

Coffee—Its History—Introduction into Europe and the Western World—Cultivation in Brazil.

(Continued from the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.)

As this empire is the most largely engaged in the cultivation of coffee of any country upon our globe, it may not be uninteresting to give your readers an account of its history and culture.

Perhaps no one product has so complete a reign and so great a popularity among the nations of the earth, as the little berry which is indigenous to Abyssinia and the region about the sources of the White Nile. The civilized, semi-civilized, and even some of the barbarous nations are under its sway. Wherever it has gained a foothold, its advance has been most sure. It never made a retrograde movement, though assailed by ecclesiastical bodies, or by colleges of physicians of every school.

And from its qualities, its history is interesting and instructive. It is a native of Abyssinia (not of Arabia, as many believe) and abounds in the province of Kaffa, whence it derives its name. It extends from this province into the interior of Africa, to the very sources of the White Nile. The Gallas, a warlike, wandering people, who have often devastated the whole coast from Zingubar to Nubia, use coffee in their long excursions as food, it being prepared by reducing it to powder, and selling with butter into balls. The coffee tree was not transplanted from Abyssinia into Asia until the 15th century, when its cultivation was begun in Arabia Felix, where, in the environs of Mocha, it grows to perfection; and who does not know the world-wide reputation of Mocha coffee?

I have recently been much interested in reading the new French botanical work which treats of the introduction of coffee into Europe, as well as of its properties and early history, and I shall give the result of my reading. The Western world learned the use of coffee from the Orientals, but the question naturally arises, where and how did the Orientals learn the use of the beverage-herry? This is difficult to determine. An Arabian author of the 13th century, named Shehabeddin, records that it was a Mufti of Aden, who, in the 9th century, was the first to use coffee. That which is certain is, that at this epoch it was already known in Persia. According to the common tradition, the discovery of its use is due to one Mullah Choddy, whose memory is in great veneration among the faithful. The pious Mullah was very much afflicted in being interrupted by drowsiness in his nocturnal meditations. He invoked Mahomet to come to his aid, and the prophet, moved with compassion, caused his faithful Mullah to meet with a goatherd, who led him to a coffee tree, and informed him that whenever his goats ate of the berry of that tree, they passed the whole night wide awake, leaping and capering. The Mullah wished to try the virtue of this herb, and prepared a strong infusion of the same, which, after drinking, gave him for the whole night a most delectable state of sleeplessness. He made known his discovery to his disciples, and their example was followed by all the doctors of the land. Soon even those who had no need of wakefulness adopted the new beverage, which rapidly became popular over the whole Orient. It was in great vogue at Constantinople in 1550, and in Europe, a botanist of the 16th century, says that he saw Arabians calling it Kaffa under the name of Canea.

Other traditions attribute the discovery of coffee as a beverage to the superior of a Maronite convent, who from the report (similar to that of the goatherd) of a camel herder, was induced to drink it, and also caused the monks under him to follow his example, in order that they might be more vigilant in performing their nocturnal religious duties. The practice of drinking it was adopted by the Cenobite monks of the Tiber and Ethiopia, and it was introduced from that that the Servites found the means of overcoming sleep. The monks of the Servites, however, soon became weary of the berry, for seeing the people make the monkey and filling by the coffee, they hated the beverage, and they were the first to use the secular arm, which in the 17th century, coffee was only known in France. Occasionally some coffee from the Levant would arrive in France with the beverage of the East. It was not until Solomon Agrippa, a physician from the Arabian Ports, brought it to the Court of Louis XIV., gave an eclat to it by offering it to the high born, and the grand Monarch, that it became known in France. Curiosity and vanity led the King's residence, where he was with Oriental magnificence, and the monarch, Madame de Sevigny, who endeavored to stem the torrent of coffee, declared the favor shown to it would be but a passing affair, and in her exclusive admiration for the French, she predicted that

