FLOODING A RICE FIELD.

TURNING ON WATER TO FORCE THE PLANT'S GROWTH.

A Glimpse of a Southern Rice Plantation—Amphibious Treatment of the Rice.

In an interesting article on a Southern rice plantation, Hugh N. Starrs says in the *Bivouac:* As soon as the germ root pushes out underneath the grain in search for food, a minute point is visible above ground, reaching up for light and air. This is the embryo stalk, and corresponds with the germ root. The plant is now in proper shape for forcing, and the stretch water should be put on at once.

It sometimes happens, however, that the water, from tidal or other causes, is delayed, and the point, which is similar to that of barley or wheat, only sharper and more delicate, divides and assumes the "fork" stage, and the stretch that follows is from the fork instead of from the point. This contingency is undesirable, as the plant is thereby somewhat lessened in vitality.

The water is at first turned on deep, entirely covering the surface of the squares, and the young plant, drinking in the life-giving fluid, commences to rear its head aloft and reach up for light and air. The river-water is seldom clear—always more or less tinged with mud—and the tender shoot battles manfully with its semi-translucent covering to bask in the comforting rays of the sun.

After the rice has become sufficiently stretched, or a few inches high—a period extending through from two to ten days—the water is slacked down to what is known as "slack-water gauge," so as to show the tops of the plant and give it necessary air and sunshine. If the plant is longer than the water is deep, which is generally the case, it floats its upper leaves on the surface in long waving lines across the squares—a singularly attractive and beautiful picture.

It seldom happens, however, that the whole plantation is under the same treatment at the same time; for, with five or six hundred acres to sow, it is a difficult matter in early spring, with frequent interruptions from rains and bad weather, to seed down so large an acreage in time for utilizing any one spring tide for flowing. A large plantation will run five or six grain drills at once, and put in sometimes sixty-five or seventy acres daily; but even with as rapid work as this it is impossible to get all in contemporaneously. Consequently it is a common thing to see perhaps one-fourth of the squares under the stretch water; another fourth under charge of the "gun squad," waiting for the tender point to shoot; another series under the sprout water, and the remainder in process of planting, all at once. This necessarily adds greater interest and diversity to the process and prospect.

Sometimes, too, the rice comes up mixed with "volunteer;" this is the product of the grain shaken out during the previous harvest and scattered broadcast over the land. This can generally be removed by the hoe, but where it is very thick it sometimes necessitates replowing and seeding, thus throwing late a portion of the crop. This volunteer rice is hardy and prolific, and externally similar to white rice, but the objection to it is that the berry is *red*, and greatly reduces the grade of rice with which it is mixed, besides totally unfitting it for seed. To destroy this obnoxious tare, the fields are sometimes thrown into dry crops for a year or two, or kept under water for a like time.

It will be remembered that each square is under separate control, and, except two or more are temporarily united by the check bank washing through, can be flowed and drained independently at the pleasure of the planter.

A walk over the banks of a plantation at this period is replete with interest: at every step the "fiddlers," scurrying from under your feet and ducking into their holes, each one as he disappears waving aloft in defiance his disproportionate manicle. Yonder are small squads of negroes in twos and threes, dragging with long wooden rakes the floating trash and stubble blown by the wind in masses against the lee banks, and piling it on the pathways. Over there the rattle of the grain drills is heard seeding down the few belated squares. Here is the trunk-minder with his assistant hard at work repairing a leak. On the canal bank is the overseer in consultation with the planter on his daily visit to the fields, his little sail boat rocking at the wharf down by the quarter. Attention is called to a defective trunk or a dangerous bank; stretch water, to morrow, must be turned on number six and number eight, and sprout water let off from seventeen and twenty-three. The long cord of the submerged thermometer is drawn in hand over hand, its reading carefully taken, and the mean temperature of the water for the mouth in the overseer's handy note book is compared with that of last year, and dependent operations deduced and determined. From the high and dry squares on the further side comes the casual pop of the musket, while flocks of daws and hungry crows circle overhead, awaiting their opportunity to settle down on the sprouting grain. Everything works in its appropriate groove and little is left to chance.

