

RURAL CITIZEN.

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE FARMERS ALLIANCE.

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Jack County Alliance.

Vineyard, Jack Co., Tex.,
Sept. 28, 1883.

To the officers and members of the Sub-Alliances of Jack County, Texas: Remember that the County Alliance of Jack County meets at Vineyard on the 19 day of October at 10 o'clock p. m., and it will be expected that all Sub-Alliances will be represented in said Alliance. As there will be some business of importance to attend to, please take due notice and govern yourselves accordingly.

Yours fraternally,
W. L. GARVIN,
Pres. J. C. A.

Hill County.

The Farmers Alliance is gaining ground, and all taking great interest. At our last meeting the members were all present. We have 13 members, and no doubt in three months we will be 30 in number, and probably more if we had a lecturer, for one is badly needed here. Farmers are all busily engaged gathering their crops. Cotton is much better than we once thought. Corn is very good. Small grain seems to be the leading topic for the crop of '84, and but little is said about cotton.

Health is very good in this section.
Sept. 28, 1883.

Sec'y Hill Co. Alliance.

The Cultivation of Fruit Trees.

For the Citizen:

Is my former communication I spoke of the manner of planting fruit trees. I will now speak of the manner of cultivating them, and of propagating. The cultivation should be such as a good farmer would apply to his cotton. The young trees should be kept clear of weeds and grass, being careful to avoid peeling the trees, or breaking the surface, or feeder roots, allow them to branch out near the ground. This will have the effect to better protect the trees from being injured by the plow and gearing; and the shade of the branches and foliage will protect the trunk, and feeders from the heat of the vertical rays of the sun, in middle of summer, and it will further protect them from the liability, or rather certainty of being permanently leached to the northward, by the constant south wind in the growing season. This constant inclination to the north, of all cultivated trees, rather of all isolated trees in Texas, mainly prevented by giving them an inclination southward, of about 10 degrees, and at any time in spring or winter when the ground is wet and soft, the tree may be pushed to the southward say to an inclination of about ten degrees.

This last is a matter of no small importance, for if your trees are allowed to grow with a northern inclination, the hot summer sun will bake the bark on the south side of the tree, and the borers will attack it and the tree will be of short duration. The soil should be elevated a little around the root of every tree, to prevent water from standing near the trees, for if this is allowed by extreme heat of sun, will scald, and kill the roots, ending in the destruction of the tree, and invite the ever to be dreaded borer.

Pruning is a matter of no small importance in fruit culture. Some prune too much, others not enough. There are two extremes in everything, and a proper division is the right. Remove all unsightly branches, including all that cross and rub each other. Keep the tops sufficiently thin to allow the sun to penetrate all parts of the tree at some

time of the day, and cut back all long and slender branches, so as to keep the top in proper shape. The main pruning should be done in early spring, before the sap rises. Water sprouts may be pulled off, at any time and cutting back may also be done at any season.

Mulching should be done in the winter, or early spring time, and should never be more than two inches thick, barely enough to prevent vegetation from growing through it; sprouts grow up around your trees from under ground, so as to have their own root it is best to bud or graft these, and when they acquire sufficient size take them up, and supply them to the places where other trees have died, and save buying.

In manuring, barnyard, cowpen, and chipyard manure does well, and cotton seed is excellent. Each of these manures should be supplied in winter time, otherwise not at all.

At any time of year when weeds and grass are cut up around trees they should be drawn up within about six inches of the trees; but not allowed to touch the tree in summer as they would cause too much heat.

Grafting must be done in winter or early spring to be successful. There are several methods: first root grafting, which is done as follows: Take the roots of any family of trees whose nature is similar, of the apple family I will mention Apples, Pears, Quinces, and Red Haw; these will all grow on each other interchangeably. Take the roots of any of these, from the size of a finger to that of a straw, cut them off in lengths from four to six inches long, then with a sharp knife cut the top end with an inclination of about sixty degrees making the slant all on one side, about three-fourths of an inch long, take your scion or pins, (as nursery men call them) from the trees you wish to propagate, of last years growth. Cut them about six or eight inches long, then cut the end next the tree, the lower end of your pin, or scion, as the root on which you insert it, say at sixty degrees making the slant about three quarters of an inch in length; then split both the root and the pin on the cut sides beginning about, at the upper third (on the cut sides) about one quarter of an inch, then place the two cut sides together, cause the splits to intersect each other, the saps in a position on one side, push them, one up, the other down, until they tightly adhere, when so united the sap from the root will enter the pin and a growth is insured in most cases. Then open a ditch with your spade about eight inches deep, and insert your grafts, and consolidate the ground as in planting young trees, and raise your bed of soil so as to leave only two or three buds of your graft above ground; then keep your cut of weeds and grass; and their growth is assured. They should be set eight inches apart.

