

THE IMPORTANCE OF BACTERIA.

Bacterial Life Contains the Secret of Nitrogen Production.

Nitrogen is to the soil in which our plants grow much what the oxygen of the air is to us; for without it the death of vegetation must ultimately ensue. For that reason we add the necessary nitrogen to the tilled soil in the form of fertilizers. It happens, however, that the supply of fertilizers, which in turn is dependent upon the supply of nitrates in the world, is limited. Like the coal fields of Pennsylvania, the nitrate beds from which nitrogen compounds are obtained must ultimately be exhausted. And because the free nitrogen of the air in its elemental state cannot be assimilated by vegetation, it is no wonder that the agricultural chemist has taken it upon himself to devise some means for restoring to the earth the nitrogen which it must give up to the growing plant, and without which the plant could not grow.

Just how the nitrogen of the air could be converted into nitrates suitable for fertilization is a problem that has been attacked time and time again with scant success. Crookes proposed a plan not without merit, a plan by which the nitrogen of the air was converted into nitric acid through the agency of the electric spark.

For centuries farmers have known that different crops should be grown in the same field with each succeeding year. Some crops following clover and other plants were found to flourish admirably. Careful analyses by agricultural chemists have shown that the benefits derived by this rotation are due directly to the increased stores of nitrogen placed at the disposal of the benefited plants. It would necessarily have followed that plants of the clover type were able to render available nitrogen which would otherwise be unassimilated. Further investigation showed that this nitrogen was fixed in a manner entirely unsuspected, and that we need have no fear of the exhaustion of the nitrate beds which supply us with the chief ingredients of our fertilizers.

The Leguminosae family of plants, among other distinctions, have well-defined nodules at their roots, highly charged with nitrogen and constituting the habitat of certain bacteria indispensable in nitrogen assimilation. Elaborate experiments proved that the destruction of these bacteria was equivalent to the destruction of the plant life itself. Bacterial life, then, and nothing else, contains the secret of nitrogen production. It having been settled with reasonable certainty that the fixation of nitrogen in the case of Leguminosae is directly traceable to bacteria, the next investigation to be carried out had for its determination the life process of these bacteria—the conditions under which they thrive, the amount of light, heat, and moisture that they require, the manner in which the plant appropriated the nitrogen brought to it from the air, and finally, the possibility of artificially stimulating plant life by inoculating soil with the bacteria. These investigations have been carried out with striking success. At no very distant day the farmer will either inoculate his field with a culture of bacteria adapted to the crop he wishes to grow, or incorporate with his soil earth of a field where the crop has already been successful. The uncertainty of a good crop will then have vanished, and a farmer will be assured of the best obtainable crops from the seed which he has planted. Guesswork will have given place to absolute certainty.—Scientific American.

Something that Everybody Knows.

Everybody knows that sick headache, biliousness, sallowness and constipation are caused by a disordered liver. But everybody doesn't know that laziness, that tired feeling, despondency, the blues, irritability and sleeplessness are also due to the same cause. If your liver is acting well, your skin will be clear, eyes bright, spirits buoyant, appetite good, health good. Rydale's Liver Tablets will make your liver act right and they will do it in such a pleasant way that you will hardly realize that you are taking medicine. Rydale's Liver Tablets are guaranteed to cure chronic constipation and all liver diseases and disorders. Your money refunded if these tablets do not give satisfaction. Walhalla Drug Co., Seneca Pharmacy.

A farmer, in experimenting with Mexican labor has found that they can pick nearly twice as much cotton in a day as the negro can.

W. B. Smith Whaley Makes Assignment.

Boston, Mass., September 20.—Owing over a million dollars and with assets of \$1,200, Wm. B. Smith Whaley, the financial supporter of several cotton manufacturing enterprises in the South, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in the United States District Court to-day. Mr. Whaley was the senior member of the Wm. B. Smith Whaley company of this city and is a resident of Newton. For some time he has been interested in raising funds for textile industries in the Southern States, particularly in South Carolina, which have not resulted favorably. Mr. Whaley's total liabilities are \$1,114,125. The secured claims amount to \$1,087,951, and the unsecured to \$26,174.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price, 75c. per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Toombs' Defense of a Slave.

Many incidents are related illustrating the mutual affection of master and slave in the South before the war.

