

FARMER AND PLANTER.

PITCHING THE CROP.

Now is the Time to Decide Intelligently on the Work for the Coming Season.

This is a most important feature of successful farming. Perhaps more men fail to make money farming on account of carelessness here than anywhere else. A crop well planned is apt to pay. One badly planned or mis-planned can never pay. If you plant the wrong crop you will almost certainly fail. If you plant the right crop you can hardly fail at all. The southern farmer ought to have learned this long ago, but he has not learned it well.

He plants crops of running water and scratch plowing and gathers crops of bald hills and gullies. He plants too much cotton and gathers empty cribs and high provision accounts.

He should plant a greater diversity. More provisions and less cotton.

The fact that the two past crops were short and the price is now high is not due to wise planning on our part. We planted enough cotton to make 12,000,000 each year. But Providence came to our rescue and cut the yields shot. The lesson is plain. Will we learn it? Will we profit by it? Or will we go blindly on and risk the consequences?

Just here we are facing a crisis. The present prosperity is widespread and may be made permanent or it may be brought to a sudden collapse. If we plant too largely of cotton, if Providence favors us with good seasons and we make a very large crop, the consequences will be far reaching and fearful. The brakes would be put on so suddenly that the whole train would be in danger of being derailed. An enormous yield and a return to low prices would be a calamity. Better put on the brakes now. Plan to plant large crops of all sorts of provisions and a small area of cotton. Already the price of cotton is being held down by the claim that the farmers are buying more mules and grain than usual. Now if these are followed by an increased acreage in cotton the effect will be to lower the price even in advance of the maturity of the crop.

This is not idle speculation. It is already at work. The southern cotton manufacturers are most of them short of cotton to run on through the year. This would help to raise the price. But instead of this they have decided to run a hand-to-mouth policy through the summer, because they believe we are going to plant an increased area of cotton. This they argue will enable them to buy cotton cheap next fall, and so they will wait. Now if we plant a smaller area in cotton the effect will be wonderful. First, it will put up the present price to where it ought to be, 12 cents. The second effect will be a high price for the crop when gathered.

This third effect will be the greatest era of prosperity ever enjoyed by the south. We hope every reader will think, talk and act along this line. Cut down the acres, run up the profits. A word to the wise is sufficient.—Southern Cultivator.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

One of the Essentials to the Health of Man and Beast and to Successful Farming.

Water is the most important substance in nature. Neither animal nor vegetable life can exist without it; it forms a large part of all material substances in their natural condition. Water is as necessary to health as to existence. It is also the vehicle of more disease and death than any other substance. Water for domestic use may be healthful or it may carry into the system many dangerous diseases. Let us, therefore, consider the ordinary sources of water supply for family use—springs, dug wells, cisterns and bored wells. Springs that bubble up through sand afford a fairly sanitary supply, if protected against surface contamination, and are not over-charged with salt, lime, gypsum, sulphurated hydrogen, etc. Absolutely pure water does not exist in nature, because it is the greatest known solvent of both solid and gaseous substances, and a considerable amount of mineral matter does not render the water unsanitary. Shallow springs are not safe as a water supply. Water coming from river banks is generally bad, being contaminated by surface seepage and the large amount of organic matter contained in the alluvial formations, through which it flows. Dug wells, protected by the sand box and notched wood curbing, are to say the least, as bad as pond water. There can be no estimate made of the amount of sickness and death caused by these cess-pools. They are open to surface pollution, to rats, insects, frogs and snakes, and the wide open mouth stands ready to receive any sort of contamination that comes that way. Once contaminated, it is very difficult to disinfect them, for the body of water is so large, ranging from 50 to 300 cubic feet, that, no matter how much may be drawn out, some water will remain that was there when the process began. Cistern water without filtering is bad, and bad only, and especially so in cities where the filthy and contaminated dust of the streets find lodgment on the roofs, where no amount of rain will wash them clean. Unfiltered cistern water should never be used for drinking purposes without first being boiled. On farms, however, where there is little dust, and that rarely contaminated, unfiltered rain water is not necessarily bad. Bored

wells are by far the safest sources of supply for water for domestic use. If properly made, they are free from all the sources of contamination to which dug wells are liable. The water from bored wells is thoroughly filtered and, if not too heavily charged with mineral matter, is entirely sanitary. The bored well is easily protected from foreign matter and easily emptied and cleaned, by using the valved bucket and common sand pump. Bored wells are also cheaper than others, and with the improved machines, one of ordinary depth can be put down in a day or two days, and any sort of formation can be penetrated with ease and certainty. In many cases it would pay to fill up the old dug well and bore one.—Texas Farm and Ranch.

