequently, but that must be left to each teacher. After all, I think it depends largely on the teacher. Even a poor method in the hands of a good teacher may become the source of much benefit to the pupils.

To Martha Luther more than any other man we owe the public school system of today.

The Reformation would not proceed without education among the masses. The personal religion preached by the Reformers required intelligence in the converts; therefore the Reformed Church at once established schools, and it also required and enforced the attendance of the children of its membership. Luther labored and wrote much in behalf of free public education.

His address to the German towns of 1524 contains among other things an unanswerable argument for compulsory education. He says: "If a State in time of war can oblige its citizens to take up the sword and the musket, has it not still more the power, and is it not its duty to compel them to instruct their children; since we are engaged in a more serious warfare, waged with the Spirit of Evil which rages in our midst, seeking to depopulate the State of its virtuous men? It is my desire above all things

For the Times.

Jonesville Literary Society.

JONESVILLE, Feb. 13.—Mrs. Stokes—I send you a few dollars from this bright little town, which is moving along, keeping step with the march of progress.

The Literary Society had a regular meeting on the night of the 10th. The school building was used as a hall. The house came to order at about seven. Mrs. Britton, Pres. in the chair, and our friend, J. N. Egan, acting as secretary. The exercises opened with music, then followed a recitation by Miss Florence McGowan, "Bingen on the Rhine," a very affecting address, into which the reciter seemed to fully enter.

The subject of the regular debate was: "Is woman suffrage advisable?" Hon. G. B. Eyster, Prof. E. B. Aycock and Mr. McWhirter in the affirmative. Rev. D. T. Lile, Messrs. F. B. O'Shields, and J. N. Egan on the negative. Only three of the speakers were present—the two first named gentlemen on the affirmative, and the one on the negative. All made excellent arguments and entertained their friends present in handsome style. The committee, who were young gentlemen, decided in favor of the affirmative. The negative does not think the verdict accords with the argument or question, but complimentary to the young ladies present.

Several new members were initiated and everything indicates permanency. They now have something over thirty members. Music, recitations and a discussion of the never old subject, "George Washington," was on the bulletin for the next meeting. Success to the new enterprise.

J. L. Walker, School Commissioner, visited our town and especially the school a few days ago.

A PARLIMENT ANSWER.—The Columbia Register on the