

The Anderson Intelligencer.

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BY E. B. MURRAY & CO.

TEACHERS' COLUMN.

J. G. CLINKSCALES, Editor.

Let us again insist that the trustees require the teachers to give the average attendance of the males and females separately. This matter is very important and we trust will receive the attention it deserves.

The Big Creek school, under the management of Mr. Frank Pickett, is in a flourishing condition. Mr. Pickett is a graduate of Furman University, and is laboring faithfully to develop the youthful minds and characters under his control.

Mr. Sullivan, a few miles below Big Creek, seems to be earnestly endeavoring to instruct the children entrusted to his care. He is a modest, aspiring young man, and proposes to go to school himself as soon as his session expires. Every earnest teacher hungers for more knowledge. We hope Mr. Sullivan may have an opportunity to get that knowledge he so much desires.

Mr. A. S. Burns, formerly of this county, but now of Florida, sends a supplement to the Florida *Chatterbox*, which contains the programme for the next Teachers' Meeting. It would be delightful to attend that meeting, but in these days of hard times, we see no possible chance for it. Mr. Burns is a young man, but is teaching in Florida, and is delighted with his surroundings.

Mr. Thomas W. Norris is appointed to fill vacancy on the Board of Trustees for Savannah Township. Mr. Rainey, the retiring trustee, has served faithfully for many years, and takes with him the best wishes of the Board of Examiners. Mr. Norris is an energetic young man and will, no doubt, discharge the duties of his office with credit to himself and to the community he serves.

Miss Nannie Harkness is now teaching at Neal's Creek. Miss Nanny is a fine teacher and has the sympathy and support of her patrons. By her honest efforts and successful work, the ladies are rapidly removing the prejudice against "woman teachers." The Neal's Creek school is in a fine community, and the people are beginning to be aroused on the subject of educating their children. Much of their enthusiasm is due to the credit, earnest labor and influence of Rev. W. D. Hiett, that Christian gentleman, the pastor of Neal's Creek Church. It is a notable fact, too, that some persons in that neighborhood, who have no children of their own, are deeply interested in the success of the school.

Beside the educational journals that find their way to this office regularly, which we have taken occasion time after time to mention for the benefit of our teachers, we find on our desk this morning the *School Teacher*, of Winston, N. C., and the *Popular Educator*, of Boston, Mass. Both these papers seem to be enhanced with the proper spirit, and are filled with sound and wholesome reading matter, such as will give teachers something to chew on in school and out. We do not wonder that there is so little done by some teachers. They are in a state of mental decomposition rather than of active, vigorous, healthy growth. Show me the best teachers in Anderson County and I'll show you the reading and thinking teachers; yes, I'll show you the writing teachers; yes, I'll show you the teachers' desk covered with literature, but it is expected that every teacher take at least one good educational journal and read and study it thoroughly. Some one has said, and he spoke truly, that whenever we give one hour to reading, we ought to give two to constant, earnest searching thought. The *Teachers' Institute*, that paper of sterling worth that finds its way to this office, costs only \$1.25 a year. Is there a teacher in Anderson County that can not afford to take that paper? If so, let him hold up his right hand. We'll put the question in this way: Is there a teacher who can afford to do without it? We do not hesitate to answer that with an emphatic "No." That paper comes every month. By thoroughly mastering it, our uneducated teachers may, after while, educate themselves. When we see the prevailing indolence on the part of so many to help themselves, we should remember that means lie wholly within their reach, we are reminded of the crew that were starving for water while the vessel was floating in the mouth of the Amazon. The very thing they needed was all around them, but they knew it not. If Col. Rice, State Superintendent of Education, can succeed in stirring up our teachers to a proper appreciation of the many helps that lie around, he shall have as many public meetings as he will attend in the summer. Trained teachers are the one great desideratum of the public school system. We want teachers that think more; we want teachers that feel a professional pride. Col. Rice is making a tour of the State, inspecting the public schools. Will our teachers be ready for him? The writer proposes to carry Col. Rice all over the county when he comes, so it would be well for you to be on the alert. We might drop in some morning when you were least prepared for us. Being the Superintendent of the whole State, it would be natural for Col. Rice to ask how many educational journals are taken in the County. And so, too, it would be perfectly natural, and quite appropriate, for him to enquire of each teacher what helps he had received from his journals. We do not know what will be Col. Rice's plan; but we may presume that he will have some way of ascertaining just how a county stands as to the quality of its teachers, and just how it moves up in educational matters. Let us appeal, however, to the pure motives of the teachers. Get you an educational journal and study it because you owe it to yourself and your pupils because it is right. Get it because it is right; read it because it will be worth it, if you do not.