Level Surface Sweet-Potato Culture.

Making ridges or hills in which to set sweet-potato slips is useless. Five years ago I made ridges for half of my sweet potato crop, and the remainder set out on a perfectly level, smooth surface. Those in ridges made longer tubers, but many of them were too stringy for use. The tubers of those cultivated on the level surface plain were shorter, considerably larger in circumference, more uniform in size, without strings among them, and in every way more desirable for home use or for the market.

The sweet-potato tuber never begins to expand until the tap-root has reached the hard ground, consequently if the slip is set high up in the ridge the tap-root has so much farther to grow to reach the hard ground that makes the crop later and gives the tubers less time to expand and mature; therefore, much of the crop will be stringy and unmarketable.

I break my sweet-potato ground about five inches deep, pulverize it well and mark the rows off about three feet apart. I do not wait for it to rain and make a season; neither do I carry water and make a season. I draw my slips in the evening, and after the sun gets low enough that it will not wilt them down, I set them out. I let them take the dew of the night, and early in the morning, before the sun is high, I take a hoe and cover them all up with dirt, so the scorching rays will have no effect on them. I let them remain in this condition for a week or ten days, when the roots of the young plants will have taken hold in the soil, then I uncover the tops. They never wilt, but start to grow much quicker than if set out and watered and then left to take the scorching rays of the sun before they have taken root in the soil.

On this plan sweet-potatoes are not half the trouble to cultivate, from the fact that you can plow close up to the plants, and the hoeing will be a small matter. I plow my sweet-potatoes twice with a double-shovel or cultivator, following each time with the hoe, slightly hilling them at the last working. The farmer who tries this plan once will never go back to the old-time plan of ridging his land for sweet-potatoes.—J. M. W., in Farm and Fireside.

Neglect of Details.

It is an old and trite saying that very few manufacturing concerns could stand the same rate of waste and loss that most farmers stand. Our watch of details is not good. We don't "get around" to many things until too late. The ditch left unopened, the rotted fence-posts not replaced, the leak in the roof not repaired, the nearest weeds not killed before seeding, the lost bolt in an implement not replaced, the building not painted till the wood is injured, the hundred things we do too late for best results or leave entirely undone—these will usually be fewer in number on a small farm, or should be, unless we have ability to employ others freely. At any rate, the man who is now rushed on a big farm and neglects these details could do better on fewer acres with the same amount of labor. Neglect, waste, delay, wipe out profits on many farms. Does any one doubt this?—Farm and Fireside.

HERE AND THERE.

—There should always be good drainage around the house if health is valued.

—Pig sties, above all other animal shelters on the farm, need frequent and liberal disinfecting with lime and other substances.

—Horticulture is a science worth the study of every farmer. It is so broad in its scope that there is no danger of a man outgrowing it.

—The life of a mule in Africa is of but six weeks duration, and England is sinking millions of money in their purchase. In Africa they are worth \$300 per head.

—The time is not far distant when farmers will be required to know the kind of soil they have on their farms just as they know the individual value of their horses.

—The mild winter has been most favorable to the poultry industry; prominent breeders report an unusually good season both for breeding stock and eggs for hatching.

—There are two kinds of fowls that lay well in the winter—the ones that are scientifically handled by men that make a business of poultry raising, and the hens on farms where there is during the summer a large supply of some kind of meat food.

—The Crop Reporter, issued by the department of agriculture, in its issue for January, contains a large amount of valuable crop statistics, but it is seriously defective in this: That neither cotton, sugar nor rice, three great southern staples, are mentioned anywhere in it.

Big Trade in Game Cocks.

Hundreds of South Carolina game cocks are shipped to Mexico annually, where they are in high favor and command good prices. A man in York county makes a business of breeding game cocks. One bird he sold to a Texan was entered in big matches in the Lone Star state and after winning \$7,000. He has been notified that this cock has won a battle in the City of Mexico in which the stake was \$1,000.—N. Y. Sun.

Heard in the Barnyard.

Saucy Young Rooster (meeting dejected old chanticleer)—Cluck, cluck, old chanty, what's your comb drooping about?

Old Chanticleer—I've had an awful break up in my family.

"Cluck, cluck, cluck! Your old hen down the coop?"

"No; but she took to moving out of her set."—N. Y. World.

The First Pigs.

