

Grange Column.

Under the Supervision of the Executive Committee of Pomona Grange.

Deep or Shallow Culture.

As that time in the life of our principal crops is at hand, when their roots are ramifying in every direction and filling the ground in search of food, it becomes those who practice deep culture to pause and consider whether that practice is best, and give a reason for their manner of cultivating. Whatever their reasons may be, and however plausible, there is not a proposition connected with the whole science of agriculture more fallacious, or a practice more hurtful in its effects, than deep culture. To contend for deep culture is to ignore the very first principles of vegetable life. Roots are the feeders of the plant, through which it receives those chemical elements of the soil necessary to its growth and development. Nature supplies these feeders just as she furnishes arteries and veins to the animal organization, and precisely for the same purpose. Not a root is ever put forth by a plant that is not necessary for the growth and maturation of that plant, and required during its existence. Nature does not superfluous work. The roots of the forest oak, that lives for an age, continues during all this time to grow and ramify—penetrating the soil, wide and deep, in every direction. The same fact holds in regard to minor plants—such as our annuals, that mature in one season. The little shrubs that spring out as the seed vegetates, continue to grow through the season, enlarging and extending themselves to the utmost depth of the pulverized soil. They ramify and spread themselves in every possible direction, and completely occupy the soil. Cut these tender shrubs and you destroy what are destined to be the main supporting roots of the plant during the season of fruiting. You stunt the plant, inflicting an injury from which it does not recover.

Time is an important element with our annual cultivated crops. The season of growth is short at best, and crops need to be stimulated instead of retarded. Tearing and cutting the roots of a plant arrests its growth and shortens its season of maturation. Nature sets to work to repair damage done. This reparative process consumes time, and the second growth of roots is much less vigorous than the original. Consequently, the plant does not recover from the injury, and its crop of fruit is proportionally shortened. The argument that nature more than compensates this loss by the multiplied number of roots put forth in lieu of the lacerated ones, but proves the extent of the injury and the importance of time in its reparation. What, then, do these facts teach us in reference to the cultivation of field crops? If corn and cotton require roots, why do violence to the laws of nature by constantly tearing them off? Nature is our best guide. Assist, but never frustrate her designs. In this consists the policy of him who cultivates the soil, as well as the true philosophy of life. This principle holds in the vegetable as in the animal. As we dare not sever an artery or vein with the expectation of invigorating the health of an animal, so we must not lacerate the roots of a plant, expecting to promote its growth. In the one case we debilitate the animal, and in the other cripple the plant. In both we do mischief instead of good. The lesson taught us in this study of nature's laws in their application to vegetation is unmistakably plain. The soil, properly enriched and prepared, should be given to the planted crop. Let it have undisturbed possession during its season of growth and maturation, that its roots may thoroughly permeate and occupy the soil. They are feeding the plant that is to produce the fruit, and oftentimes run out to a considerable distance in search of food. Let not the plough-share invade this domain to disturb this quiet process of nature; its business is on the surface, attacking the grass and weeds that may appear there. Having once deeply subsoiled and pulverized the land, it will need no more breaking during the season. The roots of the planted crop will readily penetrate its depth, despite the impeding effects of the heaviest rains. To subsoil again and again is more than folly. No good can possibly result, and a great deal of harm will be the inevitable consequence, for it is nonsense to talk of ploughing corn, cotton or any other crop deep without cutting the roots. It cannot be done. The only rational course left the planter, who is disposed to observe the dictates of nature in this regard is to adopt a system of surface cultivation, merely keeping under the grass and weeds and letting his corn grow. He can no more make his corn grow by cutting off its roots than the surgeon can make a wound heal by constantly leaving it open. Nature in both cases demands non-interference. She alone can make a bale of cotton or a bushel of wheat.

There are other facts connected with this subject that should not be overlooked in estimating the comparative advantages of deep or shallow culture. These facts resolve themselves into the proposition, that surface culture—by husbanding the moisture of the soil and allowing it to be appropriated by the growing crop, while deep culture promotes its evaporation and escape. Turn up the soil deeply in a hot summer day, and you expose it both to the action of the sun and wind, which rapidly carry off the moisture by evaporation, whereas, by using the winged sweep no such exposure is made. The moisture from the rains of winter and spring lies embedded in the soil, and cannot so readily escape, under the conservative operation of surface cultivation. A certain degree of moisture of the soil is indispensably necessary to the growing crop, in dissolving the fertilizing properties of the soil, and facilitating their assimilation by the plants. To collect a due supply of water is one of the objects of deep breaking, and to preserve and retain it for the use and benefit of the growing crop is an important desideratum with the cultivator. It behooves him to preserve it carefully. He may succeed in the approaching drought. To turn it up is to lose it. To turn it up is to lose it. To turn it up is to lose it.

