

STATE NEWS.

FLORAL DECORATION AT STONEMAN CEMETERY.—The Winchester (Va.) Times gives a long and interesting account of this memorial event.

We extract the following in regard to the North Carolina section:

The North Carolina section was the first decorated. The monument to the North Carolinians was handsomely decorated and at its base rested the implements of war in the shape of a miniature cannon, drum and stack of arms, upon which swung the trappings of the soldier.

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zens of Buncombe publicly announce, in the Asheville News, their withdrawal from the infamous League.

THE LEAGUE.—Speaking of the Leagues, the Tarboro Southerner expresses its gratification that, in many sections of the State, the colored men are learning to understand the baneful influence exerted by them.

It is addressed to the President of the Union League at Battleboro and is as follows:

We the undersigned, formerly members of the League at this place, desire to withdraw our connection and affiliation entirely from said organization.

We do not wish or intend to be held responsible or culpable for any act or outrage committed by said League in the future, and we hereby declare ourselves and all our connections with it effectually severed and ended.

It is necessary to give our reasons for the course we have pursued, we are ready to do so at any time to any individual or parties concerned.

A detail of them here would prove too lengthy for a simple public newspaper recognition. It is not only in the design, but in the effect it has produced on our status as individuals.

We had not been informed that such an association would alienate our friends, and produce such discord in our society; nor had we been informed that we were being generally detested for the purpose of abridging our rights as freedmen.

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GRAPE CULTURE.

From the Southern Planter and Farmer for June we clip the following notes of a discussion, on this subject, at a recent meeting of the Virginia Pomological and Horticultural Society:

Within the last few years, grape culture has received a new impetus on this side of the Atlantic; and the increasing interest manifested on this subject by the people of Virginia bids fair to give her prominence among the wine producing States.

Her soil, her climate, the diversified topography of her surface, ranging from sandy plains to more than Alpine heights, where the lowland Scuppernon and the highland Catawba may each find its own peculiar home, point to a glorious and prosperous future, when her hillsides and her valleys shall team with the fruit of the vine.

Nothing will so rapidly advance immigration from Germany, France, Spain and Italy as the prospect of being able to cultivate the grape successfully; and on the other hand, we need nothing so much as this very class of labor and capital to develop the production of wine.

But while all this is true, and may be anticipated, there is a present duty incumbent upon those who already enjoy these advantages, viz: To see to it that we put forth every exertion to lay the foundation upon which this superstructure is to arise.

The first, indeed, the essential thing to be done is to secure and disseminate information. Our people need to be taught even the simplest rudiments, and it behooves this society, standing as it does the single representative of the great horticultural and pomological interests of the State, carefully to digest and promulgate the best information available, but details of useful import, such as all may easily understand and follow.

Having this in view, let us this evening enter upon the discussion of the general culture of the grape, with an honest endeavor to arrive at the best methods, without any regard to the past, and to the air reaching the fruit; therefore, prevents the production of leaves by shortening the branches, but do not impair the vitality of the vine by stripping the leaves from the branches.

All wood not needed for fruiting either in the present or ensuing season is useless, and should be removed. It is useless to drain upon the energies of the plant; therefore, remove such as soon as it begins to grow, and thus concentrate the sap in what is useful, either the fruit or the canes for the next year's fruiting.

When fruit branches are permitted to grow, they are apt to divide but it is the fruit; therefore, pinch them off just beyond the bunches, and all the sap will be taken up by these, thus increasing and hastening their development.

Now, let these principles be borne in mind, and there will be little difficulty in applying them to the culture of the grape. We would be both interesting and profitable to consider some of the diseases and insects to which the grape is liable, but we fear the bounds properly assigned to a discussion like this have already been transcended, and with a few suggestions concerning the general culture, we are compelled to close.

The Norton is indigenous to Virginia, and here attains its highest perfection. Its wine stands at the head of the list of red wines on this continent, and takes the front rank in Europe.

What we need now are good vines that can bear the low prices of the future years, we may find it profitable to produce light and fancy brands, but our farmers are too poor to produce, and our people too poor to purchase such at present.

The profits arising from this branch of industry are large; few, if any crops give so rich a return; and to produce all special and rich brands, it is absolutely necessary to succeed. The vineyard must be closely watched and carefully attended; and unless you are willing to undertake this, 'twere better not to plant it.

But to those who are willing to study, to labor, and cheerfully to endure, and who are willing to persevere, not only a rich pecuniary reward, but a higher and nobler enjoyment, which can only be found in the study and association with nature in her often mysterious, but ever fresh and generous workings.

The rapid strides the trucking interest has made from Norfolk into the interior along the banks of the James is not the least encouraging feature of the last few years. The Virginia, in an interesting article on the subject, says that the improvement in the trucking interest is due to the immediate vicinity of Norfolk is entirely incorrect, and that large shipments are now being made from Burwell's Bay, Chip Oaks and Hog Island.

Three years ago the farm at Rock wharf, known as Boykin's, was purchased by a gentleman from New York and his wife, who here timber is abundant, wooden trellises are both economical and desirable; but near large cities, or in sections destitute of timber, strong wire makes a good and handsome trellis. The only objection to wire is that it is more liable to rub the bark of the vines than wood, and although this is true to a certain extent, still experience has proven that the injury, if any, is not serious. Whether wooden laths or wire are used, the posts should be set not more than eight feet apart.