Pigs were imported in New Zealand by Capt. Cook about 1770, and, soon becoming wild, increased to a remarkable degree. A century later wild pigs were so abundant in the flax seed thickets of the province of Taranaki, on the North island, that a hunter could shoot 50 in a single day.—Chicago Journal.

An Impossibility.

Mrs. Grogan (one a. m.)—After ye've drank all the whisky that's good for ye, ye should call for sarsaparilla!

Mr. Grogan (feebly)—Begorra! after Ol've drank all the whisky that's good for me, I can't say sashp'rilla."—Puck.

Nearing the Limit.

He—Do you know, darling, that I think it makes me a better man every time I kiss you.

She—Well, at the pace you are going now there will soon be no more room for improvement.—Chicago Evening News.

Why He Took His Departure.

Cholly—I shall never marry a strong-minded woman, never.

Minerva—No, of course, you won't. The woman you marry will be weak-minded, I am sure.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Thirty Feet of Sand.

It is supposed that the average depth of sand in the deserts of Africa is from 50 to 40 feet.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food-drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it, like it. GRAIN-O has that rich real brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. The price of coffee. 15c. and 25c. per package. Sold by all grocers.

After the Consultation.

Patient—Now, doctor, what's the matter with me, anyway?

The Head Consulting Physician—My dear sir, do you suppose that if we knew what was the matter with you, we would have decided to hold a post-mortem?—Harper's Bazar.

Where Danger Lurked.

A little girl from Memphis who has spent her life in the city went out to visit her grandparents, living in the country, during the holidays, and as usually happens in such cases, the little city lady displayed her ignorance.

The little girl, soon after her arrival in the country, manifested great apprehension of being hooked by the cows about the place. One day her mother told her to go to a neighbor's home and carry a message. The little girl started, but at the gate she encountered a cow, one of the muley species.

In great excitement she ran back to her mother, crying: "Oh, mamma, there's a cow down there!"

The mother looked out of the window and saw the meek-looking bovine.

"Why, daughter, that's a muley cow. She hasn't any horns and can't hook you."

"But, mamma," exclaimed the child, "she hasn't any horns, but she might hook me with her pompadour!"—Memphis Scimitar.

Not He.—"I must confess I'm rather superstitious." "Well, I'm not. I wouldn't be that way." "You wouldn't, eh?" "No. It's a sure sign that you're going to have bad luck when you begin to get superstitious."—Philadelphia Press.

The only thoroughgoing woman I ever heard of was the one who, having divorced her husband, changed her religion, in order that she might have done with him both in this world and the next.—Ally Sloper.

Bill Collector.—Lawyer—"What is your business?" Bankrupt—"Well, I suppose I might be called a bill collector." Lawyer—"A bill collector?" Bankrupt—"Yes. At least, I have a large collection of unpaid bills."—Somerville Journal.

Any young man who is desirous of occupation may find it by trying to please a woman; but no sane man will ever attempt to satisfy her. If you buy her furs, she wants feathers; if you spend your money on her you are extravagant; if you do not, you are mean; if you are jealous, you are a brute; while if you are not, you don't love her.—Ally Sloper.

Fine
The skin and flesh feel like the fit of a new soft glove when
St. Jacobs Oil
has driven out
Soreness and Stiffness
from you.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

Local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

What He Got.

Towne—Our friend Underthing tells me he's got a fine situation. How much does he get, do you know?

Brown—Oh, about \$2 a week.

"You don't mean it! It must be a fine situation to command such a princely salary."

"I didn't say that was his salary. That's what his wife allows him."—Philadelphia Press.

Cheap Rates to California.

February 12th and each Tuesday thereafter, until and including April 30th, Special Low Rate Colonist Tickets will be sold via the Southern Pacific Company's "Ogden" and "Sunset" Routes to all points in California. The rate will be: From Chicago \$30.00, from St. Louis, Memphis and New Orleans \$27.50, from Omaha, Kansas City, etc., \$25.00. Corresponding low rates from all other points east and north.

For particulars and detailed information pertaining to the Southern Pacific Company's Routes, and these special rates to California, call upon our address:

W. G. Newmyer, G. W. A., S. P. Co., 238 Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

W. H. Connor, C. A., S. P. Co., Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio.

G. G. Herring, C. A., S. P. Co., 711 Park Bldg., Pittsburg, Pa.

L. E. Townsley, C. A., S. P. Co., 421 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo.

G. C. Cary, C. A., S. P. Co., 208 Sheldley Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

The Seminary Kind.

