

# Farmers' Gazette,

## AND CHERAW ADVERTISER.

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By M. MAC LEAN.

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### AGRICULTURAL

From Temperance Advocate.

NEWBERRY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Report on Cotton No. 2.

**Mr. President:** I beg leave to submit the following remarks, upon the subject of planting, cultivating, and gathering Cotton, as the result of my observation and experience.

Before planting, the land should be well bedded up, with such ploughs, (Twisters I prefer,) as will make a high, round bed, three feet from centre to centre, on a shallow middle furrow. Breaking up before bedding, is, in my opinion, seldom done with propriety, unless done very early, as it will generally leave too great a depth of loose earth in the centre of the bed, to ensure the plant's growing off well, when young. The furrows which make the bed, should be something like two inches deeper than the one which lays off the land, to prevent a collection of water, under the root of the plants, which might cause the Cotton to die, during the wet weather in May, should there be any. The land which is expected to be foulest might be bedded last, and planted first.

The distance suggested between rows, might not suit all lands, but it is believed, it would suit more land, than any other distance. I am of opinion, however, that more and better Cotton, could be produced from an acre, on most of the gray land, in this District, by having the rows even nearer together than suggested; for I believe it is generally conceded, that one stalk, when alone, will yield more and better Cotton, than any other number, standing at the same point; and if they interfere so materially with the product of each other, when together, I think it is clear that the more space they can have between them the better crop we may expect, provided the distance is not too great to prevent the branches from covering the whole ground, when matured. It is, therefore, my opinion, that whatever number of stalks might be best to have, on a particular acre of land, that the distance between rows, should be so arranged, that in thinning the Cotton, there should be nearly, or quite the same distance left between stalks to produce that number.

The planting might commence at any time, from the 30th of March to the 10th of April, according to the season. This is done by opening the bed, with a small plough, directly in the first furrow, which, if that furrow was very shallow, should go nearly the same depth. The seed is next well scattered in that furrow, putting in from two to five bushels to the acre, according to the certainty with which they will vegetate. In covering, I prefer a board five or six inches wide, and two feet six inches long, fastened on the foot of the plough stock, with the heel bolt through a hole near the upper edge, the lower edge being bulged from end to end, with an axe or drawing-knife, that it may touch the round bed, from one end of the board to the other. This is drawn by a horse, and should be held on with some pressure, by the hand that covers, particularly if rain has fallen after bedding, thereby destroying the young grass, should there be any. This may be done at any time, from the sowing the seed, until they are generally sprouted.

If I use manure, when I expect much difficulty from grass, the first two workings, I put the manure in before bedding, and bed on it, otherwise, I prefer that the manure, (if well pulverised,) should be put on top of the seed in planting, as it thus comes more directly in contact with the fibrous roots of the plant; which I think, brings the most nutriment to the support of the stalk. And when we expect little or no grass, there is no necessity in chopping through, during the first workings, to cut deep enough to take away the manure, which might not be the case on very foul land.

I prefer that the seed should be placed on, or near the unbroken earth, (provided there is no manure under them,) that so soon as they are up, the root will have reached the unbroken earth, and the stalk in lengthening, will immediately grow upwards, and be thereby rendered more convenient to cultivate, particularly with the plough. While on the other hand, if the roots have a deep bed of loose earth under them, where the seed come up although the stalk may be lengthened at the same rate, yet while the root is running down, in search of solid earth, the top

will remain almost stationary. A circumstance which frequently attends Cotton, on stubble land, broke up late and then bedded up; or Cotton after Cotton on high beds reversed, with the additional objection, that it generally does worse than Cotton after Cotton, when the beds are simply reversed, with a shallow middle furrow, and the seed placed near the unbroken earth.

The working of the crop may commence, so soon as there is "a stand" of Cotton.—This may be done by running two furrows in each middle, as near the Cotton as can be done, without destroying the stand, that all which is not in a straight line, may be destroyed, and as small a ridge left for the hoes to work, as possible. For this I prefer twisted shovels, if there be much grass, running with the straight side to the Cotton, and thus covering up the whole. This may be followed by other ploughs, so soon as the covered grass will have had time to die, throwing the dirt the other way, (if one large furrow will not fill both the first;) this serves as a support to the stalks, and prevents their falling as the hoes chop through, especially if they row be foul, otherwise it might be dispensed with, until the first hoeing.

