

Land Drainage.

THE EFFECTS OF DRAINING.

PROFESSOR Norton says: "When the drain is made and covered, the water which falls upon the ground does not remain to stagnate, and does not run away over the surface, washing off the best of the soil, but sinks gradually down, reaching to the roots of plants any fertilizing matter which it may contain, and often washing out some hurtful substances. As it descends, it warms the soil, and under these new influences, the proper decompositions and preparations of compounds fit for the sustenance of plants go on, the soil is warm and sufficiently dry, and plants flourish which formerly never would grow on it in perfection, if it is left in a cold, wet, and unproductive state. It is a curious fact, too, that such soil, when brought to the surface, is found to be much richer than ever before. The reason is, that the plants are able to send their roots much further down in search of food, without finding anything hurtful. Every part being penetrated with air, and consequently being better nourished, these soils do not bake in summer, but remain mellow and porous. Such effects cannot, in their full extent, be looked for in a stiff clay, during the first season; the change must be gradual, but is sure."

The effects of draining are thus enumerated by Professor Johnston: "1. It causes the air to be renewed. It is by the admission of frequently renewed supplies of air into the soil is favorable to its fertility. This the descent of the rain produces. When it falls upon the soil, it makes its way into the pores and fissures, expelling, of course, the air which previously filled them. When the rain ceases, the water runs off by the drains, and as it leaves the pores of the soil, the air follows, and fills with a renewed supply, the numerous cavities from which the descent of the rain has driven it. When land remains full of water, no such renewal of air can take place."

"2. It warms the under soil. As the rain falls through the air, it acquires the temperature of the atmosphere. If this be higher than that of the surface soil, the latter is warmed by it; and if the rains be copious, the heat is carried down to the subsoil, they will carry the warmth with them to the depth of the subsoil. Thus the under soil in well-drained land is not only warmer, because the evaporation is less, but because the rains, in the summer season, actually bring down warmth from the heavens to add to their natural heat."

"3. It equalizes the temperature of the soil during the season of growth. The sun heats upon the surface of the soil, and gradually warms it. In the summer, this direct heat extends only a few inches beneath the surface; but when rain falls upon the warm surface, and descends as it does in open soil, it becomes itself warmer, and carries its heat down into the subsoil. Then the roots of plants are warmed, and general growth is stimulated."

"4. It carries down soluble substances to the roots of plants. When rain falls upon heavy, undrained land, or upon any land into which it does not readily sink, it runs over the surface, dissolves any soluble matter it may meet with, and carries it to the nearest ditch or brook. Rain thus robs and impoverishes such land."

"5. It washes noxious matters from the under soil. In the subsoil, beyond the reach of the air, substances are apt to collect, especially in red-colored soils, which are injurious to the roots of plants. These the descent of rain alters in part, and makes wholesome, and in part washes out. The plow may then be safely trusted deeper, and the roots of plants may descend in search of food where they would previously have been destroyed."

"6. It brings down fertilizing substances from the air. Besides the rains never descend empty-handed. They constantly bear with them gilda, not only of moisture to the parched herbage, but of organic and saline food, by which its growth is promoted. Ammonia and nitric acid, together with many exhalations which are daily rising from the earth's surface, come down in the rains; common salt, gypsum, and other saline substances derived from the sea, are rarely wanting; and thus the constant descent from the heavens may well be supposed to counterbalance the occasional washings from the earth."

"7. Much of the rain is evaporated. And lastly, in answer to this objection, it is of importance to state, that in our climate a very large proportion of the rain that falls does not sink through the soil, even where there are drains beneath, but rises again into the air in the form of watery vapor. Experiments in Manchester have shown that of 37 inches of rain which fell there in a year, 24 1/2 evaporated, while in Yorkshire of 24 inches of rain which fell, only five inches run off through pipes—laid at the depth of 2 feet 9 inches, the rest being evaporated. There is little cause, therefore, for the fear expressed by some, that the draining of the soil will cause the fertility in any perceptible degree to diminish, in consequence of the washing of the descending rains. They may, as I have said, improve the subsoil by washing hurtful substances out of it; but, in general, the soil will have extracted from the water which filters through it, all the valuable matter it holds in solution, before it has reached the depth of a three feet drain."