Johnson—Does your wife speak French?

Thompson—She thinks she does.

"You don't speak it, do you?"

"No."

"Then how do you know she doesn't?"

"I watched a French waiter's face the other day when she was talking to him, and I'll be blamed if he didn't look as if he had the toothache."—Detroit Free Press.

Beating All Records.

Whenever the American people find a thing of merit, absolute genuine merit, they appreciate it and never hesitate to make liberal use of it. It is merit that counts for the enormous sale of Cascarets—over six million boxes last year. It is the best bowel and liver regulator in the world and sells at prices that suit everybody—10c, 25c and 50c a box, put up in tablet form, and every tablet stamped "C. C. C." There is no waste. Cascarets are easy to take and are sold by the makers under an absolute guarantee to refund the money if Cascarets do not prove satisfactory. A 50c box is enough for a whole month's treatment for the worst case. Every sufferer is urged to give Cascarets an immediate trial.

Change of Name.

Mrs. Greene—I suppose the Chittings are awfully stuck up since they got that money from Mrs. Chittling's uncle?

Mrs. Gray—Not so much as one might have supposed; but I notice that when they have mince-meat on the table they call it croquettes; it used to be plain hash.—Boston Transcript.

Low Rate Winter Tours to the South.

The Mobile & Ohio will run Special Low Rate Excursions, good until June the first, permitting invalids and others to stop at first-class hotels enroute at very nominal rates to all points in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Cuba, Central and South America. Low Rate Home-seeker's 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. One Way Settler's same days at Very Low Rates. Any ticket agent or J. T. Poe, G. T. M., Mobile, Ala. C. M. Sherrill, G. P. A., Mobile, Ala. M. H. Bohrer, G. P. A., 331 Marquette Bldg., Chicago, Ill. 7 West Fort Street, Detroit, Mich.

Mostly Bluster.—The man who is waging war on the modern prize fight is a regular Don Quixote. "You think so?" "Oh, course; he's only fighting windmills."—Philadelphia Press.

There is a Class of People

Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains, that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from real coffee. It does not cost over 1 cent. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15c. and 25c. per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

In Mourning.

Butcher—Leg o' mutton? Yes'm.

Mrs. De Rigueur—And let it be off a black sheep, if you please. We're in mourning, you know.—Philadelphia Record.

Rozale's Group Cure,

the life saver of children, cures and prevents Croup, Membranous Croup, Diphtheria, Pneumonia and Whooping Cough. No opium. 50 cents.

After every marriage, it is said the bride must have money of her own, but it turns out usually that it is the groom going in debt.—Aitchison Globe.

I am sure Pico's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. Thos. Robbins, Maple Street, Norwich, N. Y., Feb 17, 1900.

When you forget there are others you are nearing a burned bridge.—Aitchison Globe.

The Best Prescription for Chills and Fever is a bottle of Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

No man ever became great and good except through many and great mistakes.—Gladstone.

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

We often read of the canopy of heaven; I wonder if it's supported by the moon's beams?—Ally Sloper.

A dyspeptic is never on good terms with himself. Something is always wrong. Get it right by chewing Beeman's Pepsin Gum.

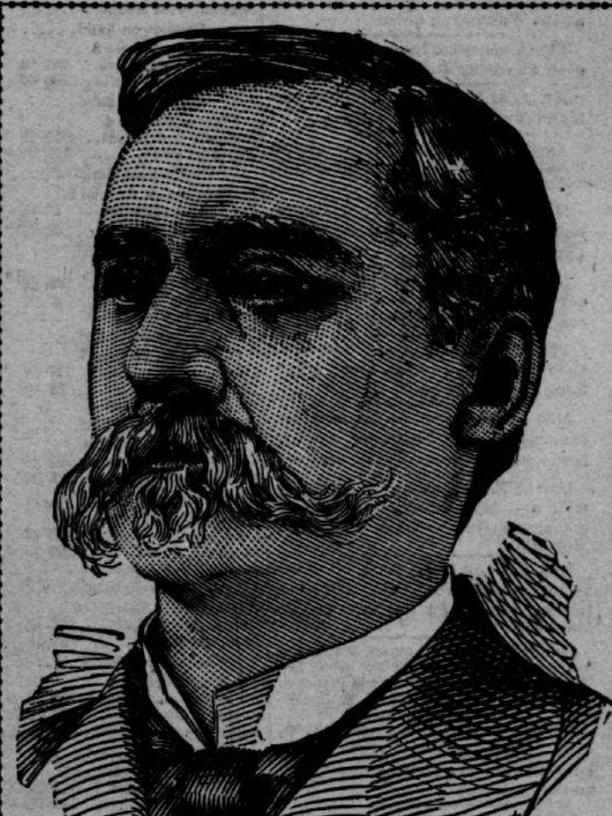
Money will not buy food for a hungry heart.—Chicago Daily News.