Thoughts for the Month.

From the Southern Cultivator and Dixie Farmer.

Last month, plans and arrangements for the year's work were discussed. It is presumed that by this time every farmer has matured his plans, and is already under way in executing them. One of the first things to claim his attention is the preparation of the manure to be used. He has decided to use compost largely, and he must now prepare them; the matter cannot be deferred much longer. Whilst a compost will give far more results, prepared only a month or six weeks in advance of its application, the general drift of experience indicates that better results ensue where they are prepared three months in advance. Composts for cotton should be put up at once, and care taken that every condition for proper fermentation be present. These conditions are proper admixture of ingredients, decided moisture all through the mass, and a decided compactness. A loosely thrown up pile of manure will become too hot and be greatly injured. A proper fermentation brings about several valuable results. First, it reduces or breaks down the coarse ingredients, as hay, straw, leaves or other litter, and renders the distribution of the compost easier and more uniform. Uniformity of distribution is a matter of first importance. In the next place it renders inert, insoluble materials active and soluble. All of the nitrogen, for instance, of green or fresh urine is insoluble; it is either in the form of albuminous compounds or of urea (a constituent of the urine), and must be changed to ammonia or nitric acid, before plants can appropriate it. The danger of that is, as this ammonia is formed, it may be driven off by heat and be lost. This is to be prevented by keeping the fermentation within proper bounds, as above pointed out, and by covering the heap with a layer of rich dirt six or eight inches thick to catch and absorb any escaping ammonia. Another and very effective means of preventing loss is using kainit, as one of the ingredients of the compost. The prevalent idea has been that land plaster was excellent for that purpose. But plaster only acts efficiently where there is water enough to dissolve it, and this is not generally the case in a compost heap. Kainit is much more soluble than plaster, and will fix ammonia under circumstances where plaster will not. Kainit is decidedly the best cheap and available substance for the purpose that we know.

It has been just stated that kainit ought to be one of the ingredients of a compost heap—what other of the chemical or concentrated fertilizers should enter into it. There need be no hesitation in saying that phosphoric acid, in some form, should occupy a front place in this respect. No substance is more universally wanting in old, long-cropped lands than phosphoric acid, none, the application of which, on such lands, has given more uniformly good results. Besides kainit and phosphoric acid, there are no other chemical fertilizers which need generally enter into composts; in exceptional cases some others may be needed; that depends upon the nature of the more bulky basis of the compost, and to this let us turn attention. As a rule, barn-yard manure is the main foundation of compost. It consists of the excrement and urine of horses and cattle mixed with a variable quantity of litter. With the farmer it is an ever-present inquiry how he may increase the quantity and improve the quality of this most valuable substance. As to the first (the quantity), the ready answer of Northern and European writers has been by keeping more stock. But bear in mind, however, that this answer comes from regions where grass and grain are the leading crops, and where large cities and a dense population (largely manufacturing) create a large demand for food, including meat. To a Northern or English farmer the question is, shall I lay and grain be sold direct from the farm, or shall they be converted into meat and milk, and cheese and butter, and these become the objects of sale? He can find sale for either. With a Southern farmer the conditions are somewhat different. At present the mass of his land is too poor to grow grass successfully, and climatic conditions render small grain crops rather uncertain. The cities about him are small, population in sparse, and a small portion of it engaged in manufactures. Would these surroundings warrant a general increase in the number of live stock on the farm? That is extremely doubtful. Except in localities where there is extended "range," most farmers have, until a recent period, erred in keeping too much rather than too little stock. In one direction there might be a profitable increase, viz., in raising all the horses and mules they need, and possibly the hogs required for domestic use. Gradually our farms might be brought up to the requisite degree of fertility to produce grass and grain enough for a moderate increase in the number of milk cows. There is a demand for good butter at the South, and we ought by all means to strive to work up to the point of supplying it. But after all, the increase suggested would be small, and would not go very far towards increasing the quantity of manure. How, then, can it be done? By more careful husbanding of all manure material on the farm (especially the urine of animals) and the preventing of the leaching of the soluble (and therefore most valuable) portions by rain.

