

ALL BOWED BEFORE PATTI

Famous Cantatrice Adored as Probably No Other Singer of Any Generation Has Been.

The death of Patti, the adored diva of our grandparents, would have been a calamity if it had taken place in their time. She was not only an exquisite singer, but a woman unique for beauty, charm and loveliness. I knew her well. And how interesting it was to hear her talk of her youth. She vowed that she sang as the birds sing, from babyhood. An acquaintance tells me that he was at Ascot races on the day of Patti's debut, and came to hear her, and how, when, tiny, black-eyed and sweet, she came onto the stage at Covent Garden, not a hand was raised to greet her. But she sang. "And then it was as if the house had been of straw and had caught fire. People went mad over her."

Later Patti went to St. Petersburg. They strewed the stage with roses and camellias for her to walk on, and gave her diamonds and pearls in caskets. I remember her showing me a little Russian ring. It was a stave of gold, and on it were the notes in diamonds, la, do, re, "L'Adore." A charming idea.

Not enough has been said of Patti's warm heart. She never forgot an old friend, and never neglected one; even when poor William Ganz was past playing accompaniments the diva let him play to her own despite. Ganz wore a wig—wigs, in fact—to deceive his best friends—wigs which he changed from week to week to suggest that his hair was growing. Patti knew all about it, and with "Maitre, your hair wants cutting," would send him off to the barber—the wig cabinet—for the shortest-haired one. And the round of deception would begin again.—London Mail.

MEANT TO HOUSE NAPOLEON

Historic New Orleans Building, Long the Mecca of Governors of the State, is for Sale.

The Gem cafe, famous in New Orleans history as the rendezvous where the rescue of Napoleon from Saint Helena was plotted, where the first mardi gras parade was planned, where the state legislature met and worked out a campaign against the carpet-bag rule, where the exclusive Pickwick club was formed and where governors of Louisiana for years have held their discussions over coffee cups and wine glasses, is for sale.

Originally the home of a Spanish nobleman, the landmark of Rue Royal, which was a coffee house just across Rue Royal in the days when the "Senate," America's Monte Carlo, was running, is said to antedate the old "Absinthe house," which has been a mecca for New Orleans tourists. In late years despite the development of modern restaurants, the Gem cafe has been the political eating house of leaders in state affairs and has been visited by every governor since Louisiana has been a state.

Armless Painters Win Fame. Some years ago in London I saw fine water-color landscapes by an artist who had lost both arms, writes a reader to the Manchester (Eng.) Guardian. His name, if I remember rightly, was Bertram Hiles, and he held his brush (a rather long one) between his teeth when painting.

And at the Edinburgh School of Art some twelve years ago or more there was a student who also was armless, though he held his crayon or pencil with his toes.

Then there was the case of Daniel Vierge, the Spaniard. At one time Vierge was a facile but not greatly distinguished magazine illustrator, and his reputation was confined to his own country. But becoming paralyzed in his right side and losing the entire use of his right arm he learned to use his left, developed a new style influenced by the slower execution, and gained an international reputation as a pen and ink draughtsman.

Script or Print Writing?

There is a movement in England to abolish script writing and replace it by print writing. The characters used in the proposed system are the ordinary printed letters known as the Roman block letters with the exception of "a" and "g," which are simplified into their script forms. Print characters were used centuries ago by monks before script writing became the fashion. Advocates of the proposed reform claim that it has many advantages over ordinary handwriting, particularly in that the child learns much more quickly. Many British educational authorities favor print writing and it is taught in numerous British schools. There is no waste of time on the innumerable joinings of letters, and superfluous loops and flourishes are abolished. At least one big London firm has adopted the system.

New Ideas in Adding Machine.

At least two novel features are embodied in the construction of a new adding machine described in the Popular Mechanics Magazine. Most remarkable, perhaps, is the facility and safety with which it may be taken apart, in spite of its complex nature, a pair of pliers and a penknife being the only tools necessary. The operation of greatest value, however, is the machine's ability to subtract as easily as it adds. This is made possible by a simple reversing lever which causes the adding wheels to run backward.

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Many orchards are unfruitful failures as a result of unwise selection and poor sources of the trees and vines. To safeguard against this, farmers and amateur orchardists should consult with their county agricultural agent, or write to the Extension Service, Clemson College, S. C.

Care of Nursery Stock When Received.

Immediate planting on arrival of nursery stock insures greater success, and every effort should be made to have things in readiness. However, if the soil and weather conditions do not permit immediate planting, dig a trench of sufficient size and depth, remove the wrapping material from the bundle and completely cover the stock with soil. It is very essential that special attention be given to all shipments of trees and vines ordered or received during severe weather, as, in many instances, such shipments are necessarily subjected to frost injury, either in transit or before being planted, and may be damaged to such an extent as to make them unfit for planting.