A negro man, strong and healthy, but getting gray from years, was on trial for murder. He had killed another negro and had been laying in jail for some time awaiting his trial. The testimony against him was given by other negroes who witnessed the killing. When the case was called for trial by the presiding judge an old man rose and, in a voice deep and low, but full of marked gentleness, said:

"Will your honor please mark me for the defense?"

It was Gen. Robert Toombs. His face was wrinkled with age, but it was large and strong, and the lines of intellect made deeper wrinkles than those of age. His white hair rolled back in curls from a splendid brow. His form was large and tall and straight, although his movements were slow with the years. His eyes still flashed as when in the Senate Chamber at Washington.

The witnesses all seemed unfriendly toward the prisoner. In his own statement he claimed that the killing was in self-defense.

General Toombs analyzed the testimony of the eye-witnesses, and then concluded thus:

"Your honor, please, and gentlemen of the jury: A few years ago my only brother fell wounded on the battlefield of Gettysburg. He lay there bleeding to death, with no friendly hand to help him. Shot and shell were sweeping the earth all about him. No friend could go to him, no surgeon dared approach him. My brother had a body servant who waited on him in camp. The negro saw his master's danger, and straight out into that sheet of battle and flame and death he went. A piece of shell tore the flesh from his breast, but on he went, and, gathering my brother in his arms, the blood of the man mingling with the blood of the master, he bore him to safety and to life. Jim, open your collar."

The prisoner rose and opened his shirt in the front. On his breast the jury saw the long jagged scars where the shell had torn its way.

"Jim's skin may be black," the General continued, "he may be a negro, but the man who would do what he did has a soul too white ever to have killed a man except in defense of his own life."

The jury agreed with him and Jim was cleared.—The Classmate.

Money to Move Crops.

Washington, September 24.—The transfers of money from the New York treasury to New Orleans, Chicago and other points for crop moving purposes continues, and E. H. Roberts, United States Treasurer, says that he has authorized the transfer of \$300,000 to New Orleans. He stated that the transfers are not materially in excess of last year, but indicate that the crop-moving season will require at least the usual amount of money.

Three Solid Car Loads Hardware.

Biggest Line of Hardware and the Lowest Prices now on these Goods that have ever been offered to the People of Oconee County.

BUILDING MATERIAL.

Just think—one solid car load of Building Material, such as Doors, (plain and glass), Window Sash, Mouldings, Blinds, Mantels, etc. Over 300 Doors, any size; 500 pairs Sash. We offer you 8x10 12-light Sash at 87c. per Window; always sold heretofore at \$1 per Sash. Other sizes as cheap in proportion.

BARB WIRE AND NAILS. ONE SOLID CAR LOAD OF WIRE AND NAILS. BARB WIRE 2 3-4 CENTS PER POUND. WIRE NAILS AT \$2.50 PER KEG BASE.

GUNS, LOADED SHELLS, ETC.

Guns, Hunting Coats, Leggings, Reloading Sets, etc. Hopkin & Allen Single Barrel Guns, \$3.50. This Gun has always been sold for \$5. Double Barrel Guns \$8.50 to \$25. Loaded Shells only 38 cents per box.

Shingle and Saw Mill Supplies, Belting, Rubber Hose, Piping, Injectors, Valves, Etc. All our Customers are our Friends.

MATHESON HARDWARE CO.,

WESTMINSTER, SOUTH CAROLINA.

STOVES—HEATING AND COOKING.

One solid car Cooking Stoves, Ranges and Heating Stoves. Cooking Stoves \$7.50 and upwards, with full line of nice Vessels. We have the kind that makes cooking a pleasure. They are guaranteed, and this is backed up by us. Heating Stoves for churches, school houses and residences, \$1.25 to \$10. Some rare bargains in this line.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Try an Avery Steel Plow if you cannot get anything else that will turn your land. We have the Syracuse Plows, Mallory's Combination Plows, etc. If we haven't got in stock what you want, we can order it.

The Iroquois theater, in which nearly 600 persons were burned to death on December 30, 1903, was reopened on the night of September 19 as a vaudeville play house. The theater has been refitted at a cost of nearly \$100,000, and constructed so as to meet every requirement of the law.

Carroll, the little son of John W. Hook, of Batesburg, was supposed to have been bitten by a mad dog on last Wednesday. The day following Mr. Hook left with the boy for Prosperity in search of a mad stone. He was bitten in two places, on the hand and on the right side of the abdomen, and from evidence to be adduced from the various rumors the dog was certainly mad.

