

SOUTHERN FARM NOTES.

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE PLANTER, STOCKMAN AND TRUCK CROWER.

Some Trees For the South.

In a letter from Rhea Hayne, of Georgia, the subject of planting trees is discussed and he gives the experience of some who have been trying it. He says:

Very few people have any desire to put out young trees, and the average Georgia farmer who has such a tendency puts his every energy to the task of setting out fruit trees alone—generally peaches—but in my observations I have noted a case in particular in which trees other than fruit trees figured conspicuously. In this instance the person in question became the possessor of a piece of land that might be considered poor property by some. On the place were several old fields, apparently barren, with here and there a scrubby bush. The new owner devoted his attention to bringing up these old fields partly with leguminous plants and partly by planting out trees.

By many the tree planting was considered a fad in connection with other so-called eccentric experiments, but as it was not expensive to me, I watched the result. On a poor "red gall" a few young China berry trees were put out in the depressions where some fertile soil had accumulated, and these trees grew rapidly and spread out over practically the entire plot. The luxuriant foliage when shed caught up in piles, and the washing of the soil (or simply the earth) was stayed, and in a remarkably short space of years the land was in condition to cultivate with profit. The China berry tree is a rapid wood producer, is easily destroyed, and is certainly a good thing to bring up rolling land in the South.

One of the ideal inexpensive trees that will grow on the poorest lands is the persimmon, and aside from building up land, they are valuable in two respects at least. The trees begin bearing at two or three years of age, and the fruit is a great food for hogs, beginning to ripen when autumn leaves begin to fall, and continuing until long after frost and freezes. Given a sufficient quantity, hogs fatten quickly and relish the food.

But the greatest benefit that can be derived from the persimmon tree is in the sale of the wood. I understand the wood brings a big price, it being used extensively in making spools for the factories and for various other purposes. Of one thing I am certain, and that is the wood brings a big price in the markets. These two trees, I suppose, indigenous to all our Southern country, are inexpensive so far as procuring seed or trees is concerned.

Another equally inexpensive tree is the black walnut, but I've never seen them grow very large, except on rich lands. Wherever an idle piece of fertile land is found, this tree might be found profitable, as both the nuts and the timber are valuable, there being but few woods selling as well as black walnut timber.

The study of forestry is becoming a necessary one all over the country, and to give any thing in the way of an outline would take much time and space.

However, where many trees are to be planted, it is well to go to some expense and plant trees that will yield a big return. One case that has come under my observation proves conclusively that it is true. It was the first experiment with pecans and English walnuts (Maderia nuts) ever made in this section, and I watched the progress of the grove with interest, as the owner was a friend of mine. The very best nuts were procured and planted with care, and to-day several trees are bearing and have more than paid for the extra cost. And, as no extra trouble hereafter, they will give larger returns. Many object to planting apple trees because they are many years in coming to the fruiting stage, and for this reason many object to planting pecans, etc., but this is fast being overcome by demonstrative arguments as to the final result.

Be it cedar, apple, pear, pecan, walnut or persimmon that you put out, do it with care as to distance and outline, and your labors will show the work of art and nature beautifully combined, and now is the time to start the work.

Raise Irish Potatoes.

It is extremely seldom that potatoes do not bring a good price in any part of the South. To a few who have studied the best methods of raising them they have been very profitable. H. B. Mitchell, of Athens, Ga., gives his way of raising potatoes as follows: If possible, potatoes should follow peas or clover, as these crops not only afford nitrogen, but their roots also furnish humus, rendering the soil loose and friable and retaining moisture, which is so essential to success in growing this crop. The ground should be broken deep the previous fall and slightly ridged in order that the action of freezes may pulverize it in better shape. As early in the spring as danger of frost is past, rebreak ground, lay off rows with turning plow, running twice (once each way) in each of

them. Then with hand shovel clean out the rows, carefully laying the dirt on either side, till hard or unbroken soil has been reached, usually about ten inches deep. Place potatoes one foot apart in centre of these trenches and with hoe or rake cover about three inches deep. Scatter what fertilizer you intend for them in the rows upon this covering. Next fill trenches level full of fine litter, strewn in lightly—wheat, chaff, pine, straw, leaves, or even chopped straw will do. Let remain in this shape until potatoes get a little above the top of the litter, then pull in more dirt around them. As they grow, continue to work the dirt to them, till the surface of patch is level, after which cultivate once and then mulch the ground heavily with any trash or litter that will lie compact, so as to retard evaporation. In a few weeks there will be an abundance of early potatoes at the surface of the ground that may be obtained by simply removing a little of the mulch around the hills. The potatoes will be larger and more of them than where planted the usual way, while, if the year be exceptionally dry, so as to cause the main crop to fall wholly, or in part, there will always be found fine ones here. Although the trench system entails too much work for field crops in general, it is highly practical and will pay well for the kitchen garden. One year, I remember, we had twenty-two bushels of fine marketables over from a piece of land measuring 20x30 feet, or at the rate of considerably more than five hundred bushels per acre.

As soon as the potatoes are dug the old rows make an ideal place for some of the earlier varieties of turnips. Rake off the trash immediately on top of the potato rows, leaving the mulch between them. Drill the seed in lightly. When three inches high, thin to one plant every six inches. The leaves of those pulled out may be utilized by boiling and serving on the table as greens—here known as turnip salad—a dish highly relished by many.

One is almost sure of obtaining a perfect stand, provided the seed be good, no matter how hot or dry the weather, the mulch keeping the adjacent ground cool and damp. At time of thinning a light working with wheel-hoe may be given if deemed advisable, though this is rarely necessary. The turnips, like the potatoes, will grow in a manner unapproachable by those of the field.

Weeds and Cucumbers.

I have had some difficulty in the past to keep cucumber vines in good shape.

This year I tried two little experiments which I would like to give an account of.

1. I have always tried to keep my patches clean of weeds. This is a mistake. This year I kept the weeds down in a portion of my patches of melons and cucumbers, while in the other they were allowed to grow. Result: The weeds held moisture, and the vines among them did not burn nearly as bad as those kept clean.

2. By the side of each vine which was not protected from the sun I placed a two-gallon keg of water, and then let a rag string about an inch wide hang down its side, by which the water would drip on the roots. This is a perpetual fountain, and preserves the vines comparatively green even in the hottest weather. Weeds have a mission.—Tennessee Farmer.

Sour Mouth in Pigs.

At this season of the year pigs are liable to suffer from an annoying disease which passes under the name of sour mouth. An examination will often reveal pocket-shaped sores on the jaws filled with yellowish dry matter.

Perhaps as simple a way as any of dealing with it is first to clean out these sores thoroughly, then apply some disinfectant. Hydrogen peroxide has proven quite effective. It can be bought at any drug store and dropped in with a little glass drop syringe. Ten cents' worth with five cents for a dropper will be sufficient to test the value of this remedy. A man can't afford to spend a good many times ten cents to save a pig just now.—Wallace Farmer.

Wheat vs. Gapes.

I have come to the conclusion that grain food may be a cure for gapes. Because why: I have a gang of month-old chickens. Two of them had the gapes badly, moping around, gaping and never uttering any cry. I had been feeding wet corn-meal and corn-bread. Then I changed the food to wheat—and in three days both chickens were well.

Did the grain cut something out of their throats? They cry now, but the noise is something like that made by a young turkey, convincing me that their throats were affected instead of the windpipe.—Tennessee Farmer.

Minor Mention.

Thirteen persons were killed and a score injured in a railway accident at Glasgow on July 27. The statistics of railroad management in Great Britain indicate that it is less perilous to travel by rail in that country than in this, but accidents of the kind above referred to will deepen the impression that absolute safety is no more to be looked for in the United Kingdom than in the United States by those who journey in cars.

News of the Day.

When the world's supply of coal is exhausted, which is not a matter of immediate worry, the eucalyptus tree may be grown as a substitute. This eucalyptus stores up more of the sun's energy than any other tree, (1 per cent of that received on the unit of area,) and in South Africa it has been found cheaper to raise it than to import coal. An acre of eucalyptus plantation will produce each year the equivalent of thirty tons of coal.

GOOD ROADS.

Enemies of Mud Should Unite.

ONE great reason for the prevalence of bad roads throughout the United States is lack of agreement and united action among the advocates of improvement. Everybody prefers good roads to bad. Everybody knows that the roads can be improved only by the expenditure of money and labor. But here the agreement ends. There is a great variety of ideas and schemes for securing the desired object. There is no end of discussion, but very little is accomplished. Some people would rather travel through mud than to have the roads improved by any other plan than their own "pet scheme." Thus road reformers themselves sometimes actually hinder the cause to which they are devoted.

If the roads of the country are to be made good within the lifetime of the present generation it is high time the advocates of good roads should unite in support of a few general propositions, and go to work in favor of a general plan. If a national good roads movement ever gets started nothing can stop it. It will sweep everything before it. But the difficulty is to get it started.

One great advantage possessed by the national aid plan, which is now becoming so popular, is that it is general instead of sectional or local. It is broad as the whole country. It can bring into harmonious united action the friends of good roads in every State, and it is the only plan yet proposed that can do this.

The friends of national aid will make a mistake if they undertake to work out details in advance. They will disagree among themselves and give objections every advantage. They should go to work for the general principle and leave details to be worked out later. This was the plan of action adopted by Gladstone. When his opponents asked for details of any great reform which he advocated Gladstone would answer: "There will be time enough to work out the details when we get the power." The advocates of national aid will do well to emulate the example of this great English statesman. They should organize everywhere and fight for the principle, leaving details to be worked out in due time.

Local Road Building.

The old-fashioned theory was that each local community should build and maintain its own roads. If it made good roads, its people had the benefit of them, and if they were bad, they suffered accordingly. Strangers passing through fared well or ill precisely as the residents along the line. But we are changing all that. Travelers in steam carriages want better roads than most rural communities care to build, and owners of inaccessible, unsettled lands want roads built for them. In several Eastern States the State now pays one-third the cost of constructing or reconstructing roads when built according to specifications prepared by a State engineer, the local community, of course, caring for them when built. At the last election the people of California, in a fit of unparalleled stupidity, adopted a constitutional amendment permitting State road building on a scale unheard of before, we presume, in any community, civilized or uncivilized. Under that amendment the Legislature may build roads all over the State, paying therefor entirely from the State treasury, and not only build them, but maintain them forever. Of course the Legislature will not build roads everywhere, but only in those places possessing the strongest pull. Large land owners, who are to be benefited, will probably raise funds to buy votes in the Legislature, or members will trade votes with each other, and so make two roads grow where only one grew before. Since that is what the people wanted, and voted for, it is, of course, all right, but it is a curious taste. Now comes Congressman C. P. Brownlow, of Tennessee, who introduced in the late Congress a bill creating a full "bureau of public roads," with an appropriation of \$75,000 for salaries and expenses, and \$20,000,000 for paying one-half the cost of "good roads" in different States and Territories, the amount available to any State to be in the ratio of its population. The State or local district applying pays the other half of the cost. This bill was never reported from committee, but will be reintroduced in the next Congress.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Roads of the Hawaiian Islands.

To Americans and English jointly are due the superb roads of Oahu and its sister Hawaiian Islands. They are wide, level and well rolled. The material of the bed is red clay and decomposed lava rock. Where the route is over meadow land or arable soil there are evidences of a good stone foundation. When a stream or rivulet is crossed a bridge, viaduct or masonry arch is employed. When the way is on a hillside the bed is well rounded, gutted and supplied with drains to carry the gutter water harmlessly under the road to the continuation of the slope. When the path is cut on a steep mountain side, a substantial wall or stout fence prevents any accidentally falling off. Many of the roads are green tunnels. Nature has been lavish with her vegetable treasures; palms and other noble trees grow almost everywhere. Where she has been niggardly man has made up for the deficiency.

Madison Square Garden, New York City, paid expenses last year, for the first time since it was built.

THE SALESWOMAN

Compelled to Be on Her Feet the Larger Part of the Day Finds a Tonic in Peruna.

Miss Curtin, of St. Paul, Gives Her Experience.



Miss Nellie Curtin.

MISS NELLIE CURTIN, 646 Pearl street, St. Paul, Minn., head saleswoman in a department store, writes:

"I have charge of a department in a dry goods store, and after standing the larger part of the day, I would go home with a dull ache, generally through my entire body. I used Peruna and feel so much better that I walk to and from the store now. I know Peruna to be the best medicine on the market for the diseases peculiar to women."—Miss Nellie Curtin.

Nothing is so weakening to the human system as the constant loss of mucus. Catarrhal inflammation of the mucous membrane produces an excessive formation of mucus. Whether the mucous membrane be

located in the head or pelvic organs, the discharge of mucus is sure to occur.

This discharge of mucus constitutes a weakening drain; the system cannot long withstand the loss of mucus, hence it is that women afflicted with catarrhal affections of the pelvic organs feel tired and languid, with weak back and throbbing brain. A course of Peruna is sure to restore health by cutting off the weakening drain of the daily loss of mucus.

An Admirable Tonic.

Congressman Mark H. Dunnell, National Hotel, Washington, D. C., writes:

"Your Peruna being used by myself and many of my friends and acquaintances, not only as a cure for catarrh but also as an admirable tonic for physical recuperation, I gladly recommend it to all persons requiring such remedies."—Mark H. Dunnell.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

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An egg is waylaid when the hen steals a nest by the roadside.

Mrs. Wislow's Soothing Syrup for children's teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c. a bottle.

To boast of one's honesty doesn't always prove it.

Beware.

O friend, when doubts assail thy mind, When dark the way before, Remember to be doubly kind To those of lesser store. If they believe, whatever it be, Try not to prove it wrong. Think how their love has made them free, Their faith has made them strong!

And thinking thus how others fare, Upheld by simple deeds, Of thine own unbelief beware. Let it shall curb thy deeds, For better 'tis to wish life well, To help each brother man, Than to dispute o'er heaven or hell, Or frame a better plan.

We do not know, we can not tell, The way that lies ahead, Not one who knows futurity, Not one by wisdom led. The humblest faith may far outreach Proud reason's highest call, And in its gentle service teach, To love is best of all. —Charles W. Stevenson.

It Would Seem So.

Wife—"I was surprised to learn that Mr. Oldsmith had taken unto himself a wife after three score years of single blessedness." Husband—"Well, the old adage is still working. A man never gets too old to learn."

Traveling Baths.

Traveling baths on one of the Russian railways are the latest provision for its employes' comfort in the outlying districts.

Lost Hair

"My hair came out by the handful, and the gray hairs began to creep in. I tried Ayer's Hair Vigor, and it stopped the hair from coming out and restored the color."—Mrs. M. D. Gray, No. Salem, Mass.

There's a pleasure in offering such a preparation as Ayer's Hair Vigor. It gives to all who use it such satisfaction. The hair becomes thicker, longer, softer, and more glossy. And you feel so secure in using such an old and reliable preparation. \$1.00 a bottle. All Druggists.

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