

## FINE JERSEYS.

## What an Enterprising McDowell County Woman is Doing.

A correspondent of the Raleigh News and Observer, writing from Marion, describes a visit to the stock farm of Mrs. M. A. Corpening as follows:

"Mrs. Corpening gracefully led the way for Mr. Quinn and myself to a large grass enclosure, with a stable. This was the world to 'Tobasco,' who is at the head of the Jersey herd at Sunnyside. 'Tobasco' is one of the first families of Jerseys and is the grandson of 'Signal' and 'Tormento.' His dam was a 17 lb. 5 oz. cow when three years old. He is a registered animal, a marvel of beauty, two years old, and his fair owner has repeatedly refused \$1,000 for him. 'Prince Rioter Pogis' is a fine animal, traced six times back to 'Victor Hugo' and twice to 'Stoke Pogis.' He was purchased of Mrs. Jones, of Canada. Next we interviewed 'Lady Tobasco,' and 'Little Charity,' who is a granddaughter of 'Stoke Pogis,' dam 'Charity' of 'Saint Lambert's,' Mrs. Jones' farm in Canada. Her dam sold for \$2,000. Mrs. Corpening has been offered \$1,500 for this beauty of the blood royal.

We asked Mrs. C. why she did not sell at those figures. Her reply was that that particular strain was scarce and valuable, and she would make more by selling her progeny. 'Nellie Eurotas,' daughter of 'Ramapo,' 'Alpha' and 'Lottie,' sire Kitty's 'Royal Rex,' and granddaughter of 'Niobe,' are very fine specimens. 'Primrose Sheldon,' a \$1,250 cow, sire 'Sheldon,' pure St. Lambert's dam, sold for \$4,000. This a fine butter cow, of strong, healthy constitution. 'Nitlana,' a Fancy Albert, is inbred Rex Triplex Rex, and traces six times to Albert 44.

There are many others, and Mrs. C. will pardon me for not calling the roll further, for I fear that the pedigrees I have already given are mixed, for you must remember, madam, you talked all this off-hand, and between your interesting conversation on points, milk mirrors and pedigrees, and the fine specimens themselves, I was partially taking a schooling for the next eastern cattle fair. Mrs. C. has a number of fine male and female calves, besides a fine herd at her stock farm in Mitchell county. These cattle are all very kind, allowing us to handle and caress them without the least sign of rebellion.

The sheep grazed here are pure-bred South Downs, and preparations are being made for shearing. Mrs. Corpening has Angora goats and improved breeds of all kinds of fowls; in fact nothing but thoroughbreds are allowed on the place.

Noticing several bags of cornfield peas, she informed us that they were presented by C. W. Garrett, of Halifax, and she intended ensilaging peas and corn also the present year. If North Carolina was filled with such enterprising lady farmers as Mrs. C., the old State would bloom like a garden. She attends strictly in person to her farm work, and as a success is a success. The farm is seeded in grass, corn, wheat and oats, and has about one hundred acres of Catawba bottom. Improved machinery prevails; neatness, order, kindness, Christianity and humanity abound in abundance. We return thanks for some specimen ears of 'Golden Beauty' corn, which is a flint, early variety and quite large. 'Sunny Side,' adieu! and farewell is spoken with regret, because we like farming, and such an intellectual lady farmer we ne'er met before."

## RUSSIA'S COTTON FIELDS.

Consul-General Raine, writing from Berlin under a late date, says: "It may be of interest to planters in the United States to know that cotton growing is making considerable progress in Russia. This is especially true in the regions known as the Kaukasus, in the government of Erwin. The industry began as far back as 1850. In 1861 1,000 tons were produced; five years later, 5,000 tons, and in 1884 the crop yielded 16,000 tons, worth about 3,000,000 rubles. Lately they have introduced the best of American 'Florida' cotton, which, on account of its superior character, finds more favor with the manufacturers and purchasers, though Russian planters have, notwithstanding the advantage of soil, thus far not succeeded in producing an article fully equal to that of America." Consul-General Raine adds in conclusion: "No doubt exists that cotton growing is increasing in the Kaukasus, where large tracts of so-called free land are within reach of planters."

## Farm Notes.

## FEEDING HAY TO COWS.

Some are prevented from giving cows an early bite of grass because its succulency will make them lose relish for dry food. This idea is a mistaken one. So long as the grass is watery and innutritious good hay will be eagerly eaten. It meets a want of the system which must be responded to if the stock is to thrive.

