

The Camden Daily Journal.

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By D. D. HOCOTT.

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No deduction made, except to our regular advertising patrons.

The Chufa or Earth Almond,

The analysis of this plant and its practical use for a series of years establishes conclusively its great value as a field crop, and none other known in husbandry can surpass it as an auxiliary to the great grain crop of this country. It is extensively used by the Spaniards as food both for men and animals, and will be as profitably employed in this country when its value becomes known and appreciated. The tubers, when pounded into a paste and mixed with water, make a remarkable emulsion; resembles milk in appearance, and, when strained, the fat rises to the surface and looks like cream.—This emulsion, when prepared and sweetened to the taste, is a most nutritious ingredient, and may be used as a valuable substitute for milk—the remaining cake forming a rich, nutritive food for all domestic animals.

The cultivation of the Chufa is the same as cotton or corn, and may be planted at the same time and grown between the rows of the latter crop, like the ground or field pea. The largest yield, however, is realized by planting the crop to itself upon three foot beds, as for cotton—dropping one or two tubers twenty inches apart on the bed, and covered with the foot, or cotton board; or the crop may be planted in checks two feet nine inches square, one or two seed to the hill, covered with foot or hoe, and cultivated entirely with the sweep, running two furrows each way at the same time. One bushel of tubers will plant from five to ten acres.—The harvest is easy and expeditious—a thrust with a manure fork on opposite sides of the hill and thrown up, presents a quart to a half gallon of tubers the size of a post or white oak acorn, and may be gathered from one to two bushels per day to the hand. When harvested for market, the tubers must be well washed and dried in the sun, and spread on a floor and not bulked, as heat or fermentation will injure them. The seed are better for planting, taken fresh from the field in the spring, after remaining all the winter in the ground.

The Chufa is a plant of more vitality, and can be transplanted at any stage of its growth with more facility than any garden or field crop, to the missing spaces which are "few and far between," and is far more reliable and productive, requiring less labor in cultivation, maturing in one half the time of the potatoe or ground pea, and yields three times as much per acre. It luxuriates upon all poor or silicious soils, endures the most intense drowths, never withering under a burning sun, its deep green leaves resembling a luxuriant field of rice, always presenting a cheerful promise, and never failing to return the reward of a full fruition when the cultivation has been generous and complete. During the most fatal seasons we have ever experienced upon a field on which ever other species of crops have rusted and "dried up" during the first days of dry weather in May or June, and from which we have not gathered, without its specific manure five bushels of corn, nor three hundred pounds of seed cotton per acre in thirty years, an average of eighty two bushels of tubers per acre have been obtained. Other planters have reported over two hundred bushels per acre on a more generous soil. What plant known to the enlightened husbandman will yield so much nutritive food per acre for the same labor? None of which we are informed! How much happier the present condition and future prospect of the country, had the crop been grown extensively for the past five years. Let the hunger and scarcity now presenting such heart rending results answer the shortcomings of a misguided economy.

The comparative value of the Chufa, with other auxiliary crops for feeding and raising

swine, is conclusive to all practical and experienced breeders, being ready for feeding in July and August, when other auxiliaries are struggling with most effort for maturity.

The nursing sow when turned in autumn upon the potatoe, ground or field pea, takes on fat rapidly, milk dries up, offspring dwindles and perishes for its natural aliment. The result of this stimulated condition of the sow is known to all practical breeders. Not so when feeding upon the Chufa; both sow and pigling in the tuber those ingredients so essentially suited for the life giving secretion of the dam, and the rapid development of the offspring; no vegetable food is so much relished by wild and domestic fowls nor contributes so much in savory flesh to the inmates of the poultry yard.

All practical breeders of swine concur that the most trying periods with this animal are the months of February and March—after surfeiting all winter from gleaming the fields, his condition becomes deranged and requires an alterative by a change of food: without it, he sickens, nauseates and sleeps, and repeats the same symptoms from day to day until disease terminates his fate. Nothing in the form of vegetable food can be presented him more acceptable at this season than a reserved field of earth almonds.

Even with the above facts as developed by the analysis of this plant, agriculturists who pass currently as intelligences in their vocation, are to be found who doubt and dread some *globus dormans* may haunt their fields and render "nut and Bermuda grass," as a plea for the want of "hog and hominy," not realizing the truth that these enemies can be extirpated by marshaling this crop and the hog upon the same field. When reason and experience prevail, a more enlightened economy will congratulate the country upon the acquisition of one of the most valuable crops known to civilized man.