In my next, Mr. Editor, I will give you a chapter on the Practice of Draining, Distance of Drains, and Depth of Drains.

Some one asked Mrs. Cady Stanton if she thought that girls possessed the physique necessary for the wear and tear of a college course of study. Her reply is both sensible and sarcastic. "I would like to see you," said Mrs. Stanton, "take thirteen hundred young men, and lace them up, and hang ten to twenty pound weight of clothes to their waists, perch them upon three-inch heels, cover their heads with ruffles, chignons, rats and ices, and stick ten thousand hair-pins into their scalps; if they can stand all this, they can stand a little Latin and Greek."

Now-a-days it would greatly embarrass most ministers of the gospel to have their people rise and propound questions and seek answers; but this was the custom in the early church, and it served greatly to its edification. The fervor of this custom might sharpen some of the preachers, as well as the people. A little girl, after noticing for some time the glittering gold filling in her aunt's front teeth, exclaimed, "Aunt Mary, I wish I had copper-toothed teeth like yours."

A House Where Men Never Laugh.

How do you think you would like to live, fearing every moment being blown up; not daring to speak loud, to jar anything, for fear of starting an explosion that would send you in an instant to the other world?

You don't think it would be very pleasant? Well, it isn't; yet hundreds of men live in just that state, work, receive pay, and live year after year, in the very sight of death, as it were; and all that the world may have gunpowder.

You can easily guess that those men go about very quietly, and never laugh.

You know that gunpowder is very dangerous in a gun, or near a fire, but perhaps you don't know that it is equally dangerous all through the process of making.

The powder-mill is a fearful place to visit, and strangers are very seldom allowed to go into one. They are built far from any town, in the woods, and each branch of the work is done in a separate building. These houses are quite a distance from each other, so that if one blows up, it won't blow up the rest. Then the lower parts of the buildings are made very strong, while the roofs are very lightly set on. So that if it explodes, only the roof will suffer.

But in spite of every care, sometimes a whole settlement of the powder mills will go off all at once, in an instant, and every vestige of the work of years will be swept away in a few seconds.

But though you feel like holding your breath to look at it, it is really a very interesting process to see. It is made, perhaps you know, of charcoal, saltpeter, and brimstone. Each of these articles is prepared in a house by itself; but the house where they are mixed is the first terrible one. In the building is an immense mill-stone, rolling round and round in an iron bed. In this bed, and under the stone, are put the three fearful ingredients of gunpowder. There they are thoroughly mixed and ground together.

This is a very dangerous operation, because if the stone comes in contact with the iron bed it is very apt to strike fire, and the merest suspicion of a spark will set off the whole. The materials are pressed through a four inches thick iron plate, the wheel, which goes by water-power, is started, and every man leaves the place. The door is shut, and the machinery left to do its terrible work alone. When it has run long enough, the mill is stopped, and the men come back. This operation leaves the powder in hard lumps, or cakes.

The next house is where these cakes are broken up into grains, and of course is quite as dangerous as the last one. But the men can't go away from this, they are obliged to attend to it every moment; and you may be sure no laugh or joke is ever heard within its walls. Every one who goes in has to take off his boots, and put on rubbers, because one grain of the powder, crushed by the boot, would explode the whole in an instant.

The floor of this house is covered with leather, and is made perfectly black by the dust of the gunpowder. It contains a set of sieves, each one smaller than the last, through which the powder is sifted. And an immense grinding and laboring mill, where it is ground up, while men shovel it in with wooden shovels. The machinery makes a great deal of noise, but the men are silent, as in the other houses. The reckless cracking of the machinery even seems to give no greater horror, and one is very glad to get out of that house.

The glazing-house comes next. Glazing is done by mixing black lead with the powder, to give it a black and shining look. The powder is put into barrels, which revolve for several hours. That polishes the grains by their rubbing together. Then black lead is put with them, and they revolve several hours more. Of course the dust flies from all these operations; and all the workmen, silent like the rest, look like very black negroes, working in the blackest of powder, in a room whose walls and floors are blacker than the rest, if possible. It has a very singular look to a stranger, and added to the horrible silence, makes one feel that the whole world has gone into mourning. Often, the gunpowder, revolving so rapidly in the barrels, gets very hot; so this too is a dangerous operation.