The hoes go on before, or immediately after the second ploughs, destroying all vegetation, except two or three stalks of Cotton, with from twelve to twenty inches between, (according to the land) diminishing the number of stalks, as they approach the end of the first working of the crop, or as the season advances. Succeeding workings should be given, according to circumstances, having regard always to keeping the land clear of weeds and grass, the beds as high as at the commencement, the stalks left standing straight, and fresh earth, about them to encourage their growth. I think the crop may be benefited, by having the hoeings done at intermediate periods between the ploughings, that is, the ploughings are three weeks apart, let there be ten or twelve days between the ploughing and hoeing. The Cotton will thus have fresh earth more frequently about it. The number of workings must depend upon circumstances, as two workings, [that is, ploughings and hoeings, will as nearly do justice to a crop, under some circumstances, as four will under others.

The last working may terminate, whenever it is probable there will be no more grass or weeds to interfere, either with the growth or gathering of the crop.

The thinning should be completed at the second hoeing, as the Cotton branches earlier and better, than if postponed to a later period.

From the middle of July, to the 10th of August, the Cotton should be topped, (some say earlier,) to ensure a full crop, though it would be better to top later, than to omit it entirely. The less taken off in topping, the better. This labor will frequently pay the planter, two or three dollars per day, for the time his hands are employed at it, when Cotton brings 121-2 cents per lb.

The simple process of picking out, needs no remark. But it is the interest and duty of every planter, to pursue that plan, in gathering his Cotton crop, which will come nearest saving it all, in good order, expose the hands least to the severities of winter, and leave the most time for manuring, and otherwise getting his plantation in order, for the next crop. And a little reflection will show, that the same hands will gather more, and better Cotton in one day, in September and October, than they will in two or three, when the ground is frozen, the winds high, and the Cotton leaves dry as snuff. No business, therefore, that could be avoided, should be permitted to interfere, with the picking out of the Cotton crop, that will prevent the hands from gathering it, as fast, or nearly so, as it opens. By this means, the difficulty of separating the white, from the stained Cotton, (which every planter should do,) will be removed. I think \$20 to \$50, according to the number of hands, if laid out for such little notions as the hands would like to possess, and placed in suitable parcels, to be awarded to the party giving evidence of having used the greatest industry, at the end of every week, and the hands divided into two parcels, as equal as practicable, would soon be repaid by their increased labor, and at the same time tend greatly to insure the accomplishment of the above object.

As my experience has been mostly, with Gray or Post Oak land, these remarks are intended to be applicable to the cultivation of that kind of land. But it is believed, that with some slight variations, the course here suggested, might be pursued with advantage, on most, or all the land, in the middle districts of the State.

As to the kind of Cotton, it is hardly necessary to say, that the Petit Gulph and Alvarado seems to be universally preferred by Planters, to all other kinds that have been extensively tried. I am not aware that either is preferable to the other.

PETER HARR.

From the Camden Journal.

WATERBEE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The society met at Swift Creek on Thursday, the 4th inst. Col. James Chesnut, sen. President of the society presided at the meeting. The Recording Secretary read the proceedings of the former meeting. On motion, Gen. J W

Cantey was added to the committee on corn, small grain, root and grass crops. The President called for reports from the several committees.

Maj. A H Boykin, from the committee on cotton, made the following report:

They are unanimously of opinion, that there will be a deficiency of at least a fourth of an average crop, owing to the lateness of the cotton and the severity of the early frosts.

Capt. Thomas J Anecrum had produced the proper certificates, and they find that he had gathered from one acre of high-land, 2,432 1-2 pounds seed cotton. Other competitors having withdrawn, they award the silver cup of the value of \$15, to Capt. Anecrum.