In this connection the most urgent need of Southern farmers is more stable room for stock. Stalls should be large and roomy, and so arranged that stock will not have to be haltered, but may be free to move about at will. When animals are haltered their urine is discharged at certain spots; the coarse manure is not uniformly impregnated with it, as it should be, and the animals will stand or lie down in wet manure to the serious injury of their hoofs or hides. Again, large stalls are desirable that manure may accumulate without undue length of time, without undue risk of the bottom of the stall, or other inconvenience. Large stalls, for like reasons, admit of the use of large quantities of litter. And this is one of our most

available means of increasing the quantity of stable manure. On many Southern farms nine-tenths of the urine of stock is practically lost. When not at work they are allowed to run at large in open yards where there is no absorbent; or if there is one to absorb it, the rains most effectively leach it out in the end. Keep in large stalls, when not at work, and these stalls kept well littered, and a large portion of the urine is absorbed and perfectly saved. When litter is impregnated with urine, its quality is much improved. It is a very different thing from litter simply mixed with solid excrement and rotted. Here is room for great improvement in our methods—this husbanding of the urine.

Again, stalls should not be cleaned out more than once a year. Managed as above, neither the health nor the cleanliness of animals demand it, and under no other conditions can manure be accumulated with so little loss or detriment to its quality. The great foe to barn-yard manure of high quality is the open yard. Abundant littering helps matters some, but leaching will be great. The dark, rich juices which flow from it after every heavy or protracted rain are impregnated with salts of ammonia no less than soluble mineral ingredients. Let us banish the open yards from our farms, and change the name from barn-yard to stall manure.

Another source of bulky, organic manure, which is a basis for compost, is leaves, straw, etc., decomposed by ash, manure, or lime. Ashes may be used alone or in combination with lime, or lime may be used alone. In the latter case the chief function of the lime is to decompose and reduce the leaves. When ashes are used alone, they accomplish the same purpose, but in addition increase very materially the fertilizing properties of the leaves. They add to them lime, potash, magnesia, phosphoric and sulphuric acids—indeed, every mineral ingredient needed by plants. If a proper amount of ammonia and some phosphoric acid be added to such a mixture, a very complete and perfect manure is produced. Such a mixture, then, makes an excellent basis for a compost. Ashes and lime should not be added directly to stable manure; they will drive off ammonia. But after those substances have been mixed with large quantities of leaves, have become diluted and marked by them, and entered into new combinations, they may then be mixed with stable manure without detriment. Ten bushels of ashes to three or four well packed two horse wagon loads of leaves makes a good mixture. It ought to be prepared some months before it enters into the final compost heap. A farmer might begin now, and at all available opportunities through the year, gather and haul leaves and put up pens of such mixtures. He would be astonished at the amount which system and energy would accumulate in the course of a year. It should not be put in pile, but in pens four or five feet high, well moistened to start with, well packed and covered at top with a layer of rich dirt several inches thick to retain moisture. After such a heap has been well moistened, rains will be apt to keep it wet enough afterwards. Rain will reach this layer of manure scattered in a yard or the thin edges of a spread-out heap, but will not reach a mass four feet thick with straight upright sides.