November 10, 1863.
From the Mobile Advertiser and Register, of the 23d, we take the following:

THE CHUFA FOR HOGS.

The value of the Chufa as food for hogs is still imperfectly appreciated, although it is gradually coming into use and favor. A considerable quantity of it was produced in this county during the last year, and we will be doing many of our readers a favor by informing them that they can procure the seed of excellent quality at the store of Messrs. Kelly & Co., on St. Michael street, between Water and Commerce.—The following note from one of the most experienced and successful cultivators in this section will give the reader a general idea of the subject, and we trust incite him to a thorough investigation:

DEAR SIR: In reply to your inquiry regarding the value of the Chufa as food for hogs, we will say—

That after several years' experience, we regard the Chufa as the best crop that can be grown on our light sandy soil for the raising of hogs. The Chufa requires but little labor in its cultivation, grows best on dry, sandy soil, if very poor (as most of our pine woods are,) should be manured just as if to be cultivated in corn.

An ordinary yield is from two to three hundred bushels to the acre. One acre of good Chufas will fatten ten hogs for pork, and one acre will furnish sufficient food for ten of your stock hogs for five or six months, say from 1st October to 1st March.

The course that I prefer in fattening on them is to allow the hogs to go into the field of Chufas and remain but half an hour in each day, and then have them turned out. When the Chufas become scarce, allow them to remain an hour, then two hours, and towards the close they may be allowed to go in and out at pleasure.

I regard the 1st of March as a suitable time to plant. The drills should be three feet apart, and the seed should be dropped one foot apart in the drill. After they have come up, cultivate with a sweep or hoe. They must be kept clear of grass or weeds.

Some persons have had fears that, if once introduced into a plantation, they could not be readily controlled or exterminated if desired.—No fear need be entertained on this subject, for they are much more readily killed than the ordinary crab-grass. Respectfully,

BENJ'N TOCNER.

This valuable hog feeder can be obtained in small quantities for barter on application to the subscriber. Applicants will please leave their names at the Journal office with D. D. Hocott, Esq. HUGH YOUNG.

CAMDEN DAILY JOURNAL

THURSDAY MORNING DEC. 22.

CONFEDERATE CONGRESS—RICHMOND, Dec. 20.—The Senate in secret session. The House passed a bill for the sequestration of the property of persons fleeing from the Confederacy to escape military service—yeas 46; nays 34. The currency bill was further discussed until adjournment.

YANKEE FLEET ASSEMBLING OFF WILMINGTON.—RICHMOND, Dec 20.—An official despatch from Wilmington, dated 10 a. m., says the advance of the enemy's fleet arrived off this port during last night. Over thirty steamers are now assembling and more are following.

The late Major General PATRICK CLEBERNE was born near Ballingoleigh, in Ireland, and the son of a physician. At the age of fourteen, he enlisted in the 41st regiment of English infantry, and served three years as a private. Purchasing his discharge at the end of this time, he removed to America and settled in the State of Arkansas, and commenced the study and practice of law, at Helena.

Mr. and the Misses SLOMAN are in town, and intend giving a Concert on Monday evening. In these times a hearty laugh is worth having, and the great attainments of the Misses SLOMAN will insure them a full room. Such a combination of talent is seldom witnessed, and a large attendance will no doubt be the result.

FORT McALLISTER.—The Courier of yesterday says: In alluding, in the Courier of Saturday, to the fall of this work, we stated, on rumor, that seven hundred of our troops were captured along with it. We are happy to be able to correct this erroneous statement. We learn from an officer since that the garrison consisted of parts of three companies, and numbered, all told, but 150 men.

In correction of another error that has found its way into the newspapers, we would state that Fort McAllister and Genesis Point are one and the same place, the former having been built on the latter, which is the extreme of mainland on the South bank of the Great Ogeechee.

FROM SAVANNAH.—The Courier of yesterday says: Reports were rife in the city yesterday of the evacuation of Savannah, but no such information, up to a late hour last evening, had been received at headquarters. Gen SHERMAN, it was stated, on Sunday sent in a flag of truce demanding the surrender of the city, or in case of refusal he would open his batteries upon it. The demand was promptly refused by General HARDEE, and reasonable time required for the removal of non-combatants. At last accounts families were leaving as rapidly as possible. The enemy's battery at Tulifiny continues to shell the rail road and the passing trains.