If trees are frozen upon arrival, completely bury both roots and tops in moist earth, or allow them to thaw slowly in a cellar.

If trees have dried out in transit, open the bundle, cut the bottom band, carefully spread the roots and completely bury both roots and tops. Allow to remain several days and they may resume their natural condition.

Laying Out the Orchard and Preparing the Soil.

Usually the lay of the land predetermines the method of laying out the orchard. In all instances, such methods should be employed as will prevent soil washing and accommodate as many trees per acre as possible.

The soil should be broken deeply, subsoiled (where a hard pan is present) and thoroughly harrowed. This work should be done during the fall and early winter, at which time a cover crop of rye, clover or vetch, depending upon the fertility and physical condition of the soil, may be sown.

The holes in which the trees are to be set may be dug, dynamited or plowed out. However, plowing is more economical and is recommended, as more thorough cultivation between the trees can be given. In the use of dynamite, which is recommended in some cases, care should be taken not to plant the trees too early after dynamiting, and to stir the soil well before setting.

Planting.

Time, Depth and Fertilizing.—Late fall and early winter planting offer decided advantages over spring planting, and there is no danger from cold injury in this state.

The planting depth of the trees and vines should not be more than two inches deeper than when standing in the nursery, and one pound (about one quart) of any good balanced commercial fertilizer or one forkful of well rotted stable manure should be thoroughly mixed with about a bushel of top soil and used in filling in around the roots. Thorough mixing of the fertilizer and soil, and packing the latter is very essential; otherwise, injurious effects might result from burning and drying out.

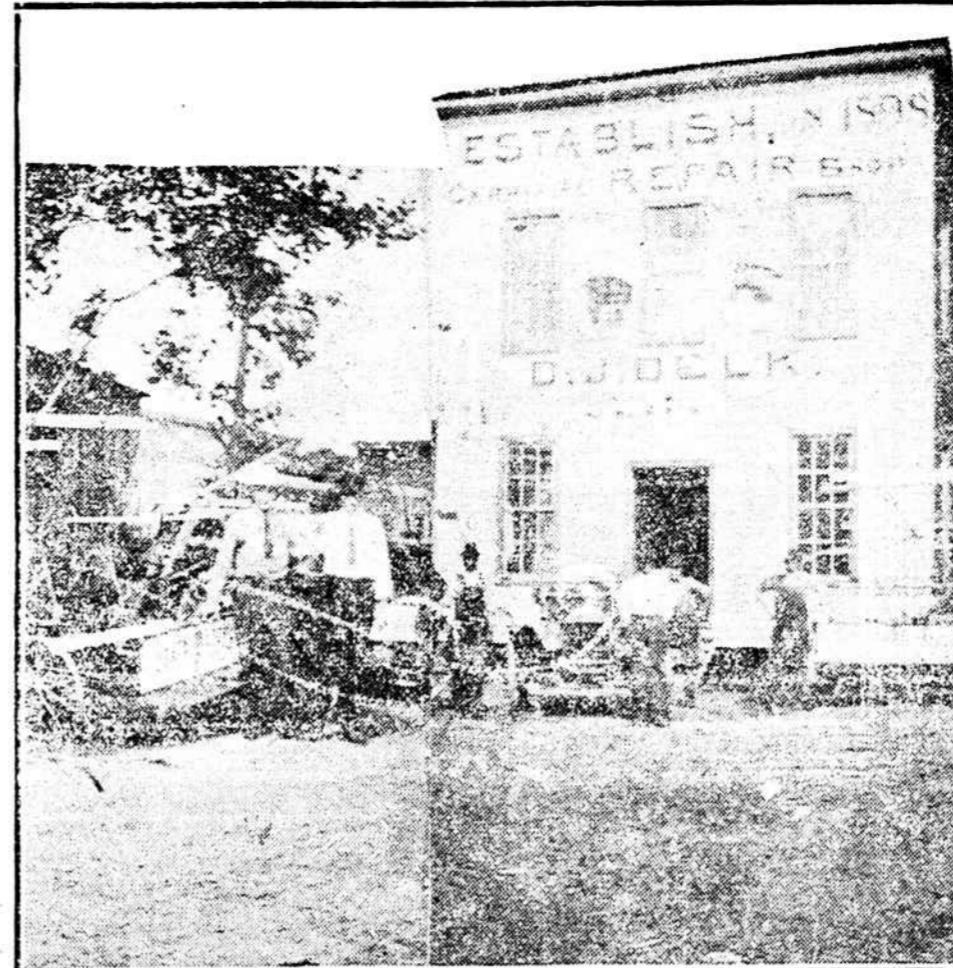
Preparatory to planting, the roots of the trees and vines should not be

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