Thirty minutes is all the time required to give with Pepsin Tablets. Sold by all druggists.

The easiest note to write is the hardest to pay.—Aitchison Globe.

A UNITED STATES SENATOR

Says Pe-ru-na, the Catarrh Cure, Gives Strength and Appetite.



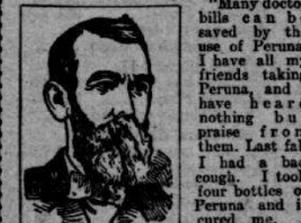
Hon. W. N. Roach, United States Senator from North Dakota.

Hon. W. N. Roach, United States Senator from North Dakota, personally endorses Peruna, the great catarrh cure and tonic. In a recent letter to The Peruna Medicine Company, at Columbus, Ohio, written from Washington, D. C., Senator Roach says:

"Persuaded by a friend I have used Peruna as a tonic, and I am glad to testify that it has greatly helped me in strength, vigor and appetite. I have been advised by friends that it is remarkably efficacious as a cure for the almost universal complaint of catarrh."—W. N. Roach, Larimore, North Dakota.

No other remedy can take the place of Peruna.

Mr. Ed. J. Makinson, contractor and builder, 610 Grand Block, Wabash Street, St. Paul, Minn., says:



Mr. Ed. J. Makinson, Contractor and Builder.

"Many doctor bills can be saved by the use of Peruna. I have all my friends taking Peruna, and I have heard nothing but praise from them. Last fall I had a bad cough. I took four bottles of Peruna and it cured me. I am inclined towards consumption, as all my family have died with it. It is Peruna that has given me such good health."—J. Makinson.

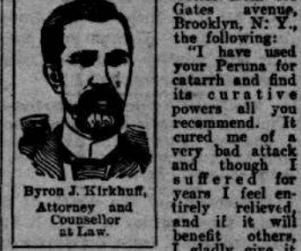
As a result of the changeable climate, catarrh has become one of the most prevalent and universal diseases known to man. Nearly one-third of the people of the United States are afflicted with catarrh in some of its many phases and stages. Add to this the fact that catarrh rapidly tends to become fixed or chronic, also the further fact that it is capable of producing a great many other diseases, and we begin to realize the true nature of this dread disease.

So formidable has catarrh become that in every city or town of any size numerous doctors are to be found who make the treatment of catarrh a specialty. Of course a great deal of good is accomplished in this way, but as yet a comparatively small number of the people can avail themselves of this treatment because of the great expense necessarily attached to it.

To all such people Dr. Hartman's remedy, Peruna, comes as a great boon. Not only is it more successful in curing catarrh than the treatment of the catarrh specialists, but it is within the reach of every person in this land. Peruna can be bought at any drug store, and is a remedy without equal for catarrh in all forms, coughs, colic, bronchitis, consumption, and all climatic diseases of winter.

Peruna is not a guess, nor an experiment; it is an absolute, scientific certainty. Peruna cures catarrh wherever located. Peruna has no substitutes—no rivals. Insist upon having Peruna. Let no one persuade you that some other remedy will do nearly as well. There is no other systemic remedy for catarrh but Peruna.

Mr. Byron J. Kirkhuff, attorney, counselor at law, writes from 691 Gates avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., the following:



"I have used your Peruna for catarrh and find its curative powers all you recommend. It cured me of a very bad attack and though I suffered for years I feel entirely relieved, and if it will benefit others, I am glad to give it my endorsement."—B. J. Kirkhuff.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case, and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of the Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

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Must Bear Signature of
W. D. Wood
See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.
FOR HEADACHE.
FOR DIZZINESS.
FOR BILIOUSNESS.
FOR TORPID LIVER.
FOR CONSTIPATION.
FOR SALLOW SKIN.
FOR THE COMPLEXION.
CURE SICK HEADACHE.

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TOWER'S FISH-BRAND Oiled Clothing
BLACK OR YELLOW
WILL KEEP YOU DRY
NOTHING ELSE WILL
TAKE NO SUBSTITUTE. FREE CATALOGUE, SHOWING FULL LINE OF GARMENTS AND HATS.
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