The Vitality of the Shark.

During the Spring of the year, 1862, when the war was in progress, a number of army officers left Boston in the new sailing ship "Mermaid" for a voyage on the Atlantic.

Among the passengers were Dr. Hooker, Lieut. and Prince Anderson, and the writer; and we all witnessed the scene I am about to describe. Early one morning, Dr. Hooker called from the deck to us below that a shark was following the ship. We took this to be a practical joke and did not move from our state rooms.

But when we got upon deck, about six o'clock, we looked over the stern of the ship and there saw an enormous shark, about thirty feet long, and about six feet high, following us, but keeping his distance about two hundred feet. Every person on board was called to look at the huge fish.

The old sea captain said it was no unusual sight to see a shark follow a ship for an entire voyage, and that he had seen many a shark in his time. He said that he had seen a shark follow a ship for an entire voyage, and that he had seen many a shark in his time.

Somebody estimated that every man who lives to be sixty years old has spent seven months following his shirt collar. This is a very good illustration of the fact that the collar is the most troublesome part of a man's wardrobe.

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ANONYMOUS LETTERS.

A Funny Recommendation from a Louisiana Bulldozer—Straight Out Protest Against Anderson's Appointment.

Among the letters transmitted by the President to the Potter investigating committee on last Friday were the following unique letters: West Plains, La., May 17, 1877. Hon. Wm. M. Evans, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

Sir—Understanding that Mr. James E. Anderson, (carpet-bagger), of New Orleans, has applied for a consulship, and that he has written letters through you, who know him, I take the liberty to inclose this to you. I am the person who accepted to ride the State of him last fall to see his testimony before the congressional committee in New Orleans.

It is a singular fact that the great cause of constitutional liberty should be endangered, purely and simply, by the English language; and that the descendants of the free nation in Europe should be in danger of becoming slaves, merely because they speak the English language.

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A New Life in the Land.

The Exhibition in Anderson was one of the most remarkable events since the point of numbers, talents and disquisitions which have their origin in the blood. Health may now be regained. Life prolonged. Beauty renewed.

HEINITS'S BLOOD AND LIVER PILLS. For all complaints incident to the Head, the Dull Feelings, Loss of Appetite.

HEINITS'S COUGH SYRUP—Cures Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Catarrh.

HEINITS'S QUEEN'S DELIGHT purifies the blood. HEINITS'S BLOOD AND LIVER PILLS. For all complaints incident to the Head, the Dull Feelings, Loss of Appetite.

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F. W. WAGENER & CO., CHARLESTON, S. C. COTTON FACTORS AND WHOLESALE GROCERS. Agents for the Celebrated Hook Cotton Tie. Agents for the Oriental Gun Powder Company. Agents for the California Vinegar Company. Agents for the Georgia Grange Fertilizers. Agents for Old Crow Whiskey.

THE EMPORIUM OF FASHION RE-ESTABLISHED. NEW SPRING PRINTS, DRESS GOODS, HATS, And Other Desirable Goods Just being Opened! And Sold at Very Great Bargains for CASH! At the Emporium of Fashion, Leader of Low Prices!

THANKS for former patronage, and I only ask YOU ALL to call and examine my Goods before purchasing elsewhere. Z. D. CHAMBERLAIN, Proprietor.

LADIES' STORE. LOOK TO YOUR INTEREST. MISS LIZZIE WILLIAMS

THE MANTUA and MILLINERY Departments are of the first class, and no pains will be spared to gratify the taste and accommodate the purse of customers. Our stock is large and in varied tints and texture, and great variety. Thanking the public for past favors, we beg them to give us a call before purchasing elsewhere.

MUSICAL DEPOT, OR BRANCH HOUSE, GREAT SOUTHERN MUSICAL HOUSE! PIANOS & ORGANS

Parlor Favorite, Southern Gem, Haines & Bro., Mathews, Hall & Davis & Co., Chickering & Co. All the above Pianos for less money than you pay by sending North.

