

Work for the Month.

MAY.

No month known to the calendar, if we are to credit the descriptions of poetry and of song, is so delightful as this. Influenced by those charming pictures of its beauties, and of the sources of mental enjoyments which it is represented to bring with it, most young hearts bound with joy and gladness at its advent, and anticipated its coming, for weeks in advance, as a day that is to develop countless pleasures. Parties are formed, in anticipation, to lie to the woods to gather flowers but alas! owing to the change of seasons, for many years past the woods have failed to yield their floral treasures, until long after the day for Maying and come and gone and the maidens and their gallants, after miles expended in searching for the flowers which the winds of March, and the showers of April, were to have brought forth, have had to return to their homes travel worn and disappointed, reaping no other harvest than the realization of the truth of the proposition—that all calculations based on the past, looking to the enjoyments of the future, are predicated on a frail and uncertain tenure. But notwithstanding the seasons have changed, and are likely to change still more, for so long as the axe shall be employed in leveling the forest, so long will changes go on and the seasons be later and later, still it is always best to get our crops in as soon as the nature of circumstances will permit; for other things being equal, the early planted crops generally prove the most prolific.

Let us, then, turn our attention to those things which demand immediate attention.

ON THE FARM.—Corn Planting.—The time has come over a broad surface of States, when the corn crop should be gotten in; and we trust that every corn-grower, where such is the case, will feel it to be his duty as it assuredly is his interest, to begin to plant his corn as near the first of the month as possible, and so make his arrangements, as that the whole will be completed before the tenth of the month, at farthest. Seasons may, and sometimes do occur, where a few days' delay do not operate as a serious evil; but such occurrences are rare. If we take the results of any series of years as our guide, it will be found, that the early pitched crop is generally the most productive. Whenever the earth is warm enough to produce germination, be the location where it may, may be said to be the proper time to plant corn. Speaking from our own experience, we feel justified in saying, that slight frosts do not materially affect the yield, even though they may nip the plant after it shows itself above the ground; for, from the vigorous nature of the roots, in the incipient stage of their growth, they possess that recuperative power, which enables them to overcome the disadvantage of such blights. If caught by frosts, the effect will be, to occasion a temporary suspension or stunting; but not to destroy. However, after the first of May it is but rarely, indeed, that we have visitations of frost, of sufficient intensity to do injury to vegetation, and, therefore, it may be considered safe, on, and after that period, to get our corn, as well as almost every other crop, in the ground, and it should be our policy to do so, as we have before suggested, as near the beginning of the month as possible.

As we advised our friends last month, as well as the previous one, to provide ample supplies of manure for their corn crop, we are willing to hope that they have done so, and that most of their fields have been generously manured, ploughed deeply as well as neatly, harrowed thoroughly, so as to bring the soil to a fine tilth, and that their work of preparation was completed, by rolling; for the faithful execution of all these processes we believe to be necessary to success. The perfect preparation of the soil, we hold to be intimately connected with prolificacy in any crop—with corn indispensable. When we speak of generous manuring, we mean broadcast manuring; for, after the corn plant gets to be 8 or 12 inches high, all the food it derives from the earth, is from beyond the limits of the hill. While we are the advocates of general manuring—the application of manuring throughout the entire surface,—we are also favorable to an application of a small quantity of some enriching compost to the hill. This brings us, naturally, to the subject of

TOP-DRESSING, OR MANURING IN THE HILL.

There is no plant that grows, which is more benefited than is the corn, by slight applications of fertilizing matter to the hill. Such applications may be made at the time of dropping the corn—after it is dropped and covered, and before it comes up,—or after it is come up, at the time of the first working. Better, however, to do it at the time of planting; but be it done at either of the periods named by us, the corn plants will make an economical appropriation of the enriching—of the organic, and inorganic, substances—of which such composts may be made; for there is no plant cultivated, that is more thankful for good fare, or which make a better use of it than does that of the corn, at every stage of its growth, and particularly when in its infancy. And by the bye, it is only in that stage that it can derive material benefit from hill manuring; as the moment the roots extend beyond the range of the hill, they have to imbibe their food from the soil between the rows, as their feeders are at the extreme points of the lateral roots, which extend, at all distances from the stalk, from one foot to four; and it is not reasonable to think, that these roots can participate in food which is behind them, far moved from the reach of their mouths.