Now, supposing a farmer has the several materials mentioned on hand and is ready to make his compost—how shall he proportion the several ingredients? Furman's formula, now so extensively used, is thirty bushels each of stable manure and cotton seed, 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 200 pounds of kainit. Experience has shown this to be a very excellent compound for land of average fertility. Can it and should it ever be varied? Suppose one has cotton seed, but no stable manure. In such case, ten additional bushels of cotton seed should take the place of the lacking manure; so that the formula would read 40 bushels of cotton seed, 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 200 pounds of kainit. But it would be desirable, to keep up the desired dilution of the chemical fertilizers in the compost, to mix with above ingredients twenty-five or thirty bushels of rich earth, or wood mold, or something of the kind. Again, suppose one has stable manure but no cotton seed; the place of the cotton seed may be taken by cotton seed meal—say 30 bushels of manure, 300 pounds of cotton seed meal, 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 200 pounds of kainit. Suppose one's land is extremely poor. Then the quantity of the cotton seed in the compost may be doubled, the quantities of other ingredients remaining the same. If one's land is quite rich, half or even less of the cotton seed may enter into the compost, the other constituents remaining the same. Suppose one has the mixture of leaves and ashes, but no manure or cotton seed; then the formula should be 60 bushels of leaf mixture, 400 pounds of cotton seed meal, 400 pounds of phosphate and 100 pounds of kainit. Less kainit would be called for in this case, because the ashes, in leaf mixture, would take its place. If lime only was mixed with the leaves, the full quantity of kainit should be added.

It is well to build the compost pens in or near the fields to which it is to be applied; this will save hauling during the very busy season of spring. And every one ought to provide himself with a compost distributor, both for economizing labor and time, and for securing uniformity of distribution. Various patterns of these are now made over the country, and some of them simple and inexpensive. A revolving cylinder with bottom and movable slides to regulate width of slot, constitute the essential parts of a spreader, and almost any farmer can make one for himself.

As spring oats will be sown this month, attention is called to the mixed character of seed oats sold in the market as Texas rust proof oats. Last year a good deal of seed under that name were not the red rust-proof; the crop ripened late and was very unequal. The straw of some was tall, soft and giving quite different from the strong, stiff straw of the rust-proof. Some seed sold as Texas rust-proof is

very good, but one should be cautious and examine closely before purchasing. As a rule it is better to buy home raised seed, if it is possible, when one is under the necessity of buying at all. For spring oats, sow spring grown seed, and those from a region south of your locality are preferable to those from a point north of you. We need fully acclimated varieties. So far as possible, it is just as well to risk killing by cold when a crop is sown early, as to run the gauntlet of destruction by the drought and rust in the spring when a crop is sown late. Rich land and bottom land may be sown later than poor land. Have seen good crops of oats on bottom land sown in March. It is always well to sow one of the oat crop on such land, if one has any that is well drained. Bottom lands need occasional rest from corn crops, and if the spring is very dry, an oat crop on bottom pays very handsomely. By all means sow a large crop of oats, and give it a fair chance.

Angora Goats. I will try to give you the promised article on Angora goats, and although a good deal has been written about them during the last twenty years, yet, as there are but few of them in the United States, they are comparatively unknown to the average farmer. They are a fleecy-bearing animal, the fleece of which resembles silk and has been much used as a substitute for raw silk. The first importation of these valuable animals was made by a citizen of this State, in 1849, Dr. James B. Davis, of Monticello, Fairfield County, who kept them a few years and sold his whole herd to Col. Richard Peters, of Atlanta, Ga., at \$1,000. Col. Peters has bred them successfully on his stock farm near Calhoun, Ga. Several importations have been made since, but owing to the high prices at which they were held and the little interest taken in stock by our people, comparatively few have been sold here; but in Texas and other Southern and Western grass-growing States they are attracting the attention they deserve. Having been crossed extensively with the common goats, they now have a class of grades about equal in looks and practical value to the pure breeds. Five or six crosses will produce this result. The first cross makes but little show. The second produces a fine fleece, about three inches long, and by using pure-blooded fleeces (and no other should be used) the buck is gradually increased in length until it attains the requisite length, which is worth about fifty cents a pound, when put up in good condition, and so on down in proportion to grade, and even the second crop is marketable.