Col. James Chesnut, jr. from the committee on corn, small grain, root and grass crops, reported that Maj. J M DeSaussure has produced the requisite voucher, and find that he has gathered from one acre of swamp or river land 72 1-2 bushels of corn, and they award Maj. DeSaussure a silver cup of the value of \$10.

They also award to Mr. Lemuel Boykin a silver cup of the same value, for the best acre of sweet potatoes, the product being 13,734 pounds (276 bushels.) There being no competitors for upland corn, no prize was awarded, and the silver cup was directed to be placed in the hands of the Treasurer.

Col. James Chesnut, sen. from the committee on stock, made the following report:

The committee on stock, in the discharge of their duty, have viewed with much interest, many fine animals of the kinds exhibited for the prizes offered by the society, and recommend that the cups be awarded as follows, viz:

- To Maj. A H Boykin, for the best Cow, a silver cup of the value of \$10
- To the same, for the best Bull, a silver cup, 10
- To the same, for the best Ram, a silver cup, 10
- To the same, for the best Boar, a silver cup, 10
- To Mr. Duncan Lang, for the best Horse Colt, under 1 year old, a silver cup, 10
- To Col. James Chesnut, for the best Mule Colt, under 3 years old, a silver cup, 10

The committee think proper to state that they found great difficulty in deciding as to superiority between the bull of Maj. Boykin, and one of Col. Chesnut's.—They also remark that a similar difficulty was presented in deciding between a mule of Col. W J Taylor's and that of Col. Chesnut's, to which the cup was awarded.

The committee request to notice with marked approbation, a pig of Gen. Cantey's.

Maj. A H Boykin, from the committee to whom was referred, at a former meeting, a Resolution to designate what products of the soil should be run for the ensuing year, and the manner and form that shall govern competitors for the premiums, submitted the following report and plan for the consideration of the society.

This committee deem it of the utmost importance that a due regard should be had to the rearing and improvement of stock, so indispensable to the comfort and true economy of every householder, as well as those engaged in agricultural pursuits—the utility of which has been hitherto so greatly neglected, and from the present limited means of the society cannot now deem it advisable to recommend but three products of the soil as proper subjects for competition, viz: Cotton, corn and sweet potatoes—and that the following regulations and restrictions govern members contending for prizes:

1st. As it regards cotton—not less than two acres, in square or rectangle, having at least 15 feet margin or border, to separate the same from other planting lands. The acres to be selected and measured by the owner, with one or two other members of the society. And in good faith such selection in no case to be made upon improved lands; but upon such as have hitherto not produced more than 500 pounds seed cotton to the acre, of a good average year. The above shall apply to swamp land, with this difference: swamp land to exceed highland in proportion of 18 to 15. Highland must go over 1500 pounds swamp over 1800.—

The mode of gathering—the existing rule to govern, with the exception that the cotton is not to be picked oftener than once in fifteen days. 2d. As to corn, they recommend that five acres shall be the quantity. If highland, it must be on such land as will not produce more than 10 bushels per acre, an average year; if swamp, such as will not produce more than 20 bushels, to be in a body separated and detached from other planting lands by a margin or border of at least six feet. The selection and measurement subject to the regulations governing cotton. Not to be gathered before the 1st of October. 3d. Potatoes.—As a test, they think one square acre sufficient—and they leave it with competitors to make their own selections of soil. In the gathering of this crop, they recommend that the existing rules of the society be adhered to.

The Report and Plan were accepted. A communication was received from the Huntingdonshire, (England) Agricultural Society through Mr. Goodlad, with

a copy of their constitution and bye-laws; a list of prizes for the cattle show, and a catalogue of the beasts, hogs, sheep and pigs, exhibited at the Society's show at Liverpool in July last. Also, a specimen of various valuable seeds, with a request that a free intercourse and friendly communication may be kept up between this Society and their's, mutually benefitting each other.