Hill Compost.—As good a compost as can be formed to manure in the hill, we have found to be 10 bushels of rotten dung, or rich mold—of both—5 bushels of ashes, and 1 bushel of plaster; the whole to be thoroughly mixed together, and a handful applied to each hill of corn, at the time of dropping, or at either of the other periods we have designated. The quantities we have named will answer for an acre, and, if applied in, or to the hill, would be found greatly to accelerate the early growth of the plants—a matter of very great importance, for many reasons.

As we were very copious in our remarks last month, as well as the preceding one, upon manures the culture of this crop, its wants, and its necessities, we will not recapitulate them here; but refer our readers to the March, and April numbers, for our views in extension.

American Farmer.

Do not waste your soil's riches. If you a cask or barrel to save them in, and empty them around your grape vines.

Report of Maxcy Gregg,

ONE OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWENTY-ONE.

The undersigned, a member of the Committee, to which was referred for consideration the Act of the General Assembly calling together this Convention, being dissatisfied with the Report of the Committee, not on account of what is contained in it, but of what is omitted, respectfully asks leave to state his reasons.

The position of South Carolina at this time is a most difficult and embarrassing one. Suffering under injuries which render a continuance in the present Union incompatible with honor or safety; but deserted by other States, suffering under the same injuries, and whose solemn pledges of resistance gave South Carolina a right to expect very different action from them;—the citizens of the State became divided in opinion as to the course proper to be taken. One portion of them believed that all hope being lost of any other States' seceding from the Confederacy by a concerted movement, it was necessary for South Carolina to vindicate herself from intolerable wrongs by seceding alone. Another portion regarded this course as unwise, and thought it necessary to wait for the support of other States. The prospect of such support has grown fainter day by day, until it has receded to an indefinite distance; and that portion of our citizens who have placed their only hope in it, now find themselves powerless to effect their object. But by the popular majority which they have exhibited, opposed to exercising the right of secession at this time, they have also paralyzed the power of their fellow-citizens who desired to adopt that course.

Under these circumstances this Convention meets, charged with the duty of seeing that the Commonwealth receive no detriment. To succeed under such circumstances is impracticable. To obtain the aid of any other State in resisting the aggressions which have been committed by the Northern States and the Federal Government is hopeless. Unless some effective mode of action could be adopted, which, while stopping short of secession, might place and preserve the State in a position of readiness to take advantage of the earliest opportunity for successful resistance, guarding, as far as practicable, in the mean time, against the many corrupting influences of a longer connection with the Government which oppresses us, nothing remains but submission—a submission likely to be fatal. If any such mode of action could be devised and proposed by those who are opposed to separate secession, it would beyond doubt be accepted and supported by those who have been in favor of that measure.

The Report of the Committee is unsatisfactory to the undersigned, because it contains no recommendation of any action whatever beyond a mere declaration of the right of secession, and of the injuries which have been suffered, justifying its exercise by South Carolina.

If a protestation in favor of our rights, made at a time when in fact we are deprived of them, can be of any avail towards preserving them in recollection and recovering them at a future day, it is wise and proper to make such protestation. But actions outworn words, and one step in advance towards practical resistance would be worth more than the strongest declarations. If the majority of the Committee had devised any measures with a character of practical resistance, however moderate impressed upon them, the undersigned would have greatly preferred, for the sake of that harmony which is of such high importance if ever the State is to be rescued from its present condition, to acquiesce in their Report. He believes that such measures might be devised by those who have opposed separate secession, and that, if adopted with unanimity by the people of the State, they would afford some reasonable hope of ultimate deliverance. But seeing no prospect that the introduction of any such measures under present circumstances, and against the determined opposition of those who have defeated secession, could result in any good to the State, he has, as a member of the Committee, nothing to recommend. He is willing to vote for the declaration of principles contained in the Resolution and accompanying Ordinance; but he desires at the same time to leave on the record of the proceedings of this Convention his distinct declaration, that it is not in accordance with his wishes that nothing more should be done to prevent detriment to the Commonwealth.