A Denver, Col., dispatch to the New York Evening Telegram says: It is reported that at least 100,000 women will vote at the coming Presidential election in the States of Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming. Politicians agree that in those sections of the country the women's vote practically holds the balance of power, and they are using every effort to gain the support of the feminine contingent. Here it is expected that the labor question will be the most important issue, while in the other three States it is expected that the campaign will be conducted on the Mormon question.

Columbia correspondence of the News and Courier: Attorney General U. X. Gunter has prepared at the request of State Chairman Willie Jones, the tickets that are necessary for the general election, so that the voters of the State at the November election can say whether they want biennial sessions or not, and whether they want an amendment to the constitution by which the General Assembly can make separate and distinct road laws for each and every county in the State. Mr. Gunter has prepared the tickets so that the voters can express their views upon the two constitutional amendments that are to be submitted to the approaching general election.

Wheat is considerably over a dollar a bushel in Chicago, and sowing time is close at hand.



SAVES THE LIVES OF INFANTS AND INVALIDS

SUNBRIGHT'S

CALIFORNIA FOOD

DELICIOUS NUTRITIOUS CORRECTIVE

ROBERT A. CAMPBELL, M. D., writes:—After many other foods had failed Sunbright's saved our baby. I have used it many times with uniform success as an infant food, also in Typhoid and other fevers. I can recommend it with full confidence that it will give universal satisfaction, and agree with more babies than any other food on the market.

50¢, 75¢, \$1.25, \$3.00 Sizes.

Sunbright's California Food Co., Los Angeles, Cal.

RECOMMENDED AND FOR SALE BY

WALHALLA DRUG COMPANY.

Noah Waded in the Mud.

The Baltimore Sun says that at Wesley Grove campmeeting last month the subject of "eternal damnation" was introduced by one of a party of ministers and laymen who were lounging about in one of the reception tents on Preachers' Row, enjoying secular relaxation and social intercourse. One gentleman addressed Bishop W. A. Candler, of the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church, and said:

"Bishop, surely you don't believe that God would permit anybody to be damned, do you? Don't you think God is too good for that?"

To this the Methodist Bishop with Universalist predilections replied: "I don't know about that. Biblical history would seem to be to the contrary. According to the theory implied in what you say all the wicked people who were drowned in the flood went straight to heaven and to eternal rest, away from the cares of this world, while the only good man in the whole world at the time was left wading around in the mud."

Avoid serious results of kidney or bladder disorder by taking Foley's Kidney Cure. Sold by J. W. Bell, Walhalla; W. J. Lunney, Seneca.

Mob Shoots Innocent Negroes.

The negroes recently dismissed by the Court at Talbotton, Ga., on the charge of belonging to a "Beforeday" club, were followed on their departure by a hack carrying four or five white men. About a mile from town the hack party met a negro boy named Jack Troy. In passing, some one in the hack shot him, wounding him so seriously that he is not expected to live. Six miles from town the hack party called Ed Martin, a negro, on H. C. Truesdale's plantation, from his house and made him get in the hack, when one of the party shot the negro's eye out, and he is also expected not to live. The negroes were not charged with being members of a "Beforeday" club. Sheriff Richards, with deputies and a posse, have gone to Prattburg to protect the negroes there. There is no mob at Prattburg and no effort has been made to harm the negroes who were arrested and acquitted at Talbotton.

Intelligence of the Widow.

"The widow," said I. W. Read, of Nashville, "furnishes the most delightful study to the observer of the tricks and manners of human beings. One summer," he continued in a ruminating manner, "I was spending some time at White Sulphur Springs, Va.,—I only tell this as an illustration of the acumen and intelligence of the genus widow—and one afternoon a handsome young woman and her little 6-year-old son sat near me on the veranda. The little fellow trotted up to me and I patted him on the head. 'What's your name?' he asked. I told him. 'Is you married?' he lisped. 'No, I'm not,' I replied. Then the child paused a moment, and, turning to his mother, said, 'Mamma, what else did you tell me to ask him?'"

Transformation of Dowie.

Wearing a rich robe and mitre modeled after those of an ancient Jewish high priest, John Alexander Dowie has proclaimed himself "John Alexander," first apostle of the Christian Catholic church.

The announcement was made in the tabernacle at Zion City, where seven thousand people had assembled. Dowie referred to the robes in assuming the office. After quoting Scripture in support of the claim he made to the title of First Apostle, he said:

"I did not create the office. It was created by the Lord. I did not create it any more than I designed these robes."