The stoving-house is the next on the list, and there the gunpowder is heated in wooden trays. It is very hot, and no workmen stay there. From there it goes to the packing-house, and is put in barrels, kegs, and canisters.

Safely through all these houses, it goes at last to the store-house. One feels like drawing a long breath, to see the fearful stuff safely packed away, out of the hands of men in this curious house.

You've heard of things being dry as a powder-house, but you wouldn't think this house dry. It is almost imbedded in water. The roof is one big tank, kept full of water. Did you ever hear of a water-roof before? Instead of steps to go in, there are shallow tanks of water, through which every one must walk to the door.

In none of these powder-houses is any light ever allowed except sun-light. The wages are good, and the day's work is short, ending always at three or four o'clock. But the men have a serious look, that makes one think every moment of the danger, and glad to get away.

Though curiosity may take a man once to visit a powder mill, he has no desire to go the second time; and he feels all the rest of his life, that for once he has been very near death.

TAKE CARE OF THE LAND AND PRACTICE ECONOMY.—This motto should be written upon every farmer's door in the State. It is the key-note of success and will insure competency, honor and contentment wherever practiced. It is especially necessary now. He who earns one dollar per day and saves fifty cents, is happier and enjoys the blessings of life in a much higher degree than he who earns fifty dollars per day and spends fifty-one. It is the amount saved, not the amount made that gives satisfaction and enjoyment.

Without a proper attention to the wants of the soil there can be no profit in its cultivation. The soil is like a bank; if you invest freely in it you may draw freely from it. Like every valuable thing it requires constant effort to preserve it. It is much less labor to double your crops by doubling the fertility of your land, than by spreading your labor over double the quantity of land. An acre of rich land is as easily cultivated as an acre of poor land, while the profit of cultivation increases at a greater ratio than the yield. An acre of land that will produce fifty bushels of corn per acre, or a thousand pounds of cotton, will pay five times as much clear profit as an acre that will only produce half as much, for a great portion of the first half is required to pay expenses. It is by far better to own and cultivate ten acres of very fertile land than fifty acres only half so fertile. The cost of labor, team, utensils, fencing, etc., is only one fifth as great, while the net profit on the ten acres is just the same as on the fifty. Poor land not only insures poverty, but it perpetuates it. It does more: persons living on it for generations deteriorate physically, mentally and morally unless there is a counterbalancing stimulant of manufactures. Food, population and health, according to a recent statistician, go together. Abundance of food will secure an abundance of population. The first duty of a good citizen, then, is to take care of the land—to enrich it—to make food and multiply population.

Retributive Justice.

The students of Virginia University, during the sessions of 1866-7-8, will, many of them, doubtless remember C. T. Hill, Esq., of Columbus, Miss. Generous even to a fault, affable and courteous, brilliant in the social circle of friends, by whom he was esteemed and beloved for all the higher and ennobling traits of character that give grace to manhood and lend a charm of more than transitory interest to life's career, he was indeed a true type of a man. Leaving college well prepared for the more arduous tasks of life, and with the warm wishes of his classmates for success, he settled his home in Columbus, Miss., and was regarded as a young man of exemplary habits, and one whose progress was onward and upward to all that is bright and successful in the practice of law. In the latter part of last winter a gentleman from Mecklenburg county, Virginia, by the name of Harvey Chambers, who was also a student of law at the University of Virginia, while Hill was there, and between whom ensued a friendship which, the sequel shows, was more lasting than the pleasant days of college life, came out to Mississippi, and ere he had been there long became involved in a difficulty with two persons by the name of Moore and Owen at Okolona. Knowing full well his danger, and that one friend there was who would readily and faithfully render assistance, Chambers immediately sent to Columbus for Hill, who, without waiting for more information as to the nature of the occasion demanding his services, at once left for Okolona, where he had no sooner arrived at night, and registered at the hotel, than he was accosted by several persons, among them Moore and Owen, who several times asked him if he was Mr. Hill, from Columbus. Hill answered in the affirmative, but the questioning, as to his identity, continued several minutes, until he was surrounded by the parties, who, now secure of their victim, extinguished the lights and commenced spring—all without a warning. Innocent and unsuspecting, in the dark of night, Hill, only by the death-flash of the demons' pistols, he fell, wailing in his own life's blood. Friends and others present rushed to his assistance, but alas! too late. The angel of death had placed its signet on his brow, and ere two hours had passed, his soul, brave and generous man, had also fled and passed away from friends and those who knew him but to love. Many hearts were bowed in grief, and the whole community, by whom he was so highly and truly esteemed, were shocked and deeply, O! how deeply pained, no words could tell, no pen describe. Columbus was robbed in grief, and the citizens, one and all, testified as to his worth, and expressed their loss in his death by draping their homes and houses in mourning. But there was one, a gentle, loving maiden, with whom he was soon to be married, whose heart was racked with anguish, that yet weeps for the noble dead, and whose grief was deep and lasting. At the time, friends, and those who knew young Hill, vowed a deathless vengeance on the murderers' heads. The guilty parties were arrested and tried by a jury composed of two white men and two negroes. A mis-trial or a conviction and new trial granted, we are not exactly informed, which was the result; suffice to say they were acquitted. Hill was tenderly placed under the sod. Flowers were spread above his grave; kind hands placed there, and weeping friends watered them with tears. By some the event was passed away and lost in the background. The trees had budded and bloomed, the grass had grown and withered above the grave of the silent, but not unwept and remembered dead. Vengeance—the vengeance of justice was only sleeping, for on last Thursday two weeks ago, at or near Okolona, Gewen himself was murdered by an unknown hand. From an unseen place death's messenger, grim with horror and terrible with the memory of its deed of sin and guilt, once more winged its stayless flight and rested on the soul of him who was deemed a living shame of criminal degradation.