Messrs. Macnaughton's Sons and the Teague Manufacturing Company will buy all that is raised in the United States, and a great deal more has to be imported from Asia Minor to meet the demand. This is the moblar of commerce, and it is a shame for our manufacturers to have to send all the way to Turkey and Australia for mohair and wool while we could so easily and so profitably supply the demand. Thousands of sheep and goats could be raised by the farmers in the Southern States at a very little cost and much clear profit, but while the dogs remain before the law little progress will be made in this line, especially with sheep, the natural prey of the dog. The goat is comparatively exempt from the depredations of dogs. The dog is much less inclined to chase the goat, and the goat is not so much in dread of the dog as to interfere with his grazing, while the sheep will leave his pasture at full speed at the sight of a dog, never looking back to see whether it is pursued or not.

These goats seem perfectly adapted to our climate, are very healthy, and are easily raised, eat almost everything that grows in the way of vegetation, and are great helps to the farmer in eradicating briars, sassafras and other farm pests. I have seen them eat the balls of the property of my mother by his will, for he thoughtfully said she could not keep up the plantation without him. At the division of her estate he and his wife fell to me. By degrees he graded me up as years went on. It was first Holland, then Mas Holland; then Master, which title he used to the last, as though he liked it. Here I may record a criticism on that romance of marvelous genius, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Such a negro as "Uncle Tom" was never sold out by that sort of money. Money could not buy that sort of a man.

It was a great treat to be permitted to "go to town" with Uncle Ocy on the cotton wagon. There was one to whom he bore a tender loyalty, and for whom he had three names, Miesus, Ucy, and Miss Betty. To her he felt amenable for the lady's safety, and he well knew how to afford him the utmost fun within safety limits. When the bright campfire was kindled, and the team baited and fed for the night, Uncle Ocy would bring out that frying-pan his only culinary apparatus—and work up a savory meal. For broiling a beef or mutton there was one like him, and when the hot-killing time he enriched me with pig tails and bladders. In ghosts and witch he was a fair believer, and could beat Venor prognosticating the weather. I would put him against Carliste or Barnard for telling the hour of the night if the Seven Stars, Job's Coffin, the Three Runners, and other heavenly bodies were shining.

For overseers he had a deep dislike. While obeying his own master in the letter and spirit of the Epistle to the Ephesians, he was insubordinate to delegated authority; and here came in his most serious troubles. A sad case I remember to have occurred in Alabama about 1840. In a difficulty with the overseer Uncle Ocy rebelled and ran away, taking with him two other negro men. They were gone over a year, and no tidings of them could be got. At last they turned up in South Carolina. It seems they had made their way back to the old Barnwell neighborhood, (a distance of over three hundred miles), crossing the Chattahoochee, Flint, Oconee, Ocmulgee, and Savannah Rivers; and becoming weary of hiding out, they voluntarily surrendered themselves. I

school boy at Collinsworth, Ga. Man was created first. Woman was a sort of restoration.

THE OLD PLANTATION DADDY.

A True Picture of Southern Country Life.

From the Southern Cultivator. NASHVILLE, January 20.—I returned from Charleston to Barnwell, the home of my childhood; preached at Salem on Sunday, and saw aged friends and their generations; visited the graves of ancestors (the holy bush is not bearing berries this year); hounded with the family negroes who "lag superficial on these things"—Ike, Nancy, Long Sam, Robin, Ned—and then pursued my homeward way. Bless the old land, and the people who dwell in it!

A couple of bushels of potatoes raised on the Hutto Farm (300 bushels to the acre) reached Nashville nearly as soon as I did. None like them. A basketful of them went to the mother of the editor. She keeps house on the campus for her son—the popular bachelor professor of Latin. They can appreciate the Carolina flavor of those tubers.