MAXCY GREGG.

Report of B. F. Perry.

ONE OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWENTY-ONE.

The undersigned, a member of the Committee of Twenty-one, differing from the committee in their report on the act referred to them, calling this Convention, begs leave to submit the following Proposition and Resolutions, as expressing his views in regard to the important matters contained in said report, and as to the true policy to be pursued by the State of South Carolina in relation to her difficulties with the Federal Government.

April 29, 1852.

B. F. PERRY.

Whereas, the Legislature of South Carolina in consequence of the aggressions of Congress and the Northern States on the domestic institutions of the South, deemed it necessary to embody the sovereign power of the State in Convention, in order that the Commonwealth should suffer no detriment, and for the purpose of considering the proceedings and recommendations of a Congress of the slaveholding States; And whereas the other slaveholding States have declined meeting South Carolina in a Southern Congress, for the purpose of considering the past aggressions of the Federal Government on an institution in which they all have a common and an equal interest; And whereas it would be unwise and imprudent, and wanting in respect to the other Southern States, for South Carolina, under existing circumstances, to take any decisive separate action in a cause which equally belongs to them all; And whereas there have been recent manifestations on the part of the Federal Government and a large portion of the Northern people to cease their aggressions on the institutions of the South, and carry out in good faith the guarantees of the Federal Constitution; And whereas a deep-rooted and long-continued regard for the union of these States, as "the palladium of our independence," "the tranquility," "peace," "safety," "prosperity," and "liberty," makes it right and proper, honorable and patriotic, that we should "suffer while evils are sufferable," rather "than right ourselves by abol-

ishing the forms to which we have been accustomed."

Be it therefore resolved, That this Convention will forbear at present to exercise that highest and most sacred of all rights which can belong to a free and brave people—a right secured to them by nature and nature's God, and paramount to all constitutions and political compacts or agreements—the right "to alter or abolish" their government when it becomes destructive of the ends for which it was instituted, and ceases to protect them in the enjoyment of their "lives, property, and pursuit of happiness."

Resolved, That the Union of the several States of this Confederacy was formed for the purpose of protecting equally the interests of all the States; their domestic institutions, property, and industrial pursuits; and the existence of African slavery in the Southern States, at the formation of the Federal Union, was not only recognized in the Constitution, but guaranteed, and made the basis, in part, of their representation in the Congress of the United States.

Resolved, That this domestic institution of the South is not only moral and correct in the opinion of this Convention, but a great blessing to the African race; and absolutely necessary for the continued peace and prosperity of the slaveholding States; and as such will be forever defended and maintained by them at any and all hazards, and to the last extremity of their existence as a people.

Resolved, That South Carolina, through her sovereign Convention, now pledges herself to her sister Southern States to resist, in company with them, or alone if need be, by all the means which nature and God have given her, any and every attempt on the part of Congress to interfere with slavery in the States, or the slave trade between the States, or to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia without the consent of the owners, or to exclude slavery from the Southern territories of the United States, or the forts, navy yards, and other public places in the slaveholding States belonging to the Federal Government, or refuse the admission of a State into the Union on account of slavery, or refuse to enforce and carry out the existing constitutional provisions on the subject of rendition of fugitive slaves, or alter or change the Federal Constitution in any respect touching slavery.

Southern Editors and Booksellers.

ABOLITION LITERATURE.

The prevalence in the Southern States of an uncommon social organization has at once constituted a distinction between them and other States, and produced an identity of interest which, underlying all local and party differences, pervades the whole community. An attack upon Southern institutions, particularly if it be of a political or religious character, will set all the newspapers in commotion, and through those disturb the equanimity of the quiet public. But there is, in reference to abolition literature, a strange negligence. Why is this? Is it only the political hack that can influence public opinion, or have an effect upon the destinies of the commonwealth? Are we forgetful that the ballad-maker of a people has influence as well as the law-maker? Or are we to be compelled to the belief that party drill and promotion are more active motives and more powerful agents than patriotism and truth? While we but do our duty in opposing political abolitionists, are we not highly criminal or grossly negligent when we welcome to our firesides and home the productions of our literary abolitionists?