The stretch water is held at the slack gauge from twenty to forty days, when the "dry root" and the leaves corresponding to it have put out. The amphibious and pampered plant has now had enough of its stimulating though strictly temperance beverage, and is ready for a period of "prohibition," or dry growth.

Italian Chestnut Trees.

According to the latest returns published by the Minister of Agriculture, it appears that the chestnut tree is cultivated in every province of Italy, excepting eleven—that is to say, it is cultivated in fifty-six provinces; and that out of the 8,257 communes in Italy, it is cultivated in 1,313. The chestnut is cultivated on the most extensive scale in Liguria, and on the least in Sardinia. The total production throughout the kingdom of fresh chestnuts is 391,393 tons annually. A considerable quantity of chestnuts is exported to France, Austria, Egypt, Switzerland and South America; while on the other hand, a very insignificant quantity is imported from France, Austria, and Switzerland.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

Buying Flour.

Persons purchasing flour should be particularly careful to get it in air-tight packages if possible. Flour is a great absorbent of gases and vapors, and when not in air-tight sacks or barrels will be permeated by deleterious odors and deteriorated to a certain extent, no matter how pure and sweet when leaving the mill. Especially is this the case in stores where there is an accumulation of goods and merchandise, such as coal-oil, fruit, groceries, vegetables, etc., from which a vapor and an odor arise which fill the room and are absorbed by the flour, deteriorating the flavor and impairing its purity. Cotton sacks should be particularly avoided, inasmuch as they are porous, and, therefore, no protection against absorption. Sacks made of paper are air-tight, and, therefore, impenetrable by insects, gases and odors, retaining the flavor of the flour, keeping it sweet and pure, and should be used exclusively for household purposes.—*Harrisburgh Independent.*

Roast Turkey.

According to Francatelli, the celebrated cook, a young hen turkey weighing from seven to ten pounds is the best choice. If it is home-killed and dressed it will need no washing, but if not, to prevent suspicion of taint, wash in cold water containing salt and a teaspoonful of vinegar. Fill the breast with good, fresh sausage meat until it is well rounded; draw the skin over the neck, and tie it tightly; put the remainder of the stuffing into the body of the fowl, and sew shut both incisions. Now the excellence of the turkey will depend upon the frequency with which it is basted. It will require from two to three hours' baking. Put a cupful of water in the baking-pan, season the turkey with salt and pepper, and put slices of salt pork between the thighs and body, which should be tightly trussed together. Let the oven be moderate at first until bird is heated through. Just before it is done dredge it with flour, and as soon as this has browned baste with melted butter. While the turkey is cooking boil the giblets until tender, chop them fine, dish the turkey, add a little boiling water to the gravy in the pan, the giblets and the water in which they were cooked; with a spoon scrape up from the bottom and sides all the browning, and mix with the rest, season if necessary, boil up once and pour into the gravy boat. If the surplus fat was not removed from the breast and lower part of the fowl before stuffing the gravy will be too fat, in which case take off the fat with a spoon. Always serve cranberry or currant jelly, or spiced plums with poultry or game.

Useful Hints.

If oilcloth be occasionally rubbed with a mixture of beeswax and turpentine, it will last longer.

To take stains from white goods: Rub the juice from ripe tomatoes with salt on the stains and expose to the sun.

A carpet can be brightened and cleaned by scattering corn meal or salt over it and give it a second sweeping. It should be thoroughly swept first, however.

Try putting a teaspoonful of soda in water and dissolving it, put it in your churn after your butter begins to come, and see how quick your butter will gather.

In making jelly, if you have more than you have glasses, you can make glasses by taking large, smooth bottles and wetting a cord in turpentine, and tying around the bottle below the neck, then set the string afire, and it will break off smoothly all around.

If you wish to have a chicken for dinner, and it is rather small for your family, you can help it out by cooking with it two or three nice slices of salt pork, and, just before dishing it, toast a few crackers and lay around the dish it is to be served in, or in place of crackers you can use bread or biscuit.