The old servants! The sight of them saddened me and made a real, felt link with the past. I crave a place for a record of one phase of our civilization now almost out of sight. My old freedman, Cyrus, died at his home in Butler County, Ala., November 2. His wife, "Aunt Bees," as we called her, died two days after, and they were buried side by side at Mulberry Baptist Church, of which they had long been principal members. As nearly as I can make out from the family records he was over ninety and she was eighty years old.

This venerable pair of ex-slaves were "dear unto me" (Luke vii), and, as representing a class of persons and of feelings rapidly passing away, a brief sketch may not be without interest to others.

"Uncle Remus," so charmingly sketched by Chandler Harris, of Georgia, had his counterpart in my Southern household. My Uncle Remus is dead. He was the home-borne slave of my grandfather, in Barnwell, and in his early manhood rafted lumber down Edisto River to Charleston. A pure African by blood, he had the strongly marked prognathous features of his race; was six feet high, with flesh and muscle in proportion. On the marriage of my father, in 1820, Ocy was given to him, and he had him to build the log house to which he took his bride, and to clear his first field. Uncle Ocy, as the children always called him, taught me to ride a horse, and, later on, to shoot a gun. He shook hickory nuts out of the tall trees, and riveted trap sticks for me to catch birds; made cane bows and arrows, and in the spring-time could peck off bark from saplings and plant me the most glorious popping whips in the world. He was the best wagner of his time; could get more out of a team with less worry, and take a heavy load over the worst roads with less accident than any body else. At log rollings and house-raising he was head man, and likewise at cradling oats and wheat. He was fabulous, in my eyes, for strength and skill. For ploughing, hoeing and out-turning he was no great thing—rather disdained them as fit only for women and common niggers. He was great at mowing, and could mow to the line. In 1830-31 he worked on a section of the Hamburg and Charleston Railroad that ran near our home—that primitive period before roads were stretched along the road-bed and flat bars of iron nailed down on them.

He chewed tobacco; and many of my choicest favors and propitiations were procured by a quid (literally *quid pro quo*). I suppose he was the father of thirty or forty children, begotten in his own image, and that all his posterity—children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren—would at this time amount to several hundred.

Uncle Ocy became a fair plantation carpenter and blacksmith; could make a plough and a stock it, hang doors and gates, and make a wagon that would run. On my father's death Ocy became the property of my mother by his will, for he thoughtfully said she could not keep up the plantation without him. At the division of her estate he and his wife fell to me. By degrees he graded me up as years went on. It was first Holland, then Mas Holland; then Master, which title he used to the last, as though he liked it. Here I may record a criticism on that romance of marvelous genius, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Such a negro as "Uncle Tom" was never sold out by that sort of money. Money could not buy that sort of a man.

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PROTECTION OF OUR FISHERMEN.

The Position of Congress Compared With the Acts Which Led to the War of 1812.

National Republican. The bill of protection which has passed the Senate, and which will soon become a law by the concurrence of the House, is entitled "An act to authorize the President of the United States to protect and defend the rights of American fishing vessels, American fishermen, American trading and other vessels in certain cases, and for other purposes." The act cannot be considered a measure of retaliation for any past outrages on the rights of our fishermen, nor be regarded as any impediment to the negotiations now pending between the United States and Great Britain for satisfaction and an amicable settlement of this fishery question. The bill entails:

That whenever the President of the United States shall be satisfied that American fishing vessels or American fishermen, visiting or being in the waters or at any ports or places of the British dominions of North America, are or then lately have been denied or abridged in the enjoyment of any rights secured to them by treaty or law, or are then or lately have been unjustly vexed or harassed in the enjoyment of such rights, or subjected to unreasonable restrictions, regulations, or requirements in respect of such rights, or otherwise unjustly vexed or harassed in said waters, ports, or places; or whenever the President of the United States shall be satisfied that any such fishing vessels or fishermen, having a permit under the laws of the United States to touch and trade at any port or place, or in the British dominions of North America, are or then lately have been denied the privilege of entering such port or place, or in the same manner and to the same extent as may exist therein 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