FURNITURE, FURNITURE. CHEAPER THAN EVER. TOLLY the Leader of LOW PRICES. LOOK at some of the figures at which you can buy Furniture at in Anderson.

Good Hard Wood Cottage Bedsteads at \$3.00; with Mattress and Case, \$2.50. Two and Drawer Washstands \$1.25. Large Wardrobes, \$11.00. Large Tin Safes, with two doors and drawers, \$5.00.

CONGAREE IRON WORKS, COLUMBIA, S. C. John Alexander, Proprietor. Reduced Prices Vertical Case Mill. LIST OF PRICES.

Steam Engines, Boilers, Cotton Presses, Grist Mills, AND SAW MILL GEARING. Of all kinds to order. IRON and BRASS CASTINGS on short notice and most reasonable terms.

Winship & Bro. SHAFING, PULLEYS & COTTON GINS & PRESSES FOR STEAM, AND HORSE POWER. SORGHUM MILLS, ETC. SEND FOR CIRCULAR WINSHIP & BRO. ATLANTA, GA.

G. V. DeGRAAF, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. FURNITURE DEALER & UNDERTAKER. Undertaking in all its Branches. 147, 147 1-2 & 149 BROAD STREET, AUGUSTA, GA.

GREENVILLE and Columbia Railroad. Passenger Trains run daily excepted, connecting with Pa. Day Trains at South Carolina Railroad, up and down. On and after Wednesday, November 14, 1877, the following will be the schedule.

New Advertisements.

NO ADVERTISING AGENT. Can insert an advertisement in our list of twenty-six STANDARD WEEKLIES at ten cents a line without losing money. These advertisements, when wanted to obtain the best possible circulation without spending more than from \$20 to \$100 should address GEO. F. BOWELL & CO., 10 Spruce St., New York.

SWEEPSTAKES. Navy Tobacco. Awarded Highest Prize of International Exposition for its quality and purity. The best tobacco for its class ever produced. Sold by all dealers in tobacco.

PIANO BEAUTIFUL CONCERT ORGAN. \$1,500 only \$425. Superb Grand Piano, \$1,200 only \$250. Elegant Upright Piano, \$1,100 only \$200. Grand Organ, \$1,000 only \$150. Grand Organ, \$1,000 only \$150.

OAK HALL, BOSTON. New guide for self-measurement—plain, simple, and accurate. Published by the Boston Herald, 115 North Street, Boston, Mass.

THE BOSTON SHOOTING SUIT. First prize, silver medal, over all competitors; made of the finest material, and is the best made in the world. Sent by mail, \$10.00. Sent by express, \$12.00.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR. THE circulation of this popular newspaper has increased, and it is now published at the rate of one dollar a year.

FOREIGN NEWS. AMERICAN NEWS. THE WEEKLY HERALD. embracing complete and comprehensive dispatches of eminent political journals on the questions of the day.

THE HOME. Giving recipes for practical dishes, hints for making clothing and for keeping up with the latest fashions at the lowest price. Letters from our Paris and London correspondents on the very latest fashions. The Home Department of the Weekly Herald is published every week for more than one hundred times the price of the paper.

THE FARM DEPARTMENT. The Weekly Herald gives the latest as well as the most valuable information on all matters relating to the duties of the farmer, the vegetable, fruit, poultry, fish, and stock raising, etc., etc. The Farm Department of the Weekly Herald is published every week for more than one hundred times the price of the paper.

NEW YORK HERALD. A weekly paper. Papers publishing this prospectus without being published, need not necessarily send an exchange. Address: NEW YORK HERALD, Broadway and Ann Street, New York.

PREMIUM Family Bibles: ENGLISH and GERMAN, PROTESTANT and CATHOLIC. Comprising pictures and elegant styles, with numerous elegantly illustrated explanations.

Grand Combination Prospectus. 150 Distinct Publications. Representing Agricultural, Biographical, Historical, and General Literature. Family Bibles and Prayer Books, and Testaments, and every family want.

JOHN E. POTTER & CO., Publishers, PHILADELPHIA. South Carolina Railroad. Passenger Trains run daily excepted, connecting with Pa. Day Trains at South Carolina Railroad, up and down.

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