Racine would pass away like coffee—a prediction, says a witty Frenchman, perfectly verified at the present time, for neither Racine nor coffee have passed away. But in the revolution of ideas, Racine and coffee have not by any means equal conditions, for the one must be tested by an educated public, while the other can be appreciated by all classes of men.—About the same time coffee became a favorite at Vienna; for the Turkish army, routed by Sobiesky, left their camp in the hands of the conquerors, and among the prisoners were many slaves who understood the preparation of the drink from the berry of Abyssinia. Twenty years before, it was introduced into England by a British merchant, returned from Constantinople, who, with his fortune, had bought a pretty Greek wife. He made the coffee and the wife sold it, and this was the beginning of the coffee houses, which so increased as to number hundreds in a short time. They were, however, closed by order of Cromwell, it is said, at the instance of the taverns, which were losing all their customers. In France the coffee houses became the most popular institutions in the country, and to this day the French coffee is the A No. 1 of this beverage in the world. But French coffee houses, once the resort of the literary men, savans and statesmen, are no longer what they were. They are now too often the mere rendezvous of wine, brandy and absinth drinkers and tobacco smokers. Literary discussion is no longer heard, but political brawling (upon subjects not prohibited by the Emperor,) criticism upon the favorite danseuse, or the last scandal from the stock of the present coffee house keeper. Notwithstanding the immense quantities of wine drunk in France, there is probably no country, except Turkey and the United States, so thoroughly given to coffee. Tea is hardly known beyond the precincts of the great cities, and even there, but few people, truly French, make any use of the Chinese plant. It is curious to notice this difference of taste or of use, in a name given to the common domestic instrument by the Anglo-Saxons and French. We call the small silver spoon tea spoon—the French invariably call the same article coffee spoon.

Up to the 18th century, all the coffee which was consumed in Europe came from Arabia. It was brought by way of Egypt and Syria, and the Pachas of these Turkish provinces exacted the most exorbitant duties. It was then that Europeans began to think of another route to Arabia. The Hollanders were the first who began the traffic in the Red Sea, taking their cargoes at Mocha. They were soon followed by the English and French. But this was not sufficient. They could not bear the thought of being so dependent upon the exacting Arabians for the article which was becoming of such necessity and repute. Van Horn, the first President of the Dutch East Indies, succeeded in obtaining some coffee plants, which were transported to Batavia in 1699, where they thrived to perfection. One of these plants was sent in 1710 to Amsterdam, and planted in the Botanical Garden of that city, where it flourished. An offshoot of the same already twice transplanted shrub was presented to Louis XIV. This monarch sent it to the Jardin de Plantes, and it became the ancestor of all the coffee plantations in the West Indies, for the government immediately undertook to acclimatize the coffee in the French possessions in the Antilles. The first plants were confided to a Mr. Isambert, who, however, died on his way to Martinique, and the new enterprise perished with him. In 1720, however, Captain DeClerieux was entrusted with three plants to take to Martinique. The voyage was long—the vessel was short of water—two plants died, but the third was saved by the devotion of the Captain, who divided with it his rations of water. It was brought in good condition to Martinique, and this was the first coffee ever transplanted to the new world. It became in a short time an article of great cultivation, not only in the islands of the West and in the Spanish colonies, but in Western Africa, Ceylon, India, etc. When it was first introduced into Brazil, I have had no means of ascertaining, but nowhere has its growth and cultivation been so extensive and so rapid. The merchants are still living who saw the first small cargo shipped from Rio de Janeiro. It required many weeks, or even months, to collect that small cargo, while now Rio de Janeiro is the largest coffee mart in the world. From that port alone were exported from June 20, 1854, to June 30, 1855, no less than 2,252,224 bags (two million three hundred and fifty-two thousand two hundred and eighty-four.) A small mistake not the coffee bag contains four Portuguese anas, which is equal to 160 lbs. Nearly one half of this immense exportation went to the United States. Each year Rio coffee, which formerly encountered great prejudice in the United States, is becoming more popular, and good. "old washed Rio" is equal to the best Java. Of the six or seven million dollars' worth of coffee imported into the United States, twelve millions worth are from Brazil. If there were no other inducement, this should be a large one to influence the most amicable relations with Brazil, upon whom we depend for an article of such prime necessity as coffee.

Do not love whom you do not honor!

MIDDLE-AGED GEOGRAPHY.—Class middle-aged geography, stand up. What is a pyramid?

