

Southern Standard

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, AND TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF TENNESSEE.

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SAMPLE COPIES.

We send copies of the STANDARD this week to many persons who are not subscribers, with the hope that they may be pleased with the paper and send us the subscription price, \$1 per annum. The STANDARD is the only weekly agricultural paper published in the State. It is a plain country paper, intended more for usefulness than for show, with clear, easy print that children and old people can read with ease. We think the paper when carefully examined, will recommend itself, and soon become a welcome visitor to every one to whom we may send it for examination. We would be glad to send a few sample copies to any person who may desire to see it, and would thank our friends for the names of such.

Communications.

From Cane Ridge.

To the Standard.

As I thought your many readers would like a few lines from this section of the country I have concluded to write you. We have had no rain in several days, but corn is looking well and is generally conceded that an average crop will be made. Wheat is about half threshed, and is of rather inferior quality, whilst the quantity is quite small. Gardens do not look well.

Mr. P. Moore has sold his half interest in his mill to Mr. John Justice, and they are to start a wheat mill. We wish them abundant success, as a good wheat mill is needed very badly in this part of the country.

There is great deal of sickness in this immediate vicinity, but not many deaths.

Your valuable paper is liked by all who read it. TRAVELER.
Aug. 13, '83.

From Dibrell.

To the Standard.

The rites of matrimony was solemnized between W. H. Phelps and M. A. Gribble, Aug. 9th, at the bride's father, Mr. Ervin Gribble. May they long live to enjoy the affections of each other.

Mr. James Newby, near this place, lost a girl and only child on yesterday evening. The child had been quite sick for some three weeks. May its parents and relatives and friends remember that the dear little child is only gone home and that it can die no more. May God sanctify these bereavements to their good.

Mr. Benjamin Hardecastle requests us to say that his child that was bitten sometime ago by a rabid dog, is doing well. Mr. Fletcher's mad stone was applied soon after the bite.

The farmers would all be glad to have fine showers on their crop of corn and turnips.

Corn has decidedly improved in appearance in the last few days.

Rev. Elisha Webb, of the Southern Methodist church is holding a protracted meeting at Halcom's this week. A good attendance on yesterday and last night.

Good hogs could be sold here to-day at five cents gross. Would be a good thing that we all had plenty for sale.

Womack Brothers and McGehee started for Bowling Green, Ky., this morning with a car-load of fine, large mules. These gentlemen will no doubt do well with them.

Elder Eliza Preston, of Woodbury, will begin a protracted meeting at Halcomb on next Lord's day.

Born to the wife of Mr. S. T. West this morning a fine girl. P. G. P.
Aug. 13, '83.

The Kimball House, the principal hotel of Atlanta, was destroyed by fire last Sunday morning.

Notes By The Way.

To the Standard.

Texas has been so thoroughly written up of late years that but little remains to be said except as to facts connected with her rapid development. Much, however, that is said of Texas is misleading. He who describes the country at large by what he sees in a few places will miss the mark about as widely as it is possible to do. There are as many varieties of soil and as much difference in local characteristics as you will find in the older States. Society here is pretty much what it is in Tennessee or Kentucky. I have seen large gatherings in several States and on similar occasions, but I find no marked difference as to the general appearance, manner, and conduct of the people. A fine opportunity to see Texas people in vast numbers was afforded me in this place. The 7th and 8th of this month witnessed the great annual re-union of ex-Confederates on a scale, perhaps, unprecedented in the history of such gatherings. The people came in immense numbers from all directions, thousands coming from fifty to seventy-five miles in wagons and encamping on the ground. The trains, regular and special from all directions, were crowded to their utmost capacity. They came in carriages of every description, on horseback, and on foot. Such an immense gathering I have never before witnessed. There was no reliable means of ascertaining the number of people present even approximately. Estimates ran as high as thirty thousand. Such exercises were had as is usual upon such occasions. Distinguished speakers were present, representing different States of the late Confederacy. Some very excellent addresses were made breathing sentiments of loyalty to the memories of the buried past, and yet no word of bitterness or unkind feeling toward any section was uttered by any speaker.

