

**Theories Practically Applied.**

I find that each number of the *Rural Carolinian* contains something valuable to me, and for the benefit of those who cry down "book farming" I will say that I do not think it advisable to read an article on any subject in agriculture with a view to following its suggestions "to the letter," as a solidly would follow Hardee's Tactics for drilling, or a housewife a receipt for making cake; for the same rule for drilling or for making cake will hold good anywhere. Not so with farming. Judgment and discretion are necessary to the successful application of any theory. Where the climate, soil and seasons are so varied as they are now in our country, that plan for raising corn, cotton, wheat, or any other crop successfully in one locality, will, in many instances do, prove ruinous in another part of the country. Theory and practice must go in hand. In other words, "as faith without works is dead," so is theory without good practical judgment to back it. And whenever the two can be brought to amicable terms with each other, and be induced to keep company, there will be a profound silence among croakers against "book farming," and agricultural papers will be more largely circulated, more appreciated better supported.

Let us read the articles written by those who have been so generous as to go to the pains and expense of ascertaining facts, and call therefrom such ideas and suggestions as are applicable to our own case and necessities. For my part I don't expect everything in the paper to be adapted to my wants, but I am thankful for such as does suit me, and willingly allow the rest for the benefit of others.

Otherwise I should be as ungenerous and unreasonable as the man who said, "If it didn't rain for him, he didn't want it to rain for anybody else." Hence I wish you much success with your, or rather *our* paper, for I believe it does more good than what I pay for can possibly do you.

But I have not done what I set to do, viz: to say something about small grain, and the importance of making preparations or laying plans at least, even this early for another crop. The notion among farmers generally since the war has been to sow down largely of their old fields in small grain, because it does not require freedmen to work it. I intended this article to show that it is an error, and should be abandoned. I also wanted to say something about rust in wheat, but maybe I have written enough for this time, it being my first attempt. Little boats must keep near the shore.

I am a young farmer. Came out of the war and went at it, and expect to keep at it, for it is an honorable and independent profession, affording an unlimited supply of pleasure, health, and profit for its faithful devotees.

However, I would like, before I am done, to invite other young men of the "plough and hoe" to a social interchange of views and experience in our business, using, by your permission, the columns of the *Rural Carolinian* as a medium. We may not be able to express ourselves in language as terse or elegant as those of other callings, but hope, at least, to make ourselves understood.

**PLOUGH AND HOE.**

*Line Creek, Laurens County, S. C.*

**A Big Cotton Plant or—a Big Story.**

The Demopolis (Ala.) *Exponent* gets credit for the following incredible story of a cotton tree. Has the Demopolis editor seen the plant? Can any of our readers tell us anything about it? Seeing is believing, but we have not seen:

In 1867 a planter of the county living twelve miles from this city, conceived the idea that the cotton plant properly cared for could be made to bear for more than one year. He believed that the vitality of the plant was destroyed by frost and frost only. The result of his experience, which we will give in by his own words, is of unspeakable importance to the material interests of the cotton growing country, placing us above and beyond the necessities and annoyances of our present system of labor.

His account of his success, which is far beyond his most sanguine expectations, is largely vouched for, and is as follows:

"I lost a large amount of money in 1866, the year succeeding the surrender, in my farming operations, and despaired, almost, of the future cotton section, in the many sleepless nights I passed thinking over my own affairs, and what the future had in store for myself and neighbors, whose dependence for existence rested solely upon agricultural productions, of which the culture of cotton was the chiefest, the main stay, in fact of the cotton States, the foundation upon which was built all they enjoyed of property in manufacturing, in banking, in merchandizing, in all that went to make up the sum of their industries and threatened, as these interests seemed to be, about to suffer extinction by a system of labor that made the cost of production of the cotton crop greater than the value of the article produced, by inspiration, for it could have been nothing else, it occurred to me that could the annual killing of the plant by frost be prevented, the plant might become a tree—a fruitful, ever-bearing tree.

"Success has exceeded my most sanguine expectations, my wildest dreams. I will tell you exactly how I proceeded and describe the result. In the spring of 1867 I selected a spot of ground, about forty feet square, planted in the centre a cotton seed, tended it carefully; in September I built about it a pen some eight feet square and covered it with glass, kept a thermometer in it, and by the aid of a small stove, kept life and growth

in the plant until May 1868, at which time I removed the pen. During the summer of 1868 my plant grew till it became a small tree. In the fall of that year I picked 800 pounds of seed cotton from it, and built another pen of the same plan, but larger than the first; followed the same process through the winter and again removed my pen in the spring of 1869. That year I picked from what was then a tree, cotton that made a bale of 476 pounds. The tree had now grown so large that I deemed it safe from frost, and in the winter of 1869 and 1870 I left it unprotected. In the spring of 1870 it bloomed at the same time with the peach tree and in the fall I made from it 1,293 pounds of lint cotton. At this writing the tree is in full bloom and promises at least three bales of cotton, and is the wonder of all who see it.

It is some twenty or twenty-five feet in height, measures at the butt nineteen inches in diameter, shows no signs of decay, and will bear fruit for years to come. If this statement does not settle the labor of my experiment; to have entered fully into all the minutiae would have occupied a volume, but if this short article shall turn the attention of planters to the following up of this marvellous progress, my purpose will have been answered."

Don't talk about cotton fields any longer! Give us a cotton grove of a hundred trees, and we will be satisfied and acknowledge that the white robed tyrant is still king.