I will next notice what is called cleft-grafting. This is done by cutting off a stock of any of the same family from a half to two or three inches in diameter at any distance from the ground, square or horizontally, split it in the center for about two or three inches, then take pin three or four inches long, taper them with a sharp knife from each side about one inch long, leaving the outside a little thicker, insert a small wedge in the center, then insert your pin in the cleft being particular to cause the sap of the graft and stalk to exactly correspond, at some point or you will fail of securing a growth. It is always best to insert a pin in each side of your stalk. I will here add that in root grafting the pin or scion must be so inserted that the sap of the pin and the root must correspond to insure a growth, and this makes it necessary generally, to place the pin on one side of the root, as the root is often larger than the pin. What I mean by placing the saps together, is that portion where the wood and bark of the stock meet must correspond at some point to insure a growth. The root grafts are in the ground without anything but the soil applied to them, but the grafts above ground must be protected by grafting-wax, or mud may be substituted. If grafting wax is used it is carefully spread over the fresh cut wood, and the cleft is closed with

the wax so as to effectually exclude air and water from the place of union; if mud is used it is made of the consistency of dough, and carefully spread over the fresh cut wood and the cleft filled up leaving a ball of mud about the size of a hen's egg, then a rag is provided with two small holes in it to allow the pins to pass through. Then the rag is brought down closely around the mud and tied with a strip of rag below the ball and the graft is complete. It is equal to grafting wax.

Budding is done as follows: Take a stalk of the present year's growth, trim it clear of leaves and branches at any time when the bark will peel (except that above where you intend to insert your bud). Then make a horizontal cut, clean through the bark, extending half way around the stalk; then from the center of the cut, extend a perpendicular cut, through the bark, downward, about one inch in length, all with a sharp bladed knife; then with the point of your blade, raise the corners of the cut bark, extending downward, then from a branch of a tree that you wish to propagate from, (previously prepared by cutting off the leaves, leaving the stem of the leaf) take your bud, by inserting your blade into the bark and wood nearly half way through the branch, inserting it about half an inch above the bud, and bringing it out about half inch below it; then remove the wood from the bark, take hold of the stem of the leaf and insert the bud containing the bud, into the cleft thus made, and close the bark of the stalk over it, being careful to cut off any portion of the bark of the bud that may not enter the cleft in the horizontal cut, then from a piece of old worn out calico tear a small strip one foot in length as narrow as you can tear it out closely wrap the cut bark or wood in the stalk, beginning at the bottom of the cut, extending upward placing your string with the center on the stalk, wrapping both ways, being careful to leave the bud out, wrapping tolerably tight, tie your string at the top of the cut, and your process is complete; and if properly done, ninety-five per cent of your buds will grow. An expert may bud more than 500 in one day.

Three kinds of Farmers.

There is a farmer in this neighborhood who cultivates about 40 acres of land, 25 in corn and 15 in cotton. He generally gathers somewhere between one and five hundred bushels of corn, and between three and seven bales of cotton. His corn is gathered sometime between September and January. His cotton picking commences about the first of September and often ends by plowing under the last gleanings of the field to make room for the coming crop. If he is fortunate enough to raise a good crop of corn he is pretty sure to sell all except a bare sufficiency for the winter's use at about 25 cents per bushel, and it often happens that his judgment has shrunk—from dry weather or some other cause—and what he thought would be sufficient falls far short, and he is compelled to buy corn in the spring at about one dollar per bushel. His cotton crop is the great business of the year, occupying very nearly all of his time. Of course no one can gather so much cotton, so he is compelled to hire it picked. If it is a good crop the price of picking is high and the price of cotton low; if a poor crop is made the prices may be reversed, but this is never the case except when the crop is so light that there is no profit on it. In either case by the time the cotton is picked, ginned, and marketed he has a very indefinite amount left for his labor. His cotton seeds are thrown into an open ran pen where his hogs can come around and nose them between the rails, and the only reason that they don't eat all of them is that there are usually a few more seeds than it takes to kill that many hogs. What the hogs leave are generally thrown out on the ground for his milk cows to fight over and scrape into the dirt. He has about 15 head of cattle and he don't commonly lose more than three from starvation during the winter. What he may make clear on his cotton crop goes to pay part of his store account. So when he comes to sum

up the result of the year's labor he finds that he has nothing but bare bones.

