OF CHA fore, the most Useful and Honorable."

MOON'S PHASES.

| Fell. Last Q New. | | m. 8th. 14th. m. 22th. | Morning. Morning. Evening. Evening. Evening |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|---|
| May. | DAYS. | SUN RISES | SUN SET |
| i. | Friday, | 5.14. | 6.58. |
| 2 10¢ 0 | Saturday, Sunday, | 5.14. | 6.56. |
| 4. 5.1200 | Monday, | 5.16. | 6.55. 6.54. |
| 6. | Wednesday. | 5.17. | 9.53. |
| 7, 521 | Thursday, | 5.18. | 6.52. |

Agricultural Scraps.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.-An old lady recently marched through the Streets of Augusta, Ca., followed by six marriageable daughters, hunting for the Patrons of HUSBANDRY.

Our correspondent "Inquisitive," whose communication on "What he Knows About Moles," has been received, into two pieces same size three feet long, will please send us his name-not for publication, but to carry out a rule which we have deemed it advisable to adopt.

Go and see the new suction pump at the Fair Grounds building, which is something novel. A single tube driven down something over twenty feet, supplies all the water needed on the grounds.

An old maid, out West, was enquiring of the master of a Grange about the rules and regulations of the Order, when the following conversation ensued:

Master-"One of our regulations, madam, is that every lady with a small mouth shall be provided with a husband." Old Maid-(With mouth drawn to smallest size) "Ith it pothible?"

Master-"Certainly; and every lady with a large mouth supplied with Two husbands."

Old Maid-(Mouth distended to utmost limit) "Good gwacious-I'll join!"

.OOO. COMMUNICATED.

MR. EDITOR:

I am no theorist, but a plain practical farmer, who takes nothing on credit, but who wants a good reason, or some plain, practical fact to convert me to anything new in Agriculture or anything else; and yet I stand ever ready to seize on every agency that presents itself that will aid me to increase production and to lessen labor. This, I think, is a good rule, and should be followed by every farmer who desires to succeed in his avo-

I propose to tell you what I know about the preparation, planting and cultivation of cotton. In doing so, I confess that I am but a novice, compared with many of the veteran farmers of this county, (many of whom I could name) who have had longer experience, and are more competent than I am, to give instruction on this subject:

1st. THE PREPARATION OF LAND. All lands planted in cotton should have rest, or be well supplied with yegetable matter from the woods.

If rested, it should be broken up early in the fall, not later than the middle of November-the first of October would be better-and all weeds and grass turned under with a good two horse turning plough. If not rested, but littered from the cow lot and woods, then the old cotton stalks should be thrashed down, (he who burns his cotton stalks is robbing his land of what it most needs, plant food) and the beds reversed, and if the land is tight or stiff, run a subsoil plough down in the water furrow. If the land is light and sandy, this is not required. In the open or water furrow, put down the rough litter and lap one furrow on it, completely covering the same. If broken up flush, I run off the land with a shovel plough. In the distance of the rows, Lam governed by the quality of the land, from three feet three inches to four feet, is my usual distance. I prefer a wide space between rows and crowded in the drill.

About the 21st of March with the Dow Law, or any other good machine, or by hand, the guano or fertilizer is drilled along on the furrow thus lapped and another one lapped on the same. If the land is tight, stiff, clay, the Murfee Subsoil is run in the two open furrows.

2D. HOW I PLANT.

Throw two furrows more and if necessary run out the centres making the bed complete.

feet on each side, and bore with a two vation. inch auger, two holes, insert in these heles two poles about seven feet long,

well wedged, (these answer for shafts wherein to hitch the horse or mule); from centre of said piece measure one foot on each side, bore two one inch and a quarter holes, insert in them two handles similar to plough handles, between those, about one foot above the scantling insert a piece two by two inches, nail through the handles into this piece; in the centre of scantling drive an iron hook to which hitch a whiffletree. Now we have a smoother, by which we can block off two cotton beds at a time and cover the seed in like manner.

To prepare the seed for planting take a whiskey barrel, mortice, in the centre Fair,) for which he is Agent. of each head, holes three inches square, insert in them a piece of three by three inch scantling, extending one foot from each end; on them put handles similar to the grindstone; in the bilge or middle, cut out two staves about one foot long, batten them together, hang in the place it was cut out, with good leather for hinges, put on it an iron hasp and staple, to secure it in its place when shut. Make a frame for it to run on, by tenanting and pinning two pieces for uprights, four by six inches, three and a half feet long, into the latter pieces or part, tenon and pin a piece same size and just long enough to give room for the barrel to revolve between uprights, now cut out journal in top of uprights for barrel to run in. To rub the seed, put in the barrel about one and a half bushels; water enough to wet them well, and about one pound of Peruvian Guano, (all phosphates are dangerous to wet cotton seed with,) this barrel will rub seed better, with less labor, and in quicker time, than by any other means that I am acquainted with.

NOW FOR PLANTING. Run the smoother over the beds, it will strike off two at a time, the horse walking in the furrow. With a horse hitched to the Dow Law cotton planter, run along in the middle of each bed, putting down net less than one and a half bushels per acre, two or two and a half is better to insure a good stand. Then follow as close up as possible with the smoother, which will cover the seed and leave the land in the best possible condition for after culture; thus one horse with smoother will block off and cover as much as one herse with the Dow Law will plant, ave acres well done is a good day's work. I plant cetton in drill believing it to be the most certain method to obtain a good stand.

Replanting, unless done very carly, never pays for the labor expended. An imperfect stand seldom, if ever, becomes perfect by replanting; take a note of

AND NOW FOR THE FIRST WORK.

The first ploughing should be done as early as possible, say in one week after the cotton comes up. This I do with a 14 inch sweep with narrow wings, right hand wing back corner cut off, so that the front corner forms a sharp point or acute angle, in order that the sweep can be run close to cotton without covering it. Sweep to run perfectly flat with the ground; this if done, will leave about two inches ridge unworked with but little grass to hoe. Cotton supposed to be in drill and perfect stand, hoes follow the ploughs cutting out cotton to about eight inches apart, leaving from four to five stalks in hill; one hand easily working an acre per day, and if properly done leaves the after hoeing and thinning easy work, but the first hoeing and ploughing not done in time, and well done, increases the labor one hundred per cent or more, and retards the growth of the plant and cuts the crop from 25 to 50 per cent short.

Second working in about two weeks with plow sweeps twenty two inches, with right wing turned up a little, thus giving the cotton a little dirt, following with the hoes cleaning out all grass and putting it down to a stand of two stocks in a hill as near as possible; cotton should be brought to a stand by the 1st of June, all after that time results in loss in production. If cotton has been properly ploughed and hoed thus far, there should be no grass, and the plough can do the after cultivation by running the twenty two inch sweeps lightly every two weeks.

The experience of a number of years leads me to believe that the earlier cotton is planted, avoiding frost and put down to a stand, the more certain will be the yield. Cotton put to a stand early, clear of grass and in proper tilth will commence branching, putting on forms and fruit close the ground, and make a differeuce of two or three weeks in early maturity. In this country very little cotton matures from blooms after the last of July; it is our early forms and blooms Now I want a round pole, or piece of that makes our cotton and the more cer-4 by 6 scantling 8 feet long, rounded on tain the fruit to stick, hence the imporone cdge; from the centre measure two tance of early planting and rapid culti-

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