Frosting without eggs: Mix one cup of sugar with one-fourth of a cup of sweet milk, put over a slow fire and stir until it boils; then boil five minutes without stirring; set the saucepan in cold water while you stir it to a cream. Spread on the cake while it will run. It will keep longer than when made of eggs, and will not crumble when you cut it.

"Bonanza."

In an English magazine an attempt is made to give a series of Americanisms: that is to say, words coined or invented in America. Under the word bonanza the definition is given—"Spanish, a big scheme by which, honestly or otherwise, much money is made." Upon this a critic pounces and says that bonanza means "good fortune or good luck." Bonanza is indeed a Spanish word, and very naturally came into use in California or Nevada. But it does not mean "a big scheme" or "good luck." It is a nautical—a seagoing—word, and means fair weather at sea. If the reader will refer to St. Matthew, viii. 26, he will read that, after the Lord rebuked the wind and the sea, "there was a great calm." And if reference is next made to the Spanish version of the New Testament he will find the phrase there given, "*una grande bonanza.*" It is easy to understand how the word came into its figurative use—as meaning a happy, calm, and good hope after a weary search.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

A Blind Man With a Yellow Nose.

"See that blind man over there on the corner?" asked a Wabash avenue doctor yesterday. "Well, he is a confirmed cigarette smoker. People who know him say he smokes a hundred of these vile things every day. Like thousands of others he first inhales the smoke and then discharge it through his nostrils. He has kept up this sort of thing until his beak has begun to color as prettily as a meerschaum pipe. His friends have tried to tell him that unless he stopped the practice of discharging the smoke through his nostrils his nose would soon become as black as a dumb-bell; but, being blind, he imagines that these warnings are made in jest and dismisses his solicitous friends by telling them that his face is not made of papier-mache or plaster of paris. I account for this ludicrous transformation on the theory that his nose, becoming porous by reason of the gradual absorption of the blood in his body, soaks up the nicotine as fast as it enters the nostrils and distributes it in a way quite funny to the world."

SCIENTIFIC TRUTH

REGARDING THE FUNCTIONS OF AN IMPORTANT ORGAN.

Of Which the Public Knows But Little—Worthy of Careful Consideration.

To the Editor of the Scientific American:

Will you permit us to make known to the public the facts we have learned during the past 8 years, concerning disorders of the human Kidneys and the organs which diseased Kidneys so easily break down? You are conducting a Scientific paper, and are unprejudiced except in favor of TRUTH. *It is needless to say, no medical Journal of "Code" standing would admit these facts, for very obvious reasons.*

H. H. WARNER & CO.,
Proprietors of "Warner's Safe Cure."

That we may emphasize and clearly explain the relation the kidneys sustain to the general health, and how much is dependent upon them, we propose, metaphorically speaking, to take one from the human body, place it in the wash-bowl before us, and examine it for the public benefit.

You will imagine that we have before us a body shaped like a bean, smooth and glistening, about four inches in length, two in width, and one in thickness. It ordinarily weighs in the adult male about five ounces, but is somewhat lighter in the female. A small organ! you say. But understand, the body of the average size man contains about *ten quarts of blood, of which every drop passes through these filters or sewers*, as they may be called, *many times a day* as often as through the heart, making a complete revolution in *three minutes*. From the blood they separate the waste material, working away steadily night and day, sleeping or waking, tireless as the heart itself, and fully of as much vital importance; removing impurities from sixty-five *gallons of blood each hour*, or about forty-nine barrels each day, or 9,125 hogsheads a year! What a wonder that the kidneys can last any length of time under this prodigious strain, treated and neglected as they are!

We slice this delicate organ open lengthwise with our knife, and will roughly describe its interior.

We find it to be of a reddish-brown color, soft and easily torn; filled with hundreds of little tubes, short and thread-like, starting from the arteries, ending in a little tuft about midway from the outside opening into a cavity of considerable size, which is called the pelvis or, roughly speaking, a sac, which is for the purpose of holding the water to further undergo purification before it passes down from here into the ureters, and so on to the outside of the body. These little tubes are the filters which do their work automatically, and *right here is where the disease of the kidney first begins.*

Doing the vast amount of work which they are obliged to, from the slightest irregularity in our habits, from cold, from high living, from stimulants or a thousand and one other causes which occur every day, they become somewhat weakened in their nerve force.