The communication was accepted.—Whereupon, Col. Wm. J Taylor offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

**Resolved,** That the corresponding Secretary of this Society tender its thanks to the Huntingdonshire Agricultural Society of England, for the various documents transmitted to this Society, and that he be directed to send them a copy of our constitution, rules and bye-laws, and express the willingness of this Society to reciprocate friendly feelings and good offices.

Maj. A H Boykin was appointed a delegate to the State Agricultural Society.

Col. Wm. J Taylor delivered the Anniversary Oration, in which he displayed a mind of great research and reflection on the subject of Agriculture.—Considered it one of the most laudable and honorable pursuits; that it has been too much disparaged, and entered into various considerations in enforcing the importance of forming Societies, as a means of general improvement in Agriculture; and instanced a number of examples to show the beneficial effects in our own country as well as abroad, from such well timed combinations. There were many valuable hints and suggestions in the address, useful to the farmer and planter, and well calculated to awaken their energies in further enquiry and experiments in the pursuits in which they are engaged.

After Col. Taylor had concluded his address—on motion, The committee of arrangements were directed to request a copy of the address for publication in the Camden Journal.

A number of gentlemen were then proposed, and elected in members.

The 11th article of the constitution was amended to read as follows: "The Society shall determine at its meeting in November, if practicable, or at a called meeting for that purpose, the kind and ages of the stock to be shown, also what productions of the soil shall be run for, and to specify at such meeting, the respective premiums."

Maj. A H Boykin moved that the President, at his leisure, appoint the different committees, and that they report at the next meeting of the Society.

A resolution was adopted, directing the Secretary to have printed, in pamphlet form, the constitution and bye-laws of this Society, and to draw from the Treasury, the means for defraying the expenses of the same.

A meeting was resolved to be held on the second Thursday in February next.

**Resolved,** That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Camden Journal.

The Society then adjourned.

J. BOYKIN,  
Sec'y.

From the N. Y. Spirit of the Times.  
TOUR OF AN AMERICAN STOCK BREEDER IN ENGLAND.

[Compiled from Conversations with A. B. Allen, Esq.]

N. YORK, OCT. 22, 1841.

To the Editor of the "Spirit of the Times."

I have just had the pleasure of an interesting conversation with my friend A. B. Allen, Esq. of Buffalo, New York, who returned last week in the London packet ship "Hendrick Hudson," from an Agricultural Tour in England. Supposing that your readers would like to hear a little about Mr. Allen's movements, I send you a hasty line.

He says there is nothing abroad that will compare with our unrivalled *Roadsters* and *Trotters*, and that if we continue to cultivate the breed with care, embracing such stock as Abdallah's, Bell-founder's, Messenger's, &c., we may eventually become large exporters.—Many enquiries were addressed to him on various occasions respecting them, and he has brought home orders to purchase a few stylish fast ones. I observe that the London "Farmer's Magazine" has called upon BROTHER JONATHAN to make a show of his Trotters at the next meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, and as it is open to the whole world, I trust that some of our spirited breeders will do so next year at the annual meeting in July at Bristol.

The English Cart Horse Mr. A. also thinks inferior to the great Pennsylvania Wagon Horse, and is of opinion that our *Racers* here have more game or bottom than theirs, and would beat them in heats of three and four miles. Our soil and climate are decidedly superior for the perfection of this noble animal to those of England, especially on this side of the Alleghanies.

Of Short Horns, he seems to think that there is but one man's herd in England that it is worth while for us hereafter to import from; and throwing out the stock of three breeders, New York, Ohio, and Kentucky would advantageously exhibit against all England. There are other breeds of Horned Cattle which he esteemed highly, as the Hereford, the Sus-

sex, Devon, Ayrshire, and Scotch High-landers.