"A pile of men in a circus, one a top tother."
"Where is Egypt?"
"Where it allers was."
"Where is that, you young vagabond, you?"
"Dunno, sir."
"Go down foot. Next. What is a bay?"
"Abysavastbodyofstillwaterhoundedby numerouscapeshighlandpromontarywithoalynoeoutlettothesear."
"Good! go up to the head, and stop shooting wads at the girl's faces."

The expenses to the city of New York proceeding from the death of Poole, it is estimated, will amount to one hundred thousand dollars!

An acre contains 4,840 square yards; there are 640 square acres in a square mile.

A VULGAR ERROR.—That it is not allowed at a city dinner to send up twice for turtle soup!

What grows less tired the more it works? A wagon-wheel.

STATE OF LOUISIANA—FIFTH DISTRICT COURT, PARISH OF TERREBONNE.

Addaie Temple, widow of Jean Lagarde, vs. J. A. LeBlanc et al. No. 534.

By virtue of an execution emanating from the above named Court, in the above entitled and numbered suit, there will be offered for sale by Aubin Bourg, Sheriff of said Parish, at the Court House in Houma, on Saturday, September 6, 1856, between 11 o'clock, A. M., and 4 o'clock, P. M., the following described property, to wit: All the right, title and interest of Evariste Porche in and to the judgment rendered by the Fifth District Court for the Parish of Lafourche Interior, in the case No. 812 of H. M. & H. C. Thibodaux versus LeBlanc & Dantin, in which case the said Evariste Porche as first endorser, having satisfied the claim of the judgment creditors, is by law subrogated to their rights against the original defendants, LeBlanc & Dantin.

This judgment was rendered in the District Court of Lafourche Interior on the 10th April, 1851, for the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars, with legal interest on the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars from the 22nd day of February, 1851, and the same interest on the balance of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars from the 22nd March, 1851, till paid; and the costs of protest and the costs of suit.

Terms.—Cash, without the benefit of appraisement. Said sale will be made to satisfy the principal, interest and cost in said case. A. BOURG, Sheriff. Parish of Terrebonne, August 5th, 1856.

ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—PAROISSE TERREBONNE, Cour du 5eme District Judiciaire.

Addaie Temple, veuve de Jean Lagarde, vs. J. A. LeBlanc et al. No. 534. En vertu d'une Execution lancee par la Cour sus-nommee, adressee au Sherif soussigne, dans la cause ci-dessus intitulee et numerotee, il sera offert en vente publique a la maison de Cour a Houma, Samedi, le 6 Septembre, 1856, entre 11 heures, A. M., et 4 heures, P. M., la propriete ci-apres decrite, savoir: Tous les droits, titres et interet de Evariste Porche, dans le jugement rendu par la Cour du 5eme District pour la Paroisse de Lafourche, dans l'affaire No. 812 de H. M. & H. C. Thibodaux vs. LeBlanc & Dantin, dans laquelle affaire, le dit Evariste Porche, comme premier endosseur, ayant satisfait et paye la declaration des creanciers judiciaires, est par la loi subroge a leurs droits contre les defendeurs originaux, LeBlanc & Dantin.

Ce jugement a ete rendu dans la Cour de District de la Paroisse de Lafourche, le 10 Avril, 1851, pour la somme de Sept Mil Piastres, avec l'interet legal sur la somme de Trois Mil Cinq Cents Piastres depuis le 22 Fevrier 1851, et sur la balance de Trois Mil Cinq Cents Piastres depuis le 22 Mars 1851, jusqu'au paiement, et les frais du protest et du proces. Terms.—COMPANT, sans le benefice de l'estimation. La dite vente sera faite pour satisfaire au principal, l'interet et frais dans la dite affaire. A. BOURG, Sherif. Paroisse Terrebonne, ce 15 Aout, 1856.

GENERAL COLLECTOR AND AUCTIONEER—OUSTEN HOUMA.

EDWARD O. GAGNE, General Collector and Auctioneer, Ousten Houma. Will attend strictly to all business entrusted to him, in this and the adjoining parishes. 90-st.

Saddles and Harness MADE AND REPAIRED, AND CARRIAGE TRIMMING done in the best manner.

JOHN BERGER, Houma, July 29, 1856.

New Livery and Trade Stable.

GAGNEAUX & BOUDREAUX, April 17-ly.

Fashionable Tailoring. Fall and Winter Styles.