Our newspapers have made us all familiar with the name and opinions and conduct of that old political hack, the notorious Joshua Giddings; but his name is a name of contempt. Are there not some just as decided in their sentiments and just as deadly in their hatred to every interest of the South, whose names are names of honor? And by whose fault? We answer, by the fault of Southern booksellers. The puff of the first and the advertisements of the last give reputation and introduce the writings of abolitionists to our people. Thus Longfellow's poems on slavery have been introduced, inculcating false views and sickly sentimentality, instead of true poetic feeling.

The most influential newspaper in the Northern States, out of question, is the New York Tribune, and the most deadly enemy of Southern Institutions is its editor, Horace Greeley. A free soiler in national politics, an agrarian and vote yourself farm-man, a Fourierite, an anti-slavery man in every respect is Mr. Greeley. He has lately published a book about his sayings and doings in Europe, and at once the Southern press and Southern book merchants advertise and sell Mr. Greeley's lucubrations, putting money in his pocket to enable him to fight us more successfully. Mr. Dana, of Charleston, has published a better book of travels, and Southern editors do not puff and Southern merchants do not advertise it.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, sister of Mr. Henry Ward Beecher, has lately published an Abolition Novel, called Uncle Tom's Cabin. A very convenient substitute for talent and genius is a miserable conformity to a bad popular passion. And mediocre writers can get up a tolerable share of notoriety and pocket some money by pandering to the public taste. Be it so. If the Northern people are satisfied to receive Anti-Slavery diatribes as a substitute for genius, we have no objection; but we do object to Southern critics taking abolition works on the credit of Northern puffs. We hope our brethren of the press will examine Mrs. Stowe's book before they puff it, and we trust that Longfellow's poems and Greeley's book may long continue to adorn the shelves of the Southern book-merchants who have them on sale.—*Temperance Banner.*

TRAVEL.—Mr. R. W. Emerson said in his lecture at New York:

"I am not much of an advocate for travelling. I observed that the men who go abroad are no thing at home and come home because they are nobody abroad. Only the light man is the traveller. Yet I will not be unjust. Travelling is good for many. Some are made to travel, as farmers, and to a man of sense, travel is an advantage. So many languages as he has, so many men is he. Moreover, in constitution there is some solace when the stars stand still in our souls, and then travel is medical and good."

A quarter of corn is a fourth of a ton, and eight bushels or two sacks.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 7, 1852.

THEO. J. WARREN, Editor.

OUR MARKET.

Transactions in our Cotton market have been quite active for the past few days. We quote at 6 to 8 3-8.

Mr. Rhett's Successor.

We see it stated that Ex-Governor JOHN P. RICHARDSON, has been appointed to fill the vacancy in the Senate of the United States, from South Carolina, occasioned by the resignation of Hon. R. BARNWELL RHETT.

Our Advertisements.

We invite attention to the sale of Machinery at the Charleston Cotton Factory, on Tuesday, 18th inst. Also, to the sale of Furniture by Mr. C. M. WIENGOES, and to the several advertisements of H. LEVY, Esq., and H. LEVY & SONS. Purchasers will have opportunities to buy at these sales which do not often occur.

Interest Tables.

We have another supply of Interest Tables: By W. H. CLARKSON, of Sumter District. Several errors occurred in the printing of these Tables, and to the copies we have now, an Errata is attached, correcting the same. Copies may be had at the Post Office, Workman's and DeHay's Drug-Store, and at this Office.—Price 25 cts. Those persons who purchased any of the first copies sent us, will receive a corrected copy in exchange by applying at the office of the Journal.

Health of Mr. Clay.

It is stated that Mr. CLAY is rapidly sinking. It is not believed that he can live many days longer.

Since writing the above we see by a Telegraphic despatch in the Charleston papers, that Mr. CLAY's health is better, and there is no danger of his speedy dissolution.

The School-Fellow.

This interesting little monthly for boys and girls is before us. The May number appears to be a good one, maintaining its high juvenile character. Every family should take it.