Sheridan's "policy" toward the Indians, being interpreted, is "heads I win, tails you lose."

A young man in camp-meeting asked the prayers of the assembly because he "could not sit down to a meal without eating three times as much as he ought."

A Liverpool cotemporary, in reporting a meeting, says that one of the speakers "briefly addressed the audience at some length."

Pending a suit brought by them for divorce, a Michigan husband and wife eloped together and left their astonished lawyers in the lurch.

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The only preventive known for Chills and Fever is the use of Wolfe's Schiedam Schnapps.

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Is good for Dyspepsia.

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Is used all over the world by physicians in their practice.

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Is good for Gout.

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Is good for all Urinary complaints.

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Is recommended by all the Medical Faculty.

**Wolfe's Schiedam Schnapps.**  
Is good for Colic and pain in the stomach.

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I beg leave to call the attention of the reader to testimonials in favor of the Schnapps: I feel bound to say that I regard your Schnapps as being in every respect pre-eminently pure, and deserving of medical patronage. At all events it is the purest possible article of Holland gin, heretofore unobtainable, and as such may be safely prescribed by physicians.

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CHAS. A. LEAS, M. D., New York.

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The examination has resulted in the conclusion that the sample contained no poisonous or harmful admixture. I have discovered no trace of the deleterious substances which are sometimes employed in the adulteration of liquors. I would not hesitate to use myself, nor to recommend to others, for medicinal purposes, the "Schiedam Schnapps" as an excellent and unobjectionable variety of gin. Very respectfully yours, (Signed) CHAS. A. SEELY, Chemist.

CHEMICAL AND TECHNICAL LABORATORY, 18 EXCHANGE PLACE, NEW YORK, Nov. 25, 1867.—Udolpho Wolfe, Esq.: Dear Sir: The undersigned have carefully and thoroughly analyzed a sample of your "Aromatic Schiedam Schnapps," selected by ourselves, and have found the same free from all organic or inorganic substances, more or less injurious to health. From the result of our examination we consider the article one of superior quality, healthful as a beverage, and effectual in its medicinal qualities. Respectfully yours, ALEX. TRIPPEL, Chemist, FRANCIS E. ENGELHARD M. D.

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aug 31—4m

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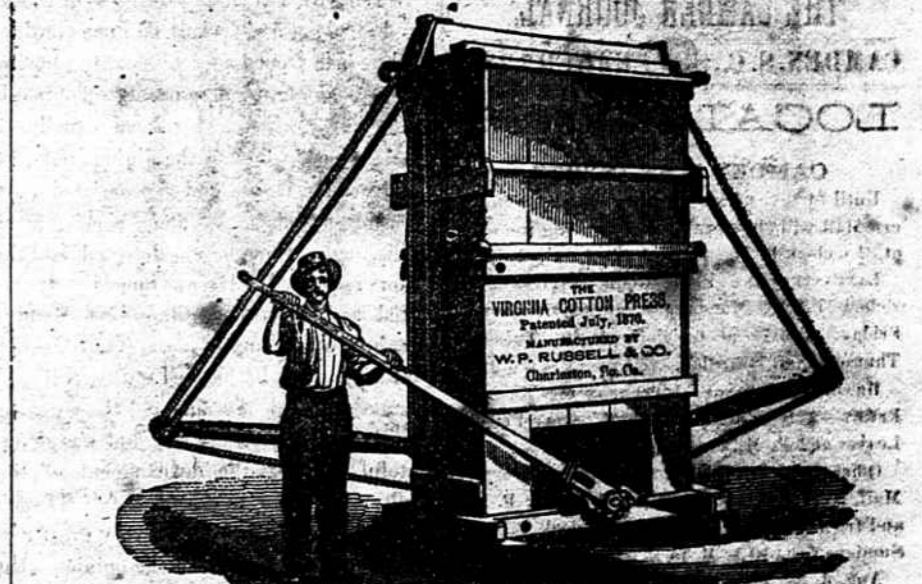
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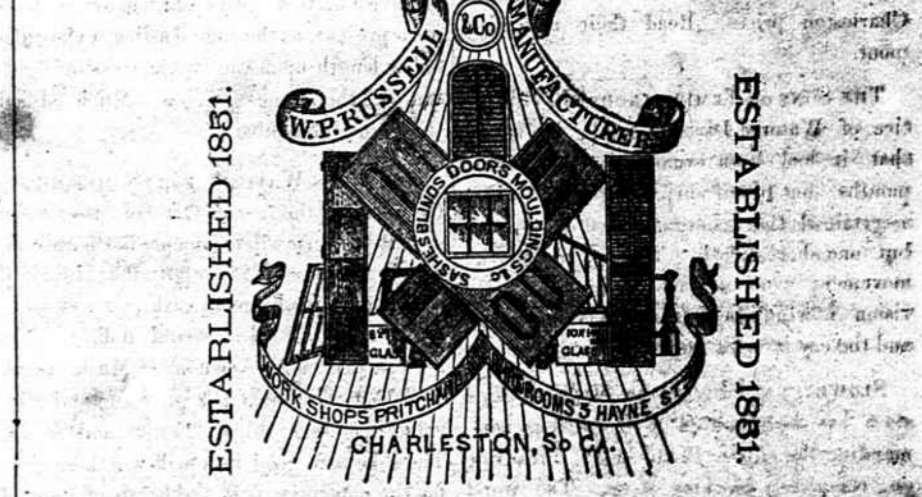
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