TRICKS OF JUGGLERS.—The sober Christian editors of the New York Observer are responsible for the following: "We think Hermann and Heller are jugglers, but what can they do to compete with the Chinese jugglers? A traveler at Kinki was entertained by the Vicery, the Amir Kustai, and this was one of the amusements: "The same night the juggler appeared, who was one of the great Khan's slaves, and the Amir said to him, 'Come and show us some of your wonders!' Upon this he took a wooden ball, with seven holes in it, through which long thongs were passed, and laying hold of one of these, slung it into the air, and went so high that we lost sight of it altogether. It was the hottest season of the year, and we were outside in the middle of the palace court. There no remained only a short end of a thong in the conjurer's hand, and he desired one of the boys who assisted him to lay hold of it and mount. He did so, climbing by the thong, and we lost sight of him. The conjurer then called to him three times, but getting no answer, he snatched up a knife, as if in a great rage, laid hold of the thong, and disappeared in his turn. By-and-by he threw down one of the boy's hands, then a foot, then the trunk, and last of all, the head! Lastly, he came down himself, puffing and blowing, and with his clothes all bloody, kissed the ground before the Amir, and said something to him in Chinese. The Amir gave some order in reply, and our friend then took the lad's limbs, laid them together, and their place, and gave a kick, when, presto! there was the boy, who got up and stood before us! All this astonished me beyond measure."

A letter from Adjutant-General Gorman, of the North Carolina militia, gives a history of the unsuccessful campaign against the negro bandit in Robeson County, who have so long defied both the State and national authorities. He also gives a description of the country, which the outlaws live, their personnel and mode of life. The whole race is of mixed origin and is more or less connected by blood, and some five or six family names constitute the majority of the inhabitants, the Lowrys, the Oxleys and the Chaves being the largest in number. It is asserted that nearly the whole community is in active sympathy with the outlaws, many through fear, others through prejudice, and the remainder from ties of relationship. Their predatory and lawless operations are well systematized, and in their forays they are assisted by the desolate and almost impassable condition of the swamp and forest land. Finding that he could not make headway against them, and not being able to arouse the white citizens from their despondent apathy and secure their co-operation, Gorman finally arranged an interview with the Lowrys, and met them, by agreement, in a swamp. They said that they were tired of their present manner of life, and promised to leave the United States if a free pardon was given them. Gorman assured them that they would have a fair trial and good counsel at court, but they would not surrender. They say that they will defend themselves to the bitter end. The adjutant-general adds that he hopes before long to have the satisfaction of announcing the capture of the gang.