What is the result? Congestion or stoppage of the current of blood in the small blood vessels surrounding them, which become blocked; these delicate membranes are irritated; inflammation is set up, then pus is formed, which collects in the pelvis or sac; the tubes are at first partially, and soon are totally unable to do their work. The pelvic sac goes on distending with this corruption, pressing upon the blood vessels. All this time, remember, the blood, which is entering the kidneys to be filtered, is *passing through this terrible, disgusting pus*, for it cannot take any other route!

Stop and think of it for a moment! Do you realize the importance, nay the vital necessity, of having the kidneys in order? Can you expect when they are diseased or obstructed, no matter how little, that you can have *pure blood and escape disease?* It would be just as reasonable to expect, if a pest-house were set across Broadway and countless thousands were compelled to go through its pestilential doors, an escape from contagion and disease, as for one to expect the blood to escape pollution when constantly running through a diseased kidney.

Now, what is the result? Why, that the blood takes up and deposits this poison as it sweeps along into every organ, into every inch of muscle, tissue, flesh and bone, from your head to your feet. And whenever, from hereditary influence or otherwise, some part of the body is weaker than another, a countless train of diseases is established, such as consumption in weak lungs, dyspepsia where there is a delicate stomach; nervousness, insanity, paralysis or heart disease in those who have weak nerves.

The heart must soon feel the effects of the poison, as it requires pure blood to keep it in right action. It increases its stroke in number and force to compensate for the natural stimulus wanting, in its endeavor to crowd the impure blood through this obstruction, causing pain, palpitation, or an out-of-breath feeling. Unnatural as this forced labor is, the heart must soon falter, becoming weaker and weaker until one day it *suddenly stops*, and death from apparent "heart disease" is the verdict.

But the medical profession, learned and dignified, call these diseases by high sounding names, treat them alone, and patients die, *for the arteries are carrying slow death to the affected part*, constantly adding fuel brought from these suppurating, pus-laden kidneys which here in our wash-bowl are very putrefaction itself, and which should have been cured first.

But this is not all the kidneys have to do; for you must remember that each adult takes about seven pounds of nourishment every twenty-four hours to supply the waste of the body which is constantly going on, a waste equal to the quantity taken. This, too, the kidneys have to separate from the blood with all other decomposing matter.

But you say: "My kidneys are all right. I have no pain in the back." Mistaken man! People die of kidney disease of so bad a character that the organs are rotten, and yet they have *never there had a pain nor an ache!*

Why? Because the disease begins, as we have shown, in the interior of the kidney, where *there are few nerves of feeling* to convey the sensation of pain. Why this is so we may never know.

When you consider their great work, the delicacy of their structure, the ease with which they are deranged, can you wonder at the ill-health of our men and women? Health and long life cannot be expected when so vital an organ is impaired. No wonder some writers say we are degenerating. Don't you see the great, the extreme importance of keeping this machinery in working order? Could the finest engine do even a fractional part of this work, without attention from the engineer? Don't you see how dangerous this hidden disease is? It is lurking about us constantly, without giving any indication of its presence.

The most skillful physicians cannot detect it at times, *for the kidneys themselves cannot be examined* by any means we have at our command. Even an analysis of the water, chemically and microscopically, reveals nothing definite in many cases, even when the kidneys are fairly broken down.

Then look out for them, as disease, no matter where situated, to 93 per cent., as shown by after-death examinations, has its origin in the breaking down of these secreting tubes in the interior of the kidney.

As you value health, as you desire long life free from sickness and suffering, give these organs some attention. Keep them in good condition and thus prevent (as is easily done) all disease.