Frederick would most respectfully remind his friends and patrons, that he has just received a superior lot of fashionable fabrics, suitable for making pants, &c., for this season of the year. He is now ready to accommodate all who stand in need of his services. (July 15)

PHALON'S Paphian Lotion or Floral Beautifier.—Infallible as a preservative of the skin and complexion, and as a means of eradicating or curing freckles, tan, pimples, chapped hands, lips and face; blotches, sunburns, scalds, burns, etc., and all diseases appertaining to the skin. Manufactured by E. PHALON, perfumer, 517 Broadway, New York—and for sale at the HOUMA DRUG STORE.

A Perfumed Breath.

What lady or gentleman would remain under the curse of a disagreeable breath when by using the "Balm of a Thousand Flowers" as a dentrifice would not only render it sweet but leave the teeth white as alabaster? Many persons do not know their breath is bad, and the subject is so delicate their friends will never mention it. Pour a single drop of the "Balm" on your toothbrush and wash the teeth night and morning. A fifty cent bottle will last a year.

A Beautiful Complexion may easily be acquired by using the "BALK OF A THOUSAND FLOWERS." It will remove tan, pimples, and freckles from the skin, leaving it of a soft and rosy hue. Wet a towel, pour on two or three drops, and wash the face night and morning.

Shaving Made Easy.—Wet your shaving-brush in either warm or cold water, pour on two or three drops of "BALK OF A THOUSAND FLOWERS," rub the beard well and it will make a beautiful soft lather, much facilitating the operation of shaving. Price only fifty cents. For sale at the HOUMA DRUG STORE.

Purchasers will be careful to ask for Dr. McLane's Celebrated Vermifuge, manufactured by Fleming Bros. of Pittsburg, Pa. All other Vermifuges in comparison are worthless. Dr. McLane's genuine Vermifuge, also his celebrated Liver Pills, can now be had at all respectable drug stores. None genuine without the signature of FLEMING BROS. SCOVIL & MEAD, New Orleans, La., General Wholesale Agents for the Southern States. FRIZELL & DROOKS, Houma, La. E. L. LASHBROOKE, Thibodaux, La.

A. Y. M.—Houma Lodge, U. D., HOLDS its Regular meetings at the Masonic Hall, over the store of Gagne & Tennant, on the second Saturday of every month, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

OFFICERS: J. AYCOCK, W. M. C. TENNENT, TREAS. J. L. JENNINGS, R. W. J. R. DUNN, S. D. J. A. GAGNE, J. W. A. KENDALL, J. D. H. NEWELL, Sec'y. E. O. GAGNE, Tyler.

Succession of Mrs. Briget Bellanger, deceased widow of Henry Schuyler Thibodaux.

STATE OF LOUISIANA—Fifth Judicial District Court—Parish of Terrebonne.

Whereas, L. BARRAS, of said parish, administrator of said succession, has this day filed with the undersigned Clerk of said Court, a final account of his administration of the said succession, praying that the same may be homologated—

Not, therefore, all persons interested are hereby warned and notified to file their objections, if any they have, to the homologation of said account, with the Clerk of said Court, at his office in Houma, within thirty days after the first publication hereof, otherwise the said account will be homologated in due course of law.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, this 19th day of July, 1856. H. NEWELL, Clerk.

Succession of JAMES W. DEWOLF, deceased. ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—Cour du 5eme District Judiciaire, Paroisse Terrebonne.

Attendu: Que Thomas F. Brooks, de la paroisse de Terrebonne, a fait son application au Greffier de la dite Cour, pour etre nommé Administrateur de la dite Succession—

En consequence, toutes les personnes qui pourroient avoir des objections a la dite Succession, sont par la presente averties de les presenter au Greffier de la dite Cour, au Bureau de son Administration, dans la ville de Houma, dans les dix jours qui suivent cette publication, autrement le dit Tableau sera homologue d'apres la loi.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, this 26th day of July, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL, Clerk.

Succession of JAMES W. DEWOLF, deceased. ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—Cour du 5eme District Judiciaire, Paroisse Terrebonne.