In Sheep, England has nothing to compare with our fine Saxon and Merino. Of the long wool tribe, such as the Leicesters, Cotswolds, and New Oxford, we only want a few, but of the South Downs he speaks very highly; their mutton is far superior to their wool, fine enough for all family purposes; they are also of a very hardy character, and possess the best of constitutions. Of these he has brought out a few for Francis Rotch, Esq., of Butternuts, Otsego county, New York.—for our late Ministers at the Court of St. James, and for the Right Rev. Bishop Meade, of Virginia. They were selected from the flock of Mr. JONAS WEBB, of Babraham, who carried off all the valuable prizes at the Royal Agricultural Show at Liverpool. They are of great size for South Downs.—Mr. Rotch's Buck Lamb weighed in the scales when put on board ship, and only six months old, 152 pounds; Bishop Meade's, 18 months old, 248 pounds; and Mr. Stevenson's, same age, 254 pounds. Mr. Webb killed a wether last Christmas that weighed, dressed, with the head on, 200 pounds; and his backs usually shear from 10 to 11 1-2 pounds wool, of a quality about three-fourths blood merino. To show the value of these high bred animals abroad, the sire of Mr. Rotch's Lamb was let to the Duke of Newcastle for this season alone at 100 guineas, and I learn that the price of these brought over by Mr. Allen is 100 guineas a head.

Mr. Rotch had previously imported very superior South Down sheep from the celebrated flocks of the Duke of Richmond, Mr. Grantham, Mr. Elman, and others, and these now arrived cannot but prove a valuable cross upon them. A beautiful Shepherd's Dog for Mr. Rotch also accompanies these sheep, of a breed so superior, that it requires no breaking in for the management of the woolly flock.

I was much pleased with the famous large *Dorking Fowls*, that, like old Goliath, have an extra toe, and fat occasionally to the great weight of 8 pounds.—Some beautiful *Pheasants*, the game bird of England, and the cross of which on the common barn fowl produces the game cock, are among the importation.

In Swine, Mr. Allen went into a thorough examination, from the different species of the wild Boar from Asia, and the forests of Germany, kept in the Zoological Gardens, the various kinds of Chinese, to all the most approved breeds of England. He pronounces the Berkshire as uniting more good qualities in him on the whole than any other; and as size in them has been generally called for at the West, he has brought home specimens that stand three feet high, are of corresponding length, and will easily fat to 800 pounds; but for fear these should not be large enough, he has added the *Great Kennilworth* breed, of a height of four feet, and which the London "Farmer's Journal" asserts will fat to the enormous weight of 1700 pounds. Mr. Allen thinks 1300 pounds will be the maximum, but adds with quiet naivete of expression, "if this does not prove large enough for the South-west, I will next year import a Rhinoceros that swings three tons!"

But I fancy that there will be no necessity for this, and that the advocates for size will now cry out "enough!" The Kennilworths are really a good shape; their color is white.

The white and light spotted *Improved Berkshires* he pronounces spurious breeds, and of far inferior quality and shape. The true animal is just as one hundred times described in this and kindred journals, viz., black, or a dark, rich plum color, with a slight flecking of white, and occasionally, though rarely the fleckery may be sandy, or of buff color, preserved from the old originals.

He has selected stock from all the best families in Berkshire, and the neighboring counties that breed them, which he will keep apart at home, and thus prevent the necessity of again importing for years. He found good ones scarce and high, and was obliged personally to look over several thousand head, perambulate extensively in every direction this large tier of counties before completing his selections, notwithstanding his employment of several agents, and the most extensive dealers to assist him.

In Seeds he found the British farmer quite as careful in selecting for sowing as in choosing breeders for his stock, a matter how little attended to at home. The *implements of husbandry* he thought generally cumbersome, complex, and needlessly expensive; some things, notwithstanding, would be worthy of American adoption.

On the *Corn Laws*, he does not think there will be any modification that can substantially benefit us, though Sir Robert Peel, in order to quiet the manufacturers, may propose a small abatement of duty. But Mr. Allen takes the startling ground, that if he would consult America's benefit alone, he would make them to stand just as they do now, and he defends this position by saying that it would greatly promote the emigration of worthy, substantial people, and that the population, wealth, and strength thereby procured to America would be much greater than if the ports of great Britain were open to the free importation of grain. I shall look hereafter with interest to Mr. Allen's ex-

tended views upon this hitherto little understood and most important national subject.