"THE CHILD'S PAPER."—Is a beautiful little sheet for children. It contains monthly, choice moral and religious reading for them, and comes at the rate of Ten copies for one dollar per annum. No subscription received for less than ten copies for one year.

Rev. John Bachman, D. D.

On the first page of to-day's paper will be found an interesting article from the pen of this venerable and distinguished divine of the Lutheran Church.

The article is intended as a reply to Dr. BELLINGER's course in refusing, as a member of the City Council, protection to a Protestant Clergyman, who was threatened by a mob. We commend it to the careful perusal of our readers.

If it has come to this that Protestants—citizens of America, are to be threatened and intimidated by a reckless foreign mob, it is time we should know it, and as Dr. BACHMAN says, "Prepare either to enforce the laws or seek an asylum to which they may retreat with their families when good old Protestant Charleston shall be ruled by a mob, and Protestant ministers be warned to observe a profound silence about the abuses of the Roman Hierarchy, lest a mob of foreigners, who have from time to time, come among us under the pretence of seeking the protection of our laws and the rewards of their honest industry, should suddenly burst out from the bowels of their Trojan horse and deluge the city in blood."

The Methodist Church Case.

The New York Herald says that there is a prospect of the settlement of the great Methodist Episcopal Church case. The references ordered by the Circuit Court, to take testimony and report the value of the Book Concern, in dispute between the Northern and Southern divisions of the Church, was brought to a hearing before Commissioner Nelson, in New York, on Wednesday. The only principal difference of opinion appears to be in reference to the value of the stereotype plates. The General Conference of the Northern section was to have met in Boston yesterday, and the Herald anticipated that the affair would be settled before the meeting.

Meteorological.

Meteorological Journal for April.

BAROMETER.

Greatest height, - - - - - 30,060in.
Attached Thermometer same time, - - - - - 63deg.
Least height, - - - - - 29,240in.
Attached Thermometer same time, - - - - - 59deg.
Average height for the month, - - - - - 29,738in.

DETACHED THERMOMETER.

Greatest height, 30th ult., - - - - - 88deg.
Least height, 2nd ult., - - - - - 36deg.
Monthly mean, - - - - - 60,35 " "
Cloudy days, - - - - - 12
Fair, - - - - - 13
Clear, - - - - - 5
Rain, - - - - - 4,731in.

RETURN OF MISSIONARIES.—We notice that advices from Shanghai state that Mrs. Taylor, wife of the Rev. Charles Taylor, one of the Methodist missionaries to China from the South Carolina Conference, has sailed from that port to New York. Ill health is the cause of Mrs. Taylor leaving China. Mrs. T. is the daughter of the Rev. John Gamewell, deceased, formerly of the South Carolina Conference, and was married some four or five years ago to Dr. Taylor, when he was stationed in Camden, and after he had been appointed missionary to China.

Besides Mrs. Taylor and her two children, we notice that Mrs. Boone, wife of Bishop Boone, and two children, and a Chinese female attendant; Rev. Dr. Bridgman, Mrs. Bridgman, a son of the Rev. E. W. Lyle, and a Chinese girl, have also sailed from Shanghai for New York.—*South Carolinian.*

M. Lucien Murat, formerly of Bordentown, N. J., is reported in the last European papers to have received from the French government a pension of 2,000,000 francs—about \$500,000.

Soda is found in mineral seams, also in beds near Alexandria. The manufacturing chemists make it from common salt.

For the Journal.

Temperance.

There seems to be a systematic attempt to bring Temperance into disrepute, by many newspapers of the country; and it is as well that we should know the estimation in which we are held by those to whose support we contribute. I enclose you for publication the following slip from the Southern Press; a paper extensively supported in this vicinity by Temperance men.

Temperance.—It is better to be a madman once in a while, than a rogue and a hypocrite all one's life.

This is one of those "relics of scraps," &c., contributed regularly to that paper. It is not the first which has appeared in the same quarter, but it is the boldest, attack made in any quarter.

For the Camden Journal.

May Party.