## MIXING SALT WITH MANURE.

One effect of salt is to make manures more active and available for immediate use. To this end it is a good plan to mix salt with the manure just before it is applied, taking care to cover slightly to prevent loss of ammonia. Salt alone is not a fertilizer on most soils, unless it finds in them latent plant food which it can make soluble.

## MANURE FROM A COW.

Every cow well fed and fairly bedded will make a load of manure every two weeks, worth at least on the farm \$1 per load. But this manure will not be worth this unless the cow has abundance of nourishing food. On a farm at least half the expense of keeping a cow may be charged to the manure heap, and with this help it must be a poor cow that does not give a profit to her owner.

## FATTENING OLD COWS.

If an old cow is quickly fattened its meat will be more tender than where the feeding has been protracted. The great difficulty in feeding old cows is in getting them to digest large amounts of food. This is the best done in Summer, when fresh grass, which is the most easily digested of foods, may be supplemented with gradually increasing rations of meal, taking especial care never to give more than will be readily eaten.

## REMEDY FOR DULL TIMES.

If any reader is attracted to this item with the expectation of finding some new theory expounded, he is destined to disappointment. If prices of produce could be made agher, that would be one way for farmers to remedy dull times. All that is possible is to work harder, think better and plan more wisely. These are not heroic remedies, but they have relieved the worst cases of agricultural distress and can be relied upon.

## PRUNING TRANSPLANTED TREES.

Wherever trees are set this Spring the top should be cut back to a very few buds. These will start and have vigor enough to make considerable growth of well-ripened wood before Fall. But the pruning should be done as soon as set, and no harm if done before. After leaves have started cutting them off is a serious check to the tree's growth.

## MANURE FOR PEAS.

There is a popular belief that manure is wasted on peas. It will usually make a larger growth of vine, but without corresponding increase in pod and grain. The heat from stable manures is sometimes injurious, especially in dry seasons. Mineral fertilizers are, however, always helpful, and a dressing of phosphate of lime will usually pay on peas as well as on any other crop.

## NEW-PROCESS BRAN.

The bran left after making the new-process flour is not so good as under the old plan. More of the gluten goes into the flour, and this is really much the most valuable part of the berry. The gluten may, however, be cheaply obtained by mixing wheat bran with equal weight of ground whole rye, which is at present the cheapest feeding grain for stock not fattening rapidly.

## UNHEALTHFUL MILK.

When cows give milk this affords the most ready outlet for any impurities in the system, either from feed or bodily derangement. What ever throws a cow into a fever will make her milk unfit for use. Probably even the slightest excitement from being worried by dogs or from forced driving will have some injurious effect. A fit of anger in a mother will often be shown in her infant child many hours after she has forgotten the cause.

## TURNING COWS TO GRASS.

Whether the cow should be allowed to pick up grass as soon as she can find any, or wait until she gets a good bite, must depend upon circumstances. If the cow is thin in flesh, keep her up and feed liberally with grain or meal until she has

good pasture. If fat, the early grass should do no harm. In any event, there should be no change from dry feed to green without time for the digestive organs to become used to the change.

## THE VALUE OF MANURE.

The commercial value of fertilizers is safely tested by analysis, but its practical value depends upon circumstances, and the use that will be made of it. With a poor shiftless farmer manure may have no value whatever. It will make weeds grow as well as crops, and if the weeds are not suppressed, not only will they destroy the crop, but their seeding will more than counteract any after benefit that the manure would be to the soil.

## DESTROYING MAY BUGS.

The burning of rubbish heaps, which always occurs after Spring cleaning, should be done at night, and when warm weather has enticed the May bugs to venture out. Many of these will be attracted by the light and destroyed. Few like the May bug in any state, but before he assumed his present active condition he was one of the different families of white and black grubs so destructive to strawberries, corn and cabbage.

## CROSS-BREEDING FOWLS.

Cross-bred fowls, where the parents on at least one side are pure bred, are often more valuable for some purposes than those not intermixed. They will usually excel in hardness and vigor. Every poultry raiser knows how quickly fowls left to themselves will run out. Now is the time to change this by getting a rooster or setting of eggs from some pure-bred stock. At almost any reasonable price this will prove a good investment.

## COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS.

All mineral manures should be left on or very near the surface. They are never bulky, and to plow them in is to bury them where roots of crops will find them so late as to receive little benefit therefrom. The decomposition of barnyard manure under the furrow gives both warmth and fertility to the roots. But potash or phosphates buried so deeply are either soon washed away or become insoluble and of no value to crops. Especially is this the case in soils having little vegetable mould.

## FATTENING HOGS.

It does not pay to grow hogs, keeping them with half enough to eat until a year or more old and then fattening them. The feed from the first should be liberal, and while growing the difference between that and fattening must be made by variety rather than quantity. Give a growing pig all it will eat of something that is bulky rather than nutritious. A clover field, or a run in the orchard does this, and herein is the great advantage of these methods of feeding. With the milk from a few cows, and a little meal, pigs will be nearly fat enough to kill at any time, and a few weeks on corn will fit them for the butcher.

## ABOUT PLOWING.

Plowing is hard work for teams, but easier for men, and there is no economy in having too light a team to be kept constantly at work, as this makes it still easier for the plowman. In land where good long 'bouts' can be made with furrows a foot in width, it will require a trifle more than ten miles travel to turn an acre, or, allowing two miles an hour, the same could be done between seven in the morning and noon. Furrows are often turned wider than twelve inches, and it is not uncommon with a brisk team to plow more than two acres per day. In ground free from stones this for the plowman is easier than following a drag the same distance. The man who holds the plow walks in a smooth furrow, and is to some extent supported by the plow handles which he holds.

## YES, IT IS.

A full report of the proceedings of the Trinity College Farmer's Club was published in last week's PROGRESSIVE FARMER. It is a pity we do not have more clubs of the same kind in the county.—*Asheboro Courier.*

Sugar cultivation has been initiated in southern Florida. Over 200 acres have been prepared for the planting of the cane near Kissimmee City, where a sugar factory will be erected.

## EYES AND FEET OF HORSES.

EDITORS PRESS:—I have no ill will against blacksmiths and harness-makers, only I would be glad to lessen their work—their field of labor—in one or two directions. Horse shoes and blinds drive me to the verge of profanity. There are too many, and for the most they are unnecessary evils. I think I may safely and truthfully make the assertion that one-half the number is entirely unnecessary, and not only of no use to the horse or owner, but an evil and useless expense. This is my opinion, founded on what I know.

Any day that I go on our crowded streets, where all kinds of teams are passing, I am more convinced that the blinds over horses' eyes and the iron clogs on their feet are working a serious evil. The eyes become strained and distorted; often the flaps rub against the eyelids, and we have in a little while either blindness or impaired eyesight. In nine cases out of ten the horses would travel better and be more comfortable without the blinds. As for shying or watching the driver's motions, and jumping if the whip is touched, a little training and patience will overcome all that. And how much better a horse looks, if he has any eyes at all, without these barbarous flaps on either side of his head. I have a very good authority on my side that these blinds are seldom necessary. Some of the very best horse trainers reject them entirely.

A farmer met me the other day and said he: "You have saved me a great deal of money every year by the suggestion some years ago that my horses would do as well if not better without shoes. I have tried it and find that I seldom have a lame horse now, and that their feet are sound and sufficient for all the road and farm work I need."

There are roads and times when a sensibly shod horse will do better. If he has to be used constantly and over rocky road beds, or on such pavements as San Francisco has in some of her streets, the right kind of a shoe, put on by the right kind of a blacksmith—that is, one who knows what a horse's foot is made of and good for—will be a great advantage.

But over our soft country roads and about our farms, for ordinary teaming and riding, the horseshoe is a cruel invention, and might, for all useful purposes, be hung over the door without the least discomfiture to the horse or bad luck to the inhabitant.

I would suggest this: Get your blacksmith to trim and dress your horse's feet once or twice a month, carefully rounding and shaping the hoof as you would your finger nails. If your blacksmith does not wish to be troubled (he should be paid) to do such light work, or if he does not do it well, then get a large wood file and attend to the matter yourself. In a little while the hoof will grow strong and tough so that no road or pavement that any horse should travel on day after day will injure his feet. You will avoid the accidents and dangers of careless horseshoers, your horse will seldom be lamed by travel and the expense of new shoes or resetting will be saved. For more than 30 years I have practiced what I preach in respect to the above and have never had reason to regret it.