Warner's Safe Cure, as it becomes year after year better known for its wonderful cures and its power over the kidneys, has done and is doing more to increase the average duration of life than all the physicians and medicines known. Warner's Safe Cure is a true specific, mild but certain, harmless but energetic and agreeable to the taste.

Take it when sick as a cure, and never let a month go by if you need it, without taking a few bottles as a preventive, that the kidneys may be kept in proper order, the blood pure, that health and long life may be your blessing. H. H. WARNER & CO.

Large importations of English potatoes are expected.

A superior hair dressing. Always safe and beneficial to use. Hall's Hair Renewer.

The dangers of croup may be averted by using Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

Arizona has about ten counties, and Pima is the oldest one of them all. It was settled by Europeans, and its early history makes up the annals of Arizona for more than 150 years.

As many as 1,000 quakings of the earth a day have been registered in New Zealand.

Baby falls and bumps its head,
Baby bawls, they think its dead,
Mamma gets St Jacobs Oil,
Rubs the baby, stops turmoil.

THE height of the Bartholdi statue from base to torch, is 151 feet; from foundation of pedestal to torch, 305 feet. The statue weighs 450,000 pounds. Forty persons can stand comfortably in the head, and the torch will hold twelve people.

A prominent farmer of Bowling Green, Howard County, Md., Mr. J. T. Ridgely, said his four children were sick with sore throats and coughs at the same time. Red Star Cough Cure cured them in a week. No opiates.

AN enterprising Maine man proposes to form a company and run a moose ranch for the breeding of these useful animals. It is proposed to buy a township or two, fence them in with barbed wire and thus inaugurate the enterprise.

EXPRESSES HIS GRATITUDE.—Albert A. Lawson, of Kirkman, Ia., writes to the proprietors of Allen's Lung Balsam: "I firmly believe my wife would have died of consumption, if not for the timely use of your Balsam." Price 25c., 50c. and $1 per bottle at Druggists.

Marketman—"Why did you return that pair of fowls yesterday?" Customer—"Because I thought you had better send them to a home for aged couples."

Something About Catarrh.

A great many people are afflicted with catarrh who do not know what ails them; and a great many more continue sufferers who might be cured.

Thickening of the membrane which lines the nasal passages, thus making breathing difficult; a discharge from the nostrils, more or less copious, watery or thick, according to the stage of the disease; a sense of fullness in the head; a constant inclination to spit; and, in advanced cases, a dropping of intensely disgusting matter into the throat, are a few of the prominent symptoms of Catarrh.

Deafness, inflamed eyes, neuralgic pains, sore throat and a loss of sense of smell are very often caused by Catarrh.

All these troubles are cured by Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. Relief is had immediately after beginning its use, but it is important that it be continued without interruption until the catarrhal virus is expelled from the system and healthy secretions replace the diseased action of the mucous membrane. Manifestly it is unreasonable to expect a cure in a short time of a disease that has been progressing for months or years.

This question of time is provided for in the putting up of Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. It is so concentrated that a very small dose is directed. The quantity in one package is sufficient for a long treatment, consequently the expense is a mere trifle, and there is no excuse for neglect nor reason for it but forgetfulness. A cold in the head is relieved by an application of Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. The comfort to be got from it in this way is worth many times the cost.

The following letters are specimens of those received every day, testifying to the worth of Piso's Remedy for Catarrh:

ALLEGHENY, Pa., Sept. 26, 1886.
Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is doing wonders for me. I believe it will cure any case of Catarrh, if used according to directions.
MRS. F. JOHNSON, 49 E, Diamond St.

SPRING HILL, W. Va., Oct. 20, 1885.
Enclosed find one dollar for two packages of Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. The sample package, received in June, gave perfect satisfaction. GILL MESSER.

HARTFORD MILLS, N. Y., Aug. 8, 1885.
I have used a little over half a package of Piso's Remedy for Catarrh, and it has helped me more than any of the different medicines I have used. I feel confident that it will cure me.
I can and do recommend it to others who are troubled with that disease.
REV. A. DAMON.

Sixtieth Year.