Attendu: Que Thomas F. Brooks, de la paroisse de Terrebonne, a fait son application au Greffier de la dite Cour, pour etre nommé Administrateur de la dite Succession—

En consequence, toutes les personnes qui pourroient avoir des objections a la dite Succession, sont par la presente averties de les presenter au Greffier de la dite Cour, au Bureau de son Administration, dans la ville de Houma, dans les dix jours qui suivent cette publication, autrement le dit Tableau sera homologue d'apres la loi.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, this 26th day of July, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL, Clerk.

Succession of J. A. LEBLANC, deceased. STATE OF LOUISIANA—FIFTH DISTRICT COURT—PARISH OF TERREBONNE.

Whereas: Joseph A. Gagne, of said Parish, Administrator of said succession, has this day filed with the undersigned, Clerk of said Court, a final Tableau of his administration of the said succession, praying that the same may be homologated—

Not, therefore, all persons interested are hereby warned and notified to file their objections, if any they have, to the homologation of said Tableau, with the Clerk of said Court, at his office in Houma, within thirty days after the publication hereof, otherwise the said Tableau will be homologated in due course of law.

Witness my hand and the seal of my said office, this 26th day of June, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL, Greffier.

Dr. McLANE'S CELEBRATED VERMIFUGE AND LIVER PILLS.

Two of the best Preparations of the Age.

They are not recommended as Universal Cure-alls, but simply for what their name purports.

The VERMIFUGE, for expelling Worms from the human system, has also been administered with the most satisfactory results to various animals subject to Worms.

The LIVER PILLS, for the cure of LIVER COMPLAINT, all BILIOUS DERANGEMENTS, SICK HEADACHE, &c.

Purchasers will please be particular to ask for Dr. C. McLane's Celebrated VERMIFUGE and LIVER PILLS, prepared by Fleming Bros.

SOLE PROPRIETORS, Pittsburg, Pa., and take no other, as there are various other preparations now before the public, purporting to be Vermifuge and Liver Pills. All others, in comparison with Dr. McLANE'S, are worthless.

The GENUINE McLane's Vermifuge and Liver Pills can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores.

FLEMING BROS., 60 Wood St., PITTSBURGH, PA. Sole Proprietors. Sold by Scovil & Mead, New Orleans, La.

Succession of J. H. FIELD. ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—COUR DU 5eme DISTRICT—PAROISSE TERREBONNE.

Attendu: Que F. S. Goude, de la dite Paroisse, Administrateur de la dite Succession, a ce jour depose au Bureau du Greffier de la dite Cour, un Tableau final de son administration de la dite Succession, demandant qu'il soit approuve et homologue—

En consequence toutes personnes interessees sont prevenues et notifiees de deposer leurs objections, si elles en ont, a l'homologation du dit Tableau, au Bureau du Greffier de la dite Cour a Houma, dans les trente jours qui suivent cette publication, autrement le dit Tableau sera homologue d'apres la loi.

Witness my hand and the seal of my said office, ce 26me jour de Juin, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL Greffier.

Succession of A. JARVIS, deceased. STATE OF LOUISIANA—PARISH OF TERREBONNE.

Whereas: W. M. Mercor, of said Parish, Administrator of said succession, has this day filed with the undersigned, Clerk of said Court, a final Tableau of his administration of the said succession, praying that the same may be homologated—

Not, therefore, all persons interested are hereby warned and notified to file their objections, if any they have, to the homologation of said Tableau, with the Clerk of said Court, at his office in Houma, within thirty days after the publication hereof, otherwise the said Tableau will be homologated in due course of law.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, this 26th day of June, A. D. 1856. H. NEWELL, Clerk.

Succession of WILLIAM KENNER. ETAT DE LA LOUISIANE—COUR DU 5eme DISTRICT—PAROISSE TERREBONNE.

Attendu: Que J. M. Goude, de la dite Paroisse, Administrateur de la dite Succession, a ce jour depose au Bureau du Greffier de la dite Cour, un Tableau final de son administration de la dite Succession, demandant qu'il soit approuve et homologue—

En consequence toutes personnes interessees sont prevenues et notifiees de deposer leurs objections, si elles en ont, a l'homologation du dit Tableau, au Bureau du Greffier de la dite Cour a Houma, dans les trente jours qui suivent cette publication, autrement le dit Tableau sera homologue d'apres la loi.