C. L. ANDERSON, M. D.

—*Pacific Rural Press.*

## BONE INDUSTRY.

The bone industry of the country is an important one. The four feet of an ox will make a pint of neat's-foot oil. Not a bone of any animal is thrown away. Many cattle's shin bones are shipped to England for the making of knife-handles, where they bring \$40 per ton. The thigh-bones are the most valuable, being worth \$80 per ton for cutting into toothbrush handles. The foreleg bones are worth \$30 per ton, and are made into collar buttons, parasol handles and jewelry, though sheep's legs are the staple parasol handles. The water in which the bones are boiled and reduced to glue, and the dust which comes from sawing the bones is fed to cattle and poultry.

An official in the Indian bureau gives figures to show that the future millionaires will be Indians. They are decreasing in number at the rate of five or six thousand a year; the lands they occupy are increasing in value, and when only a few thousand Indians remain, he says, it is natural to suppose they will be very rich.

## THE TRUCKING DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Col. B. S. Pardee writing from New Bern to the Baltimore *Manufacturer's Record*, says:

This section of the State owes to a merchant of New Bern, Mr. Geo. Allen, a debt of gratitude for originating this important and profitable industry. Fifteen years ago the people here bought their early vegetables and their strawberries from cultivators elsewhere. Mr. Allen, convinced that they could share in this profitable trade, sought by precept and example to induce his fellow citizens to adopt his view. At first it was up hill work, but the few who took his advice were so amply repaid that ere long the business was established on a permanent footing.

I was taken to-day by Mr. Green, of the banking firm of Green, Foy & Co., out into the heart of the trucking district in this immediate vicinity. This was the first general pecking of the season. There were fields of from fifty to one hundred and fifty acres in extent green with vines, and dotted over with bands of industrious pickers, while by the side of the cart paths were piles of crates, and at intervals at the ends of the row were those that had been filled, standing on end ready for the stencils. Mule carts laden with full crates were encountered on the highways, while others were in the fields receiving their loads. Whenever a crate was filled the picker received twenty-five cents from the superintendent, and went back to the row with an empty basket and a happy face to resume her occupation. At least two thousand women and children were at work to-day, to whom was paid—a quarter at a time—not less than \$1,500. The steamer Shenandoah took away 4,000 crates this evening; the railroad half as many more, most of which will be delivered in New York Monday morning, and before this letter is published from \$10,000 to \$12,000 will have been received here for this day's shipments. Turnips, cabbages and Irish potatoes will follow the pea crop in rapid succession, and, as during this week there were two days of rain, all these vegetables are looking well, and give promise of a speedy and abundant crop. The most forward potatoes are now about the size of pullet eggs, and cabbages are beginning to head.—*New Bern Journal.*

## HOW TO GET GOOD COWS.

A correspondent of one of our Eastern exchanges discusses this question: Shall the dairyman raise his cows or buy them ready-made? To answer this question intelligently we must know something of his surroundings. If profitable cows can be bought under \$50 a head at three years of age, it is questionable if he can raise them cheaper. The common argument in favor of raising instead of buying cows is that the heifer at the age of two or three years of age will cost as much as the first price of the matured cow. There is, however, another very serious point to take into consideration, and that is, how many heifer calves must you raise to the age of three years before you get one that is profitable? This matter is variously estimated according to the self-complacency of the man making the calculation. Some proud mortals go so far as to claim their ability to pick out calves that will make profitable cows every time. My own experience, compared with modest and generally truthful breeders, seems to point the requirement of such a bunch of five calves, as a rule, to make one good, first-class, profitable cow. To be sure, men's minds differ as to what constitutes a good cow; but let us call her a seven-pounds-of-butter-a-week cow, and is there any breeder that will take the contract to furnish more than five of such cows out of 25 heifers raised to three years of age? This looks as though it could easily be done, but suppose you go through the dairies in your neighborhood and find what proportion of cows will make over 300 pounds of butter, or 9,000 pounds of milk a year. Certainly not one in five. Will the thoroughbreds of the country do it? If they were weeded out as faithfully as the native cows are they would; but as it is a fact that every female is raised, no matter how inferior her dam, these weeds keep the thoroughbreds in just about as bad a condition as the natives, so far as the per centage of extra performers is concerned.