On Monday night several of the enemy's barges went up Combahee river, as far as Chapman's Ford, on a reconnoitering tour. After spending sometime in the neighborhood of Combahee and Ashepoo they returned. They were chased some distance and fled upon, but managed to make good their retreat. Dispatches from along the line of rail road received last evening report all quiet.

READING ALOUD.—There is no treat so great as to hear good reading of any kind. Not one gentleman or lady in a hundred can read so as to please the ear and send the words with gentle force to the heart and understanding. As indistinct utterance, guttural notes, hesitations and other vices of elocution are almost universal. Why, it is, no one can say, unless it be that either the pulpit, or the nursery, or the Sunday School, gives the style in these days. Many a lady can sing Italian songs with considerable execution, but cannot read English passably. Yet reading is by far the most valuable accomplishment of the two. In most drawing rooms, if anything is to be read, one has weak lungs, another gets very hoarse, another has an abominable sing song from reading hymns when he was too young to understand them; another rambles like a broad wheeled wagon; another has a way of reading which seems to proclaim that what is read is of no sort of consequence and had better not be listened to.

A CURIOUS REPORT ABOUT SEMMES.—The Liverpool Post, of November 16, says: "We were informed last night that Captain Semmes, whose whereabouts has lately become the subject of several paragraphs in the public journals, is in reality in Liverpool, occupied in engaging men for service on board a privateer.—It is said that he saw thirty-five candidates yesterday, and selected nine, and that he is to start on Sunday for Gibraltar."

Special Notices.

FUNERAL NOTICE.

The Friends, Relatives and Acquaintances of JAMES McEWAN and J. K. WITHERSPOON, are requested to attend the Funeral Services of the former at the Presbyterian Church to-morrow (Friday) at 11 o'clock, without further notice.

Mr. and the Misses Sloman

WILL GIVE A GRAND VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL ENTERTAINMENT in Camden on MONDAY EVENING, December 26.

Full particulars given in future advertisement. December 22—tl.

NOTICE.

TO HIRE, ON THE FIRST MONDAY IN JANUARY, TWELVE LIKELY FELLOWS, accustomed to both field and turpentine. TERMS—Notes with approved securities. Hired to furnish each two suits of clothes, one pair of shoes, and pay doctors' bill, Z. CANTLEY, Dec 22—td Agent for Mrs. C. F. Cantley.

Estate Sale.

BY PERMISSION OF THE COURT OF ORDINARY for Kershaw District, I will sell the Plantation of Col. William A. Anernm, decd., on Friday, 30th December, inst., the Stock, Provisions, Tool, and Utensils of said Plantation, consisting in part of twelve Mules, one Mare and Colt, about thirty head of fine Cattle, ninety head of Sheep, lot of Hogs, Corn, Fodder, Peas, &c., &c., with Wagons, Plows, Hoes &c. Terms made known at sale. J. D. KIRKPATRICK, Admr. Dec 9—2aw.td

To Printers.

TEN GOOD COMPOSITORS CAN FIND PERMANENT employment at the highest wages, with exemption from field duty, (if not now a member of a company in Confederate service,) by applying to EVANS & COGSWILL, State Printers, Columbia, S. C. Dec. 22—2t.

The Camden Bridge Company.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CAMDEN Bridge Company will be held in Camden on Monday the 28th. COLIN MACRAE, Secretary. Dec 21—1t

ROADS.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF ROADS FOR KERSHAW District will meet in Camden on the second Monday in January, at 11 o'clock. COLIN MACRAE, Clerk. Dec 21—2t. td.

Liverpool Salt.

FIFTY SACKS GENUINE LIVERPOOL SALT on Consignment and for sale by MATHESON & CO. Dec. 11—10t.

Notice.

ALL PARTIES HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST the Commissary Department for HIDES will come forward and receive them. I am now prepared to settle all claims. Apply to J. F. SUTHERLAND, Supt. C. S., at Magazine Hill. Dec 14—3td.3w.

South Carolina—Kershaw District.

WHEREAS, SUSAN E. RATCLIFF APPLIED to me for Letters of Administration on all and singular the goods and chattles, rights credits of W. H. Ratcliff, late of the District aforesaid, deceased: These are, therefore, to cite and admonish all, and singular, the kindred and creditors of the said deceased to be and appear before me at our next Ordinary's Court for the said District, to be holden at Kershaw Court House on the 9th day of January proximo, to show cause, if any, why the said administration should not be granted.

Given under my Hand and Seal, this twenty-second day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and in the eighty-eighth year of the Independence and Sovereignty of the State of South Carolina.

ALW. L. McDONALD, O. K. D. Dec 22