These re-unions when participated in by men of all sections and conducted upon generous, noble and patriotic principles, as was the case on this occasion, will do more to bring about that moral unity so earnestly advocated by one of the speakers than all other means combined. Army tents were provided and marked as headquarters for the soldiers of the different States, and also for the ex-Unionists. Many States were largely represented. At the Tennessee headquarters between two hundred and three hundred were registered. The largest body of old soldiers that I saw at any one time was of Gen. Ross' old brigade. I observed the lines carefully, and it was quite remarkable that nearly all of them were comparatively young looking men still. They were certainly quite youthful in the war or twenty years had left but little impression upon their brows. All that immense throng was bountifully fed, and a great abundance of provisions were carried away unconsumed. It was a great day for even great Texas. There was no disorder or irregularity of any kind that was worthy of notice. It was a complete success from its inception to final conclusion. The gray and the blue mingled in friendly re-union, and all alike rejoiced in the glory of a common country, and in the glad hopes of a common, glorious destiny. F.
McKinney, Texas, Aug. 9, '83.

From Colleen's River.

To the Standard.

The most important event happening in this immediate vicinity for days was the accidental drowning of Elish Rogers which event occurred on last Sunday morning. He, together with four other boys, were bathing in the river where the water was very deep, and it appears from the statement of those witnessing the affair that Rogers was almost drowned before they realized the fact that he was not simply diving for sport. As soon as the other boys became sen-

sible of the fact that Rogers was drowning two of them made an attempt to rescue him, but ere they reached him he sank to rise no more.

The boys being frightened made no further attempt to secure the body, but speedily spread the alarm. A goodly number of people soon assembled, and began trying to find the body, but the water being so deep they found this no easy matter. At length they succeeded, but no attempt was made to resuscitate the body, since about an hour and a half had elapsed since the drowning occurred. Mr. Rogers was about twenty years of age, and leaves a young wife to mourn his unfortunate death.

The school at Irving College has sixty-five students and still on the increase. Those having the school in charge are elated over the prospects.

Capt. Snow at Etter's X Roads still operates the evaporator and is making some nice fruit.

Success has crowned the labors of the ministry of the different denominations in this vicinity.

Hayes and Etter are almost done threshing wheat. More in the future. Nix.

Aug. 13, '83.

Does the Moon Affect Vegetation?

To the Standard:

The question which heads this article has been answered affirmatively and negatively. An opinion has long prevailed, that vegetables that grow above ground, as peas, corn, beans, melon, etc., should be planted during the waxing or increase of the moon, in order that they may grow rapidly, and produce well.

Many modern philosophers have admitted that this idea is correct; and they have endeavored to account for the fact that vegetables which are planted at such a time that they will come up when the moon is eleven or twelve days old, seem to be more thrifty than those which are planted when the moon is twenty-six days old, on the following principle:

Light is known to have an effect on the growth of plants. Plants raised in a dark cellar appear weak and sickly. Plants raised in a house, in boxes, will always bend toward a window; therefore plants which come up when the moon is eleven days old, will have several bright moon-light nights to aid them and strengthen them during the time when they are young and tender. It is not then the moon, but the light of the moon which helps young plants.

Let us now reverse this idea and see if we cannot kill plants by depriving them of light. I want to see every farmer in Warren county, try an experiment.

On Tuesday, Aug. 28, let every farmer "clean up" an old field by grubbing all the bushes and briars in it. Record the day, and the age of moon when the work is done, stake the ground which has been cleaned up, (if it is in a large old field,) and wait nine months for the result. Many wise men have said that farmers will not be troubled with briars and bushes in a field so managed.

Remember, that the object now is to kill vegetation, and not to make it live. Clean an old field in August, in order that there may be less tendency to sprout again, as most plants sprout more quickly in May and June than they do more lately in the year. If the grubbing is done in September or October, nature seems to have on hand, some buds which are preparing to "shoot" next year, and these buds are not disturbed by grubbing, unless the grubbing is very deep. It is difficult to make a fruit tree live, if it is transplanted in August.

I now suggest to Thos. S. Myers, M. D. D. Boyd, S. A. Safley, Henderson McGreger, and all others who have friends buried at Smyrna, to come on the said Tuesday, with a force of twenty five, armed with hoes, grubbing hoes,

and axes, and make a war of extermination on the briars and bushes now growing on the ground lately purchased for an addition to the cemetery. Cut every bush and girdle every tree, except a few that are straight and handsome, and will make ornamental shade trees. Throw the cut bushes into some gullies that are rapidly becoming wider and deeper. Remember that "a stitch in time saves nine."

J. P. CLARK.

Attention, Agriculturists!

On the 9th of June there was an organized at Nashville the Middle Tennessee Farmers' Association. Profiting by the experience of the farmers of West and East Tennessee, whose annual meetings, have been of exceeding value to that division of the state, it was determined to promote thorough organization in every county of Middle Tennessee, and measures were promptly set on foot for that purpose. In many of the counties meetings have already been held for the organization of county associations, and it is probable that during the present month every county in the central division of the state will do likewise.