On the different ranks of people in England, and their conditions, living, &c., we held much conversation, and other interesting topics, but I have extended my article too much already, and I am happy to say Mr. Allen will soon favor the public with Notes of his Tour, so I forbear—only acknowledging my obligations to him for his prompt and frank manner of replying to my various and minute inquiries.

Yours truly,  
J. O. C.

From the Cultivator.

**BUCKWHEAT, RYE AND CLOVER.**  
*Messrs. Gaylord & Taylor.*—Having made an experiment with a triple crop, it may not be uninteresting to some of your readers to give a few particulars thereof, and the result, in the beginning of August last year. I sowed with the same preparation of ground, buckwheat, rye and clover. All which have one well: so that I am going at this time more largely into this mode of culture. Part of a field I have just covered with wheat instead of rye as the third article. I was encouraged to do this from observing that a few stools of wheat; that accidentally sprung up last year among the buckwheat, rye and clover, were fine.

But in particular, I manured a poor, worn out sandy quarter of an acre, with five cart loads of compost, and having first sowed and harrowed in the rye and buckwheat. I then sowed the clover seed while the ground was fresh stirred. Next I covered a part of the quarter acre (selected for a particular experiment,) with pine leaves, a part with green pine boughs—and a part I left uncovered—and here I observe that all these grew best on the part covered with pine straw, and better on that covered with the green boughs than where uncovered. I sowed this piece on the 5th day of August last, and on the 5th of October, or in two months, I cut the buckwheat and the product was 612 bushels or rates of 22 bushels per acre. The rye cut in June last, was a good yield, but through an inadvertence was neglected to be measured. The clover was near knee high when the rye was cradled and will yield a fine swath for seed, now nearly ripe. So with the clover in another field sowed in like manner. I hope next year to report favorably of that sowed as above stated this season. In mean time, yours, &c.

SIDNEY WELLER.

Brinkleyville, Halifax Co. N. C. Aug. 6.

From the Spirit of the Times.

**HORSES—ORIGIN OF THE MORGAN BREED.**

*Messrs. Gaylord & Tucker.*—I have lately received great satisfaction from hearing what appears to be a correct account of the origin of the Morgan Horses of Vermont; a breed known and esteemed for activity and hardness throughout all the northern states; not remarkable for size, and scarcely known to sportsmen for speed. This race is perhaps as highly celebrated as any for general usefulness, and for such a degree of fleetness as entitles it to the appellation of *fast traveller*. Their height is from fourteen to fifteen hands, color bay, make round and heavy with lean heads, broad and deep chests, the fore limbs set far apart, clean and sinewy legs, short strong backs, with that projection of the ribs from the spine which is a sure indication of powerful lungs, and consequently of great wind and bottom.

The original Morgan horse, called also the Goss horse, is very well known to have appeared in Randolph and in St. Johnsbury (Vt.), some forty years since, and to have been kept as a stallion, at first with but little, and subsequently with very great patronage, some five and twenty years, or until he was thirty years old or more. Various accounts are current as to his origin; many think it quite distinct from the Canadian breed of Norman French extraction, and consider the horse to have been of Dutch blood, and to have been introduced from some of the settlements on the Hudson river, southward of Albany. Stories are also told of a traveller's blood mare having got with foal by a Canadian or Indian pony at various places north and west, and having brought forth this horse; all these accounts are improbable, and appear to be unauthenticated.

For the last dozen years, being aware, both by observation and experiment, of the surprising results of crossing the Canadian with other breeds of horses, and having become acquainted with the vast variety and different qualities of various races in the Canadian breed, I have believed that the original Morgan horse was of French Canadian origin. This opinion being confirmed by the account here given, I am anxious to ascertain whether any one can prove it erroneous, and if not to make it public, that thousands of horses may be obtained in French Canada of the same blood, and not inferior in quality to the Morgan, whose existence added several hundred thousand dollars to the wealth of Vermont.

Geo. BARNAB.

Sherbrook, P. C., August, 1841.

[AFFIDAVIT.]

I was about 13 years of age when the Morgan horse was first brought to St. Johnsbury, in Vermont, where my father