A New Yorker says that the cows should be salted every morning, and in the stable, before foddering, but never after taking water.—This is the practice of the best stock-keepers in Switzerland, and he thinks much preferable to salting them once or twice a week, or to keeping it constantly within their reach. A colored man, named Wm. McCottry, living near Kingsree, caused the death of his daughter on Wednesday, by the discharge of a gun he had in his hand while he was correcting her. She died about an hour after the load lodged in her body. McCottry was arrested by the Sheriff, and held for examination. The first point of gain in the boot and shoe trade is to get the people to put their foot in it.

C. A. REED.

New Goods! New Goods!

I HAVE just received and offer for sale at LOW FIGURES, a very large and carefully selected assortment of

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

Feeling thankful as I do to my friends and customers for their former patronage, I solicit a continuance of the same, and cordially invite the public generally to call and examine my stock before purchasing elsewhere. You will find polite and attentive Salesmen who will take pleasure in showing and pricing you Goods.

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Dress Goods.

Fancy Goods and Notions.

Shoes and Boots.

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Family Groceries.

Groceries.

Bacon, Lard, &c.

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NEW FALL AND WINTER GOODS.

CLOTHING EMPORIUM.

THE undersigned are now receiving a fine and well selected Stock of Goods in their line, such as—

Black French Cloths,

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A fine line of Fancy Cassimeres and Colored Cloths,

Beaver Cloths and Costings for suits,

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Also,

A NICE LOT OF

Ready-Made Clothing and Hats,

Gents' Furnishing Goods,

And other articles usually kept in our line.

We would respectfully request our friends and customers to give us a call and examine our stock, as we are satisfied we can give them satisfaction, both in goods and style of cut.

J. B. CLARK & SON.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF

JOHN B. SLOAN, BEG'D.

THE Creditors of this Estate are required to establish their claims before me at my office on or before the 25th day of February next, upon pain of being excluded from all benefit of the decree to be rendered herein.

JOHN W. DANIELS, Clerk Court Common Pleas Anderson Co., Oct 10, 1871

Look Out for the Wagon!

JOHN H. CLARKE, Agent for the IMPROVED SINGER FAMILY SEWING MACHINE, is traveling through Anderson and adjacent country, and will be pleased to exhibit this superior Machine to any one wishing to purchase or examine the same. It is simple and durable in construction, easily operated, and will do any kind of work on the finest fabric or the heaviest leather. If you wish to see the Machine, give notice to J. B. Clark & Son, Anderson, S. C., and I will be pleased to call at your house.

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Fall & Winter Goods, FAMILY GROCERIES,

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Will Sell Low for Cash.

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WANTED, 95,000 POUNDS OF

Cotton Rags

For which we will pay the highest CASH PRICES.

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All kinds Country Produce Taken in exchange for Goods

We are also in the Cotton Market, And pay the highest Cash Price for Cotton. Give us a call before you sell the article.

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Latest and Best Styles of Ladies' HATS, BONNETS,

Ribbons, Feathers, FLOWERS, CURLS, LACES, GLOVES, &c., &c.

Also, DRESS GOODS, TRIMMINGS, Ladies' and Childrens' STROES.

DRESS MAKING attended to as usual.

Having selected these Goods in New York and Baltimore with great care, I feel confident that they will give satisfaction to my many lady customers. These goods will be opened by 5th October.

C. C. DANIELS, Old Stand, Anderson, S. C. Sept 28, 1871

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GILREATH & BURGESS, CONDUCT A FIRST CLASS

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AND are prepared to execute at the shortest notice, and in the best workmanship, anything in that line. Their salesroom is conducted by an attentive and experienced salesman, who will be pleased to have the public give him a call and examine the stock and prices.

ORDERS SOLICITED. COOKING STOVES made a specialty. A full stock of Stoves of every description always on hand, and at prices to suit all.

Competition defied. They cannot be undersold. COTTON RAGS bought at the highest price! WRAPPING PAPER in any quantity at 8 cents per pound.

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A pamphlet with full and detailed list of all sizes of Doors, Sashes and Blinds, and the prices of each, will be sent free and post paid, on application to

P. P. TOALE, Charleston, S. C. July 13, 1871

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OFFICE—No. 8 Granite Row, up stairs, Watson & Bro's. Store, Anderson, S. C. Jan 5, 1871

J. C. C. FEATHERSTON, ATTORNEY AT LAW,

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