In West Tennessee the farmers are deeply interested in a similar movement. Before this paper will reach many to whom it is addressed, that portion of the state will have a farmers association, with auxiliary associations in different counties.

The object for which these division associations are formed have been published in many of the newspapers of the state, and are well understood. They may be stated briefly and fully—to promote the interests of the owners and tillers of the soil, in every honorable way and by all honorable means, using to that end the power of association effort.

It is necessary for the most effective working of such associations in this state that there be distinct organizations for each grand division. The topography of the State, the wide diversity of soils and products, the distinctly separated commercial relations of East Middle and West Tennessee, sufficiently indicate this necessity.

For many purposes, and those really of the highest importance to agriculturists, there must be united action throughout the State. Farmers must come together from all parts of the commonwealth, to consult and agree upon ends, ways and means.

Upon the overtures of the East Tennessee Farmers' Association it was agreed to call a convention of farmers to meet at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning September 11, 1883, in the hall of the house of representatives at Nashville. To this convention is invited every citizen of Tennessee who is a farmer, or who is more interested in farming than in any other vocation or profession.

It has been suggested, and this convention may decide upon an organization of a state farmers' association, to be composed of representatives from the several division associations, and that it shall meet annually or biennially, at Nashville, or alternately in the capitol city and at some point in East or West Tennessee. It is therefore suggested that those who attend the convention shall ascertain as far as possible the wishes of the farmers of the several districts, and come prepared to act accordingly.

Arrangement have been made with the railways centering at Nashville for reduced rates of fare.

B. F. COCKRILL,
CHARLES F. VANDERFORD,
JO. D. MARTIN,
JOHN B. McEWEN,
A. H. SHARPE,
C. C. BELL,
J. BELL CARTWRIGHT.

Improbable sayings should be treated as palpable delusions, even though they are masked under the hood of veneration.

The Proposed Farmers State Convention.

John A. Turley in Southern Industries.

Now that the farmers of the state have taken it into their hearts to effect a State organization of their numbers, and in their interests, I do hope that no part of the line will be permitted to waver. To many, such a movement is new, and the care, precistance, and labor necessary to success may, by them, be underrated. To such I desire to say that no movement does the trite saying, "Eternal vigilance," etc., more aptly apply.

Farmers always have something to do, and are slow to lay aside a pressing duty for one that may be deferred. They are very apt to reason that if I do not attend the Convention plenty of others will, and besides I do not know of anything in particular for me to do if I were present; and then this, that, or something else ought to be done now, so I will not go this time, but will get ready beforehand and surely go to the next meeting. In this way hundreds of farmers who ought by all means attend the State Convention in September will persuade themselves to stay away. It is said that to be forewarned is to be forearmed, and I throw out these points trusting that no farmer in the State will permit any trivial excuse to deprive the Convention of his presence and hearty co-operation.

The movement is a new one to most of us, and how important the future alone will reveal. Already we know enough of its purposes and design to justify our commendation. In a great measure it will be what we make it. That there are abundant reasons for a closer relation between the farmers of the State, none will deny; that organization is the surest source of strength and efficiency, the past most incontrovertibly proves, and that "in a multitude of counsel there is wisdom," God himself declares. Without pressing the question further, let me ask every farmer in the State to keep the September Convention in mind, and work, talk, and write for it from now until then, and be sure to be present on the occasion.

Convention of Commissioners.

Commissioner McWhirter, of the Tennessee bureau of agriculture, statistics and mines, has addressed the following letter to the commissioners of agriculture in all the Southern States: BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE, STATISTICS, MINES AND IMMIGRATION, NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 11, '83.

SIR:—Impelled by a sense of the obligations resting upon the South to widen her capacity for the development of her almost illimitable resources of wealth, both actual and potential, I am constrained to address you thus officially the object of which is to suggest an assembly of all commissioners of immigration throughout the Southern States, at the city of Louisville during the period of her great exposition.

It appears to me all important that we should take counsel together as to the direction of the tide of immigration that is so greatly swelling the population of the United States; and I am well assured that means can be devised to turn the current into our Southern ports, and by the enlistment of our great railway trunks, we may seize and distribute the best elements of immigration to our infinite advantage.

And apart from this vital interest which so signally demands our attention it is of the utmost importance for us to take active steps toward a permanent organization which can the better control and support the wonderful interests it is our honor to represent.

I respectfully suggest Wednesday, Oct. 10, as the date of our assembly, and earnestly request an immediate reply that I may at once make proper preparation for the occasion.

Very respectfully,

A. J. McWHIRTER, Com'r.