The YOUTH'S COMPANION celebrates this year its sixtieth anniversary. It might well be named the "Universal Companion," since its readers are found in 400,000 families. It is so wisely edited that its pages are as interesting to adults as to the young people. Besides the best Short and Serial Stories it contains a great variety of popular and useful information on Natural History, Science, Home Arts, Games and Sports, and is fully illustrated. It costs but $1.75 a year, and a subscription sent now is credited to January, 1888.

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25c. buys a pair of Lyon's Patent Heel Stiffeners, which makes a boot or shoe last twice as long.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-water. Druggists sell at 25c. per bottle

Relief is immediate, and a cure sure. Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. 50c.

Catarrh in the Head

Originates in scrofulous taint in the blood. Hence the proper method by which to cure catarrh, is to *purify the blood.* Its many disagreeable symptoms, and the danger of developing into bronchitis or that terribly fatal disease, consumption, are entirely removed by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which cures catarrh by purifying the blood and also tones up the system and greatly improves the general health of those who take it.

"For many years, beginning so far back I don't remember when, I had the catarrh in my head. It consisted of an excessive flow from my nose, ringing and bursting noises in my ears, and pains on the top of my head. The hawking and spitting were most excessive in the morning, when the back part of my tongue would be thick with a white fur, and there would be a bad taste in my mouth. My hearing was affected in my left ear. Five years ago I began to use Hood's Sarsaparilla. I was helped right away, but I continued to use it till I felt myself cured. My general health has been good ever since the catarrh left me."—MRS. E. H. CAULFIELD, Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5. Prepared by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

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It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaints, all Ovarian troubles, Inflammation, Ulceration, Falling and Displacements, and consequent Spinal weakness, and is particularly adapted to the Change of Life.

It will dissolve and expel tumors from the uterus in an early stage of development. The tendency to cancerous humors there is checked very speedily by its use.

It removes faintness, flatulency, destroying all craving for stimulants, and relieves weakness of the stomach. It cures Bloating, Headaches, Nervous Prostration, General Debility, Sleeplessness, Depression and Indigestion. That feeling of bearing down, causing pain, weight and backache, is always permanently cured by its use. It will at all times and under all circumstances act in harmony with the laws that govern the Female system.

For the cure of Kidney Complaints of either sex this Compound is unsurpassed. Price $1. Six bottles for $5.

No family should be without LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S LIVER PILLS. They cure constipation, biliousness and torpidity of the liver. 25 cents a box at all druggists.

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No Rope to Cut Off Horses' Manes. Celebrated 'ECLIPSE' HALTER and BRIDLE Combined cannot be slipped by any horse. Sample Halter to any part of U. S. free, on receipt of $1. Sold by all Saddlery, Hardware and Harness Dealers. Special discount to the Trade. Send for Price List. J. C. LIGHTHOUSE, Rochester, N. Y.

Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is the Best, Easiest to Use, and Cheapest. CATARRH. Also good for Cold in the Head, Headache, Hay Fever, &c. 50 cents.

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STOP THAT COUGH IT ANNOYS EVERYBODY. PROCURE A BOTTLE OF ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM at any DRUGSTORE. TAKE IT FAITHFULLY, AND YOU WILL BE Convinced THAT THERE IS BUT ONE REMEDY FOR COUGHS & COLDS AND THAT IS Allen's Lung Balsam. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS AT 25¢ 50¢ & $1.00 Per bottle. J.N. HARRIS & CO. LIMITED PROPS Cin. O.

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PRICES: Plain Barrel, 12 bore, $15.00; 10 bore, $16.00. Twist Barrel, 12 bore, $18.00; 10 bore, $19.00.

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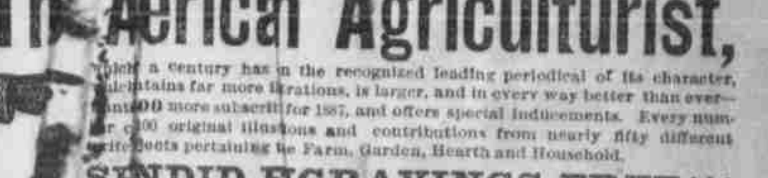

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