Let us turn the canvass over and paint a picture on the other side. There is another farmer who lives just out on the edge of the prairie who also cultivates 40 acres of land, at least half of which he puts in small grain, about 15 acres in corn and the balance in hay. If his small grain is harvested early and the season is favorable he sometimes plants a few acres of his stubble land in cotton; but this is considered of minor importance. When his grain is threshed his straw is carefully stacked so as to be in good condition for his cattle in the winter. If his hay crop does not promise well he cuts his corn as soon as it is ripe, preserving the fodder carefully for winter feed. His cat is generally a one out in the spring fat enough for the butcher, and his young cattle have grown at least one third more than his neighbor's which were starved during the winter. If he has a surplus of corn it is never put on the market at 25 cents per bushel but he also manages to have a surplus of hogs and by putting the two (the hogs and the corn) together he is enabled to get a very fair price for both. He drives a good team, wears good clothes and has a well furnished larder. DELTA, Grayburg, Sept. 29, '83.

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A well known physician says: "My wife has been in delicate health for five years, and has suffered from nervous prostration, and has been unable to do any work for months past. She has been treated by the best medical skill, but has not improved. She has been told that she would never be able to do any work again. I have tried many remedies, but have not succeeded. I have now tried your Wine of Cardui, and in ten days she is able to do all her usual work, and is in perfect health. I can recommend your Wine of Cardui to all who are suffering from nervous prostration, and to all who are unable to do any work."—Wm. H. Chapman, M.D., New York.

MeFree's Wine of Cardui is recommended for painful monthly habit, irregular action, excessive and irregular Menstruation, Falling of the Uterus, Change of Life, General Debility and as a tonic for delicate ladies. It was tested in 7000 cases and cured 6200 of them. Its astonishing action manifested Doctors, delighted sufferers, and restored thousands of suffering women to health and happiness. Druggists sell it at \$1.00 per Bottle. A sixty-four page pamphlet telling all about it free by mail.

CHATTANOOGA MEDICINE CO.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

Director of Jack County, 1883.
District Court convenes the 2nd Monday in January and July.
B. F. Williams, Judge.
J. T. Brim, Dist. Attorney.
Sil Stark, Co. Attorney.
Wm. M. King, Sheriff.
D. B. Mizell, Clerk.

County Court convenes every first Monday in each month for Criminal Business.
Every third Monday in Jan., March, May, July, September and November for Civil and Probate Business.
T. M. Jones, Judge.
D. B. Mizell, Clerk.

County Commissioners' Court convenes second Monday in Feb., May, Aug. and November.
Commissioners:
Prof. No. 1, J. G. Lindzey.
" " 2, A. J. Abernethia.
" " 3, James McCoy.
" " 4, C. E. Bostick.
Dr. E. I. McClure, Co. Treasurer.
J. M. Hughes, Surveyor.
J. A. F. Anderson, Assessor.

Hefe A. Amm'l Inspector
PRECINCT NO. 1
Justice Court convenes the last Monday in every month for both Civil and Criminal Business.
F. R. Aston, Justice.
W. J. Craig, Constable.

PRECINCT NO. 2
Justice Court convenes every second Thursday in each month.
Justice.
E. K. Stewart, Constable.

PRECINCT NO. 3
Justice Court convenes every fourth Friday for both Civil and Criminal Business.
Justice.
J. H. Baker, Justice.
J. A. Tucker, Constable.

PRECINCT NO. 4
Justice Court convenes every third Tuesday in each month for Civil and Criminal Business.
Justice.
E. C. Dupont, Justice.

PRECINCT NO. 5
Justice Court convenes first Thursday in every month for Civil and Criminal Business.
Justice.
Wm. Poe, Justice.
Constable.

PRECINCT NO. 6
Justice Court convenes in every month for Civil and Criminal Business.
Justice.
H. C. Rollins, Justice.
Precinct No. 7.
H. B. Vermer, Justice.
J. H. Watson, Constable.

The following is a list of the newly appointed Notaries Public for Jack County: W. L. Garvin, G. E. Gentry, Geo. Kirkendall, Willis Stewart, J. Stark, E. Nicholas, Jos. E. Robinson, Am. Hood, D. J. Lee, J. P. Rogers, N. S. Cox, and J. P. Kirk.

All Justices of the Peace are by virtue of their office, Notaries Public.

Notice to Teachers.
The Board for the examination of teachers will meet at Jacksboro on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays in each month.

JACKSBORO POST OFFICE.
Arrivals and Departures of Mails to and from this office.

Weatherford and Wiley, daily except Sunday except at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Grading, N. H. Hoyle and J. H. Hoyle, arrive at 9 a.m. Tuesday and Friday depart at 2 a.m. Wednesday and Saturday.

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