There is a great charm about sweet May that spreads its benign influence to all nature. May too is ushered in by the festivities of the season. It is as if were the breaking up of nature's winter quarters; and gaiety, flowers, and mirth claim the season as their own. It is to the first of this month that we always anticipate in imagination the pleasant glorious May party, with the numerous little girls,

Dressed in Floras mantle gay,
Their beauty and joy to display.

Our anticipations were fully realized a few evenings ago, when we attended the party in your ordinarily quiet town. We arrived early, and found the room decorated in the most handsome style; beautiful floral wreaths hung in tasteful festoons across and around the Throne. But these were secondary objects—roseate ornaments to decorate the many lovely beings around them. The room was graced with such a galaxy of young ladies, as we have seldom, if ever, met before. The ceremonies of crowning the Queen were performed in the most tasteful and neat manner; indeed, nothing could be more beautiful and touching than to see these little girls,

"Showering their Flowers gay,
Upon their chosen Queen of May."

After these ceremonies were closed, we were silently musing on the scenes around, and lost in dreamy reverie, when suddenly wild strains of music broke upon our ears, immediately followed by the command of "partners out for a cotillion," our musing dream instantly vanished, and starting from our observing position, we sought a partner from that bright throng of beauty, and was soon whirling in the mazes of the gay, giddy dance. But

"Of all that did happen, I could not tell,
Of the dancers and dresses, and who was the Belle;
But each was so happy, and all was so fair,
That evening stole away, and midnight caught us there."

We reluctantly left this scene of mirth and joy, at the small hours of morning, enraptured with the many beautiful, gay, intelligent young ladies with whom we had passed such an agreeable evening.

We observed one thing worthy of a passing remark, which was, that there were very few young men there, and was informed that Camden could not afford enough for a large party, at this we are not surprised, for any man who will live a Benedict amid such a throng of lovely girls, I must think, does so, through necessity not choice.

May 3d, 1852.

GENERAL LOPEZ STILL ALIVE.—The New Orleans Crescent says:—One of the returned Cuban prisoners states that he is credibly informed, and has reason to believe, that General Lopez was not garoted. But that another individual, a notorious criminal, who very much resembled Lopez, was the sufferer in the tragic scene at the Plaza de Arms.

Our informant states that Lopez is confined in one of the dungeons of Havana, where, without light; without clothing, solitary, and scantily fed, he is daily subjected to the most excruciating tortures. Spanish invention, it is said has been put to the rack to invent tortures sufficiently refined for this scourge of royalty in the Antilles.

Without endorsing the story, we give it for what it is worth.

IMPROVEMENT.—There is, perhaps, not an individual class of persons in existence, in which, as many people could be found, so deadly hostile to improvement as the farmer. The old way of plowing and reaping suits him so well that it has become stereotyped, and he thinks it the only right way to manage a farm. Talk to him of acquainting himself with the nature of the soil he occupies, and ascertaining what elements abound in it most freely, and from that to judge what crops it is best calculated to produce, and perchance he will tell you it is all moonshine, or diluted starglight, and thus content himself, that "whatever is, is right," and continues to plod on his dull way, groping in the dark; perhaps envious of his neighbor, who manages to raise more from fifty acres, than he can from one hundred, simply having the views and experience of others as his guide, combined with a thorough and systematic course of labor.

Speak to him of taking an Agricultural paper, and before your story is half told, he will tell you it's another way to pick up the people's money, devised by some one too lazy to work his way through life.

But, I am happy that the veil is being removed, and that good agricultural papers are springing up in every section, and finding their way to the notice of farmers, hitherto unreachd. Truly, a good practical Agricultural paper is a treasure, a beacon-light for all to follow.—*Northern Farmer.*

TEXAS STATE CONVENTIONS.—The steamships West Wind, from Chagres, and the Yacht and Meteor, from Texas, arrived to-day. The dates from Texas are to the 2d. The Whig and Democratic State Conventions both passed resolutions to adhere to the compromise measures. The former passed a resolution complimentary to the administration of Mr. Fillmore, and the latter resolved to support the Baltimore Convention nominee.

The last number of the Westminster Review, one of the "great quarterlies, speaks of the "State of Baltimore," and says "each member of Congress represents fifty thousand adult males!"