At the same time that the trellises are erected or during the ensuing winter, the vines should be pruned to a length of three or four eyes, and no more, and the three eyes of the last summer's growth. The season for this pruning continues from the cessation of the growth of the vine in autumn until the rising of the sap in the spring, but care must be taken not to prune in very cold weather when the wood is frozen. It is equally important that the vines be pruned before the sap begins to flow freely, so as to avoid injury from bleeding.

The treatment the second summer will depend, to a greater extent, upon the system of training adopted. For general vineyard culture, we prefer to train but one shoot in an upright direction, and after the vines have reached the wire, we may use three or four and a half feet from the ground, pinch off the end and thus develop four lateral shoots, to be trained along the first and second wires or rails; these, in their turn, to be pinched off when three feet long. The two shoots coming out from the sides of the main stem, and which may be layered down and made profitable in the production of young vines which, in

the fall, are taken up and the cane pruned back to two eyes. This system of training is recommended for the sturdy and vigorous growing varieties, such as Concord and Norton.

For more delicate growers, like the Catawba and Delaware, it is better to permit two canes to grow, training them along the lower rail or wire, and making these canes the base from which to grow future fruiting wood.

During the second summer, the soil, if not heavily manured, should be frequently stirred with the cultivator and the weeds kept down.

The third season care will be required to have the vines properly summer-pruned. As soon as the bloom-buds are sufficiently developed to be distinguished, the vines should be carefully pruned over, all the shoots pinched off just beyond the first bunch, except the shoot or shoots left for bearing canes the next season, and these should always come from the spurs left at the base.

The pinching of the bearing shoots close to the base, for the purpose of developing the vine and causing it to develop the fruit. The practice some adopt of thinning out the leaves to admit, as they say, light and air, is injurious. If there is too much wood, cut it off, and that which is left will be benefited, as also will be the fruit, but don't take away the leaves that are left if you wish to be healthy and vigorous; for no given quantity of wood produces more leaves than it requires to feed it.

To enter into a full discussion of all the methods of pruning would be neither advisable nor expedient on an occasion like this. We would like to try to arrive at correct principles, and these principles may be left to the good sense of the vinegrower, who alone can judge of the peculiar circumstances and condition of each individual case.

What, then, are these principles, the practical working of which has already been hastily sketched? In the present or ensuing season, the objects to be obtained by pruning are to shorten the wood to such an extent that no more leaves shall be produced than can be fully supported by the energy of the plant; to stop all shoots produced in the summer that are not likely to be required in the winter, pruning at two or three joints above the buds, and to cut the leaf from the stem where they originate, and to stop all roots bearing bunches at one, or at most, two joints beyond the bunch.

This is the sum and substance of grape-pruning, and the reasons for it are plain. The vines are to be trained to a certain height, and to reach the fruit; therefore, prevents the production of leaves by shortening the branches, but do not impair the vitality of the vine by stripping the leaves from the branches.

All wood not needed for fruiting either in the present or ensuing season is useless, and should be removed. It is useless to drain upon the energies of the plant; therefore, remove such as soon as it begins to grow, and thus concentrate the sap in what is useful, either the fruit or the canes for the next year's fruiting.

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wastes; dark, melancholy woods, the oak, the hickory, the poplar, the pine and the gum, yet raise their gigantic heads aloft, and in such profusion do they grow that now, after two centuries of laborious industry in felling them, the spaces cleared appear but as spots amid the immensity of the primal forest; the bark of the squirrel is heard, and the leaves rustle at the rabbit's tread.

The June number of this favorite agricultural journal, published at Richmond, Va., has been on hand for several days. Every article will prove of advantage to its patrons, but we would direct the close attention of our readers to the articles on Immigration and Fertilizers, in the Agricultural department, and to Mr. ALLEN'S Address, (already published in our paper), and (Weights vs. Maxims in selling Fruits, Vegetables, &c., in the Horticultural department.

There are other articles of great interest, and we are struck with the ability and good sense which controls the management of the Planter & Farmer. Its terms are only \$2 per annum, and the agriculturist will derive more than ten times that amount of useful information in each number.

Napoleon and Josephine were dining alone, when the Emperor informed her of his resolution to put her away. Josephine of course faint—a female manoeuvre which alarmed His Majesty, who immediately summoned assistance in the shape of Chamberlain de Bausset. As the Emperor continued inattentive, Napoleon, wishing to avoid a scene in the palace, asked M de Bausset if he were strong enough to carry the Empress into her apartments by a back staircase.

The Chamberlain replied in the affirmative, and took the Empress in his arms; the Emperor went first, descending backward and holding Josephine's feet. When half way down M. de Bausset's sword got between his legs and he clutched his precocious burden tighter whilst recovering himself. Great was his surprise when the Empress whispered: "Take care, sir; you are squeezing me too tight."

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Noon. General Schofield reports the amount necessary in carrying out the reconstruction laws up to the 30th June, at sixty million thirty-five thousand dollars.

The Arkansas members of Congress were sworn in and took their seats in the two Houses today.

A Democratic protest was entered on the Journals without debate.

From Fort Monroe.—Arrival of the Steamer Shawmut from Cape Haytien.—Confirmation of President Salnave's Desplorable Condition.