

[CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 1]

the negroes more permanent in their homes. Wandering laborers, