SOUTHERN AGRICULTURAL.

Living Improvements on the Farm.

The farmer who changes for the better either plant life or animal life as it passes from one generation to another improves a vital power that extends back toward the birth of the planet no one knows how far and may extend into the future with all possible improvements until no future shall exist.

Attention is invited to that growing vitality which has developed so large a dairy interest in this country and Europe from very small beginnings. In the first, second and third decades of this century Orange County, N. Y., became famous for its delicious butter, and by choice selection and wise exclusion families of native cows of rare excelence were bred, whose parental blood had great value. A statement of an Orange County farmer lies before the writer, and is believed to be true, that says, in substance, a native cow, eight years old, born on the farm, made three pounds and two ounces of butter from the milk secreted in twenty-four hours and drawn in two milkings. From March 27 to April 7, 1888, her milk contained thirty-three pounds of butter. The art of putting a heap of butter into a cow's milk without harm to the mother of milk is something that farmers may talk about.

The organized elements that form butter, sugar and cheese are all, or nearly all, ready for use before digested in the stomach of the cow. The vital energy consumed in changing cotton-seed oil or linseed oil in oil-cake into butter is small. The expert dairyman or dairymaid makes her cheese curd before the milk is formed, using the decompounding and reorganizing power of God's sunshine for that purpose. The study of this industry leads up to both animal and vegetable physiology. This study has added about four-fold to the yield of butter per cow for a year's feeding and milking within the writer's memory. Valuable cows of excelent blood have been killed by overfeeding. Treat nature with more respect, and do not expect a miracle from either plant life or animal life. There is usually a little more sugar in milk than butter, and this sugar ought to be worth more for human consumption than to feed to pigs in whey or buttermilk.

But how does an Orange County farmer put 633 pounds of gilt-edged butter in a cow's milk in nine months? Of course there is plenty of grass, sweet, green corn, and as much corn oil or cotton-seed oil as can be taken and not taint the product. The cow that yields three pounds of choice butter a day can hardly be said to eat butter or drink butter, but she does the next thing to it. She has a deeply-bred taste for rich, fatty cow-feed—a preternatural growth, which may not be quite sound or desirable. This power to form three pounds of butter in twenty-four hours is the vital growth of ten or fifteen generations of butter cows. It shows the importance of physiology to the farmer. All life is hereditary.—*Cor. Southern Cultivator.*

Cultivating Sorghum.

So far as possible the cultivation should begin early. Even under favorable circumstances sorghum plants make but a slow growth, and they need all the encouragement possible. If the soil has been well prepared and carefully planted, so that it is left in a good tilth, the cultivation can nearly always be commenced with the harrow. In a great majority of cases the harrow can be used earlier than the cultivator and will require less time while it will work closer around the plants than can ordinarily be done with the cultivator.

In raising sorghum, it is quite an item to keep the weeds down while the plants are young, and when the condition of the soil will admit, the harrow is the best implement to do this. The more thoroughly the weeds are destroyed at the start, the easier they can be kept down and the better the condition the soil can be kept in. Except in a wet season, when it is absolutely necessary to use the diamond plow in order to destroy the weeds and afford good drainage, the cultivator should be used, stirring the surface of the soil as thoroughly as possible and keeping it reasonably level. At the first working, at least, care should be taken to work as close as possible to the plants, taking care, of course, not to cover the plants. Usually, the first three cultivations should be done during the first four or five weeks of growth. Once the plants get well started to grow, they will grow very rapidly, and in a short time will shade the ground so that the weeds will make very little growth, and under ordinary conditions one more cultivation will generally be all that is necessary. But sufficient cultivation must be given to keep the weeds down and have the soil mellow.

At first the plants are very small and tender, and need clean, mellow soil in order to grow well, and the surest way is to commence when the plants and weeds are small. If the weeds are allowed to grow and get a good start, the work of keeping clean, as well as mellowing the soil, will be materially increased, so that it is an item to keep clear from the start, and this can only be done by commencing the cultivation early, and repeating sufficiently often to keep down the weeds and loosen the soil up thoroughly.—*Journal of Agriculture.*

A Voice From Florida.

In the region of Tampa Bay we have experienced a most unprecedented rainy spell, but as we are high above, and so near the sea, there is no danger of "flooding." Our winter is considered past, and has left no traces of frost, all kinds of vegetables having flourished, as was natural, considering the poor soil and the little attention usually paid them. We plant, or set, and if they don't "make" we go fishing or "work out" to make up the deficit. Our orange crop was light, but prices were good. The prospect is good for a large crop for 1888; trees are in bloom and in fine condition. Our tourist travel was for a time a complete failure, perhaps owing to the "yellow-fever scare" which prevailed through the fall. Tampa is, nevertheless, pushing dead ahead and preparing to build a magnificent hotel, while adding several more large cigar manufactories, and looking for the construction of several new railroads to her great waters. But perhaps your readers would be more interested with a recital of agricultural matters. I feel that there is little to be said on this subject, since we have made but trifling efforts in this line outside of grove-making. There is evidence enough to support the conclusion that were the suitable lands selected, the proper methods applied, and the great staple crop planted, an intelligent, industrious man might make a surprising competency. Rice usually yields thirty to fifty bushels per acre, sweet potatoes two to four hundred bushels, sugar cane two to three hundred gallons of sirup, worth fifty cents per gallon, per acre. Now the vegetables usually grown for market purposes would yield as well on the farm I have in my mind's eye as almost anywhere, and sometimes prices and returns would be wonderful; but right here, in justice to the reader, I must drop the curtain—figures *do lie* and theories fail. I propose to explain nothing, but to try another way of making a living in Florida than market-gardening or orange-growing. Making a living at home is the *new idea*. Ah! but it is really a new idea; it is a new idea for the whole South, and it is passing strange that it should be; it is ridiculous that it has not been practiced in the past. But it is never too late to learn to do good, and "better late than never." Land that a man can live on and farm, under these skies, is worth all it will ever cost. It is often said here among our "cracker" people, that if a man will work two hours a day and make produce for home consumption he can live. An old fellow from Georgia says: "If a man will work as hard here as he has to do in that State, he can make a better living," etc. I repeat, Florida is but little known except for the finest oranges in the world. Hogs, cattle and poultry are as healthy here as any part of the world, while food for them can be grown through every month. This explains the possibilities for "making a living at home."—*Cor. Dixie Farmer.*

HERE AND THERE.

—It is claimed by some that the peach will thrive best when grafted on the plum stock.

—Beauty and ornament add to the value of a farm. A few trees around the house may sometimes be of more value than the ground.

—An experienced breeder of swine says that often when hogs are sluggish and indifferent about eating nothing in the world ails them but the toothache.

—Over ten thousand boxes of strawberries have been grown on an acre of land, which shows what can be done with good varieties and excelent cultivation.

—Any body can introduce new varieties of fruit by planting the seed, though the chances are that but one variety in a thousand will be worthy of retention.

—The mechanical condition of the soil has much to do with the growth of crops. Lumps, clods and crusts are drawbacks. The harrow and cultivator should be used wherever needed.

—It is better and healthier to let hens that want to set do so if one has the convenience. It is most natural for them to take a rest from laying. The eggs from such hens are more likely to be fertile.

—When many young chicks are raised on a farm, it is best to set out the coops in small colonies rather than have them all together. The birds thrive better if the colonies are at least one hundred feet apart.

—A prominent packing firm is authority for the statement that hogs fed for lean are worth nine cents, as against six cents for those fed for fat. In Germany the demand is largely in favor of the lean hog.

—Kerosene oil will kill all kinds of insects when used on trees, but the oil will injure the trees. A small quantity used in an emulsion may be sprayed on apple trees, but it will kill the peach trees, even when used on them in small quantities.

—The castor oil bean plant makes an excelent and beautiful border along the walks, but it is a strong and vigorous grower and demands a large proportion of manure. The plant is said to be a protection against some kinds of insects.

—Manure is complete plant food because it contains all the elements required. Commercial fertilizers vary in composition, and the advantages in their use is that they enable the farmer to select special substances that may be lacking in the soil.

—Every time a crop is removed the soil loses the amount of fertility required to grow the crop. No soil can, therefore, produce crops unless it is provided with food, which should be in the shape of manure or fertilizers. Keeping up the fertility of the soil is simply feeding the future crops.

—Both meadows and pastures require some looking after during the spring. If there be bare or weedy places throw on a little seed. If the pasture had been seeded last spring and the "catch" was not good it would be a good plan to again go over the whole, giving seed as would seem to be needed.

—As feed for young chicks, boiled rice and oatmeal are very good, but as they are sticky it is best to stir in dry cornmeal or some other dry meal to make it easier to eat. All soft food for chicks should be so dry as to crumble when dropped. Soft, watery masses should be avoided. Feed chicks when young four times a day and as soon as they can run around well a feeding coop of laths on three sides, the fourth one being of boards, should be placed on each spot where there are several coops of chicks.

THE POPE'S MITERS.

Valuable Jewels Which Have Belonged to Rulers of the Church.

The Popes did not always wear the three-crown tiara. At first they wore an ordinary miter with one crown around it, then a second one was added to it, and then a third, when it took the name of triregno (three kingdoms). This explains why sometimes the simple miter is used and sometimes called triregno.

We read of the form and splendor of the pontifical miters in pontifical inventories. Some of them weighed as much as ten pounds, or even more; they were decorated with cameos and stones, inlaid with figures, rings, and precious ornaments, fastened to the miter like drooping pearls, crosses, and every other kind of jewel then known. In 1419 Eugene IV. had a miter made in France by Lorenzo Ghiberti, which weighed five pounds, of which over four pounds were of precious pearls and gems, and cost over forty thousand gold ducats. It was this miter which Eugene IV. afterward pledged to Florence for $40,000, which he gave to the Greeks, who intervened in the council of Florence in 1489. Till the end of the last century there were four precious miters in existence—two made for Pius V. and Paul V., the latter of whom spent $70,000 on his miter; and two were made for Paul VI. The two first were kept in Castle Saint Angelo, and were taken out for great ceremonies.

When taken out they were guarded by the Pope's jeweler, and were accompanied by the same jeweler all through the procession and ceremonies of the day. Even when placed on the papal altar, they were under the jeweler's custody. The other two miters were kept in the pontifical sacristy. Pius VI's first miter was made in 1780. It had a gold foundation decorated with gold threads and pearls, threaded with silver, also with many other precious stones of all kinds. At the back it was decorated with the pontificial arms. The ribbons were also covered with gold, pearls, and diamonds. This second miter of this Pope was made in 1781, and was decorated in the same manner, only in a different pattern, and the foundation was in silver instead of gold. All these four miters were broken up by Pius VI. in 1797 in order to pay the French what was stipulated in the peace of Tolentino. Not one of the miters offered to Leo XIII. for his jubilee is of the value of either one of the above-stated miters. But even the present ones are valuable enough, especially for these days.—*Catholic News.*

WHOLESALE MURDER.

That Is What a French Newspaper Calls Battle-Field Massacres.

The annual war budgets of the so-called civilized world total 7,248,762,000 francs (say $1,449,000,000) a sum that would maintain eight million families. Wonderful indeed is the civilization of the nineteenth century. Ask the millions of armed men why they fight and they are at a loss to reply; it suffices that one who they are taught to regard as a superior being says: "The honor of our country demands the sacrifice of your lives." A man in the frenzy of passion commits a murder, or driven by hunger commits a theft, justice punishes, and clamor condemns him. A ruler sends thousands to destruction and seizes a province, the people glorify him, and the priests give thanks to the Deity. By what mental aberration do the people regard the murder of a man as a crime to be punished by death, and the slaughter of thousands as a glorious act? The answer is plain. Potentates have demoralized nations by provoking the hatred of races, thence has massacre on the battle-field become a glorious act, a sacrifice offered on the sacred altar of the country.

Alas! that we should honor with the name of bravery the madness that causes men to kill each other; and give the name of patriotism to the mutual hatred of peoples. The day when Kings, clothing citizens in red, blue or green, bid them march to the conquest of a province, they gave them the livery of servitude, and as yet no people have had the courage to throw off the vestments designed for their own subjection, and to cast away the weapons forged for their own destruction.—*L'Avant Garde.*

Chinese Wives on Strike.

The most extreme advocates of woman's rights in the Western world seem to be but mild and timid theorists compared with the women folk in the district of Shun-te in Kuan-fung. In this part of the Celestial Empire we are told by the *Chinese Times* that the young women league themselves into societies and solemnly vow that they will not marry, or that if they marry they will not live with their husbands until every member of their society has entered into matrimony. In accordance with these vows the brides invariably go back to their homes after the ceremony and do not make their appearance among their husbands' family again except on the occasion of the New Year and other important festivals. Then they "come over," and after remaining for a day or so, during which time they partake of neither food nor drink, they take themselves off with the greatest expedition possible. Those husbands who are liable to enjoy the society of their wives within two or three years after marrying are, we are assured, rare and exceptional instances of good fortune. The darkest feature of the business, however, is yet to come, for it appears that if upon the occasion of one of these flying visits force is employed to detain the ladies, they always turn their comedy into a tragedy by committing suicide.—*London News.*

—Old Boggs—"I've come up to see about these bills o' yourn, Harry." Harry—"Yes, sir; but you know a scientific education is very expensive." Old Boggs—"I dessay it is Harry; but if you took mathematics instead of poker it would not only be less expensive, but might prove of more use to you later."—*Life.*

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

How Economical Women Can Save Money Every Day.

Do not let the clothes-line hang out all week in wind and rain. When the clothes are all in, wind it up carefully and take it into the house. A good many devices are now employed to do away with the necessity of having to put out and take in the clothes-line each week. One is a little box with a pointed roof like a bird house, with a roller attached to a crank or handle on the outside and fitted to a cog wheel within. It is then but the work of a few minutes to wind it up in its inclosure, where it is protected from rain or snow. Others use heavy galvanized wire which, when once stretched, needs no attention as it will never rust, stretch or sag as rope lines do. Have plenty of clothes pins, they cost but a trifle, and in muddy or exposed places are a necessity.

Keep sharp the knives used for cutting meat and bread and for peeling vegetables. We have been in families where a great deal of time was lost in performing all these operations because there was not a sharp knife to be found in the house. The same is true of lamp scissors and the family scissors and shears. For the former purpose discarded scissors are too often used. The result is haggled wicks which not only smoke the chimneys but give a very uncertain light. A few minutes' work will put both in good condition and save no little time and strength.

Wash flat irons each week before heating them, especially if they have been used for ironing starched clothes. Burnt starch clinging to them spoils the best washed garments.

Do not throw away any pieces of old ingrain carpets. Very good rugs can be made of the pieces which we are apt to regard as entirely useless. There are rug-making establishments where, for seventy-five cents a square yard, the unsightly pieces are transformed into rugs of all sizes, from two yards square to as small as desired. They are nicely finished with fringe and a striped border and are almost as heavy and firm as Turkish mats.

Cleanse the sinks and drains by pouring down them a plentiful supply of copperas water. It is inexpensive and prevents their being coated and choked with grease.

Cut warm bread with a hot knife if you would avoid its becoming clammy. The pieces should be laid on a napkin as cut.

To remove fruit stain from handkerchiefs, aprons, etc., keep on hand a solution of chloride of lime, made of four ounces of the chloride to a quart of water. Shake it well, allow the dregs to settle, and wet the stains with the clear liquid. Rinse the cloth well before applying soap or it will become stiff in drying.—*Prairie Farmer.*

IMPORTED FABRICS.

Lovely Thin Materials Recently Exhibited by Parisian Agents.

Among fashionable thin materials is shot vailing with a silk selvage an inch wide which serves as a trimming; this makes a spring-like dress in gray shot with green, made up over green faille; the red shot with blue is also in favor, with either red or blue selvages, and a petticoat of silk to match the selvage. Shot mohairs of brilliant luster are new this season, and are both plain and striped in the same dress; the opalescent hues are seen in these fabrics—blue with yellow and pink, with the wide stripes mostly blue; blue with green, and gray with maroon, make pretty changing surfaces. All the canvas stuffs are again imported, some being given new effects by having Paisley borders. Artistic crepelines of finely-crinkled wool, and crepons with wool and linen or silk, finely wrought with silk dots, come in the pink. Suede, almond, and pale-blue shades, and in the darker green and brown and gray tints for street dresses. Paisley borders like those on the broche shawls of that name come on fine camel's-hair for choice wool dresses; sometimes the border is only an inch wide, but in other cases it is deep enough to cover nearly all the lower skirt of a gown, and to make the small mantle or shoulder cape worn with it; there are also Paisley cambrics of large broche figures for combining with plain copper or gray or reseda wools for long cloaks for driving or for evening wraps. Drap d'ete, Thibet cloth and cashmeres of the finest twiled surface, with finish like silk, are in all the new colors for combining with moire, or shot silk, or Bengaline, usually as a polonaise over a petticoat of the silk fabric, with tucked vest of the silk, and trimming of the open-patterned metal galloons and passementeries, either steel or gold, or else gold and steel together.

In silks the changeable effects are largely seen, especially in the old-time lustrous taffeta, in peau de soie to which chine figures are now added, and also in twiled surahs and serges. Selvages and borders are also woven on new silks, as a watered border of green along one selvage of shot green and red silk, or a border like gold galloon on changeable black and gold taffeta. The India silks have large figures of a color in contrast with the ground, sometimes in vine and bell-flower design, but often more intricate twining of rings and ovals, and vermicelli-like lines. The jardiniere patterns of flowers in rose wreaths, and in large sprays of heliotropes, pansies, violets or poppies, are also seen on cream-white grounds, and there are many striped designs of straight lines and of vines or flowers of cream-white or buff on colored grounds.—*Bazar.*

—A "spirit marriage" which had been widely announced and ridiculed in the newspapers drew a large crowd to a San Francisco church the other day. The woman Spiritualist who had been booked to wed "her affinity in the spirit land" failed to appear, being abashed by the fun made of her.

—A railroad station in Nelson County, Ky., is called Gasburg, the town is named Woodville, while a letter, in order to reach there, must be mailed to Woodlawn.

A WALKING-STICK may be described as "the old man's strength and the young man's weakness," and an umbrella as "a fair and foul weather friend who has had many ups and downs in the world."

A MAN may be behind in his work and still show push. This is so if he is wheeling a barrow.—*Golden Days.*

FREE! A 3-foot French Glass, Oval Front, Nickle or Cherry Cigar Case. MERCHANTS ONLY. R. W. TANSILL & Co., Chicago.

THE peasants of Roumania seems to have a row mania.—*Pittsburgh Chronicle.*

THERE is a Means of Eradicating local disease of the skin, viz: Glenn's Sulphur Soap. Hill's Hair and Whisker Dye, 50c.

To LAZY men—Half a loaf is the first start to no bread.—*Washington Critic.*

IF afflicted with Sore Eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it. 25c.

APPLAUSE at the opera is cheap—to be obtained for a song.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, June 5, 1888.

CATTLE—Native Steers	$ 4 50	@	$ 5 30
COTTON—Middling	....	@	10
FLOUR—Good to Choice	3 60	@	5 25
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	91	@	92¼
CORN—No. 2	62¾	@	63½
OATS—Western Mixed	36	@	40
PORK—Mess (new)	15 25	@	15 50
ST. LOUIS.			
COTTON—Middling	9¼	@	9½
BEEVES—Good to Choice	4 60	@	4 85
Fair to Medium	4 00	@	4 40
HOGS—Common to Select	4 75	@	5 55
SHEEP—Fair to Choice	3 00	@	4 25
FLOUR—Patents	4 45	@	4 60
XXX to Choice	2 60	@	3 55
WHEAT—No. 2 Red Winter	89¼	@	89½
CORN—No. 2 Mixed	50¾	@	51
OATS—No. 2	33½	@	33¾
RYE—No. 2	61	@	62½
TOBACCO—Lugs, Burley	1 75	@	7 00
Leafs, Burley	8 75	@	17 00
HAY—Choice Timothy	14 00	@	17 50
BUTTER—Choice Dairy	14	@	15
EGGS—Fresh	13	@	13½
PORK—Standard Mess (new)	14 60	@	14 87½
BACON—Clear Rib	8⅛	@	8½
LARD—Prime Steam	7⅞	@	8
WOOL—Fair to Choice	30	@	33½
CHICAGO.			
CATTLE—Shipping	4 10	@	5 10
HOGS—Good to Choice	5 25	@	5 55
SHEEP—Good to Choice	3 75	@	5 25
FLOUR—Winter	2 75	@	4 75
Patents	3 75	@	4 90
WHEAT—No. 2 Spring	84¾	@	84½
CORN—No. 2	55	@	55¼
OATS—No. 2 White	31	@	34½
PORK—New Mess	13 95	@	14 00
KANSAS CITY.			
CATTLE—Shipping Steers	3 25	@	4 95
HOGS—Sales at	5 10	@	5 35
WHEAT—No. 2	84½	@	85¼
OATS—No. 2	29¾	@	30
CORN—No. 2	48	@	48½
NEW ORLEANS.			
FLOUR—High Grade	4 00	@	5 00
CORN—White	71	@	72
OATS—Choice Western	44	@	45
HAY—Choice	21 50	@	22 50
PORK—New Mess	....	@	15 00
BACON—Clear Rib	8⅝	@	8¾
COTTON—Middling	....	@	9½
LOUISVILLE.			
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	90	@	90½
CORN—No. 2, Mixed	52	@	53
OATS—No. 2 Mixed	35	@	36¾
PORK—Mess	14 75	@	15 00
BACON—Clear Rib	8½	@	8
COTTON—Middling	....	@	10

WHY?

WHY do I have this drowsy, lifeless feeling? WHY do I have Backache? WHY Neuralgia and Rheumatism? WHY does Scrofulous taint and Erysipelas show itself? BECAUSE your blood is filled with Poison, which must be Completely Eradicated before you can regain health. You must go to the root of the matter. Put the Kidneys—the great and only blood purifying organs—in complete order, which is complete health, and with

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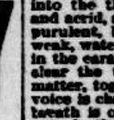

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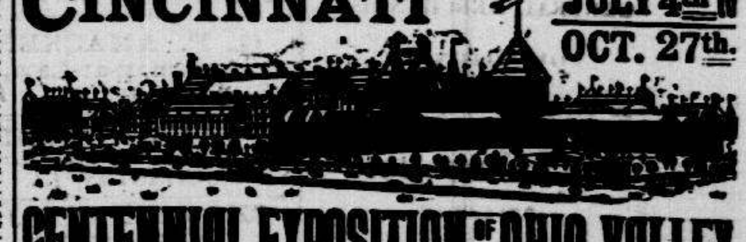

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