Dowie wore a long garment of heavy, white satin, lined with white silk. Over this was a purple satin robe, fringed with gilt, of knee length. The "brodered coat," the richest feature of the costume, was of white satin, embroidered with geometrical patterns in purple and gold, the colors of the church.

Little Girl Assaulted.

In the Highland neighborhood of Greenville county on September 21st, the 13-year-old daughter of W. A. Reid, a farmer, was criminally assaulted by an unknown negro. Mr. Reid was in Greenville, attending Court, when the message came. With the sheriff he left for home at midnight, and a posse is now searching for the fiend. If captured, the assailant will be taken to Greenville for immediate trial. This is promised by the sheriff and judge.

Lightning Kills Six Men.

A dispatch from Port Arthur, Texas, last Wednesday says: During an electrical storm this morning lightning struck an oil tank of the Texas Oil refinery, on which six men were at work, shelling the roof. The oil ignited, and in the explosion which followed five of the workmen were instantly killed and the other fatally injured.

Chinese Girl to Make Debut.

The daughter of Sir Chentung Liang Cheng, Chinese Minister to the United States, will make her social debut in Washington some time this winter. She will be the first Chinese girl formally to enter American society. She is 18 years old and is accounted a decided beauty, according to Oriental ideas, though her feet are not deformed. Miss Cheng has not adopted American dress. Her diamonds and pearls rival in size and beauty the noted gems of Mrs. Wu, wife of the former envoy.

Fire, which originated in the Piedmont Clothing Manufacturing Company's plant at Charlotte last Wednesday night, caused a loss estimated at \$90,000; insurance about \$65,000.

PISO'S CURE FOR

CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.

Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

CONSUMPTION

THREE PAPERS A WEEK FOR \$1.50.

By a clubbing arrangement with the Charleston Semi-Weekly News and Courier we are offering that paper and the Keowee Courier for \$1.50 per year. The Keowee Courier is recognized not only as the best paper in Oconee county, but it is rated among the best county papers in South Carolina. The Semi-Weekly News and Courier is an excellent journal, published on Wednesdays and Saturdays, gives the detailed news of South Carolina as a special feature, and carries the full Associated Press dispatches from all over the world. The combination of the two papers at \$1.50 gives our present readers, as well as new subscribers, an opportunity to secure two of the best papers in the State (three papers a week) for 50 cents more than the regular price of either. Let us send you two of the very best papers in South Carolina for almost the price of one.

Thomas and Chalmers White were convicted at Salisbury, N. C., on September 16, of murder in the second degree for killing a young man named Russell Sherrill about a year ago. Sherrill was accused of having seduced a niece of the Whites. The Whites went to his house and killed him in the presence of his mother, while she was begging for mercy and screaming for help. It was a brutal assassination, and the jury so decided. The Whites were sentenced to six years imprisonment in the State penitentiary at Raleigh, and the verdict is generally upheld by the people familiar with the facts.

If the grand jury of Aiken county does its full duty criminal proceedings will be instituted against those persons who have brought shame and disgrace upon the entire Second Congressional District by corrupting the ballot box in the Horse Creek valley during the late elections. Votes were openly bought, there being not even a pretense of concealment, so says an Aiken contemporary. Such methods of securing office are revolting to intelligent, self-respecting people.—Edgefield Advertiser.

Nine Lives Lost in Wreck.

At Melrose, Mass., on last Wednesday night an outward-bound electric car, containing 32 persons, was blown to pieces by striking a pound box of dynamite that had fallen off an express wagon. Three persons were killed outright; three more died of their injuries within an hour, and 19 others on the car were taken to the two hospitals suffering from injuries. At least a score of persons in the immediate vicinity of the explosion were hurt by flying glass and splinters.

Some are advising the farmers to hold their cotton for higher prices. We frankly say that we do not know what is best for the farmers at large, but have no hesitancy in advising those who owe money, and are paying interest, to market their cotton as rapidly as it can be picked. With cotton selling above ten cents the man who owes money cannot afford to take chances. Sixty days from to-day it may be selling for twelve cents or eight cents. Who knows? Ten cents per pound in a bank or on a mortgage is far better than fifteen cents in prospect.—Edgefield Advertiser.

The man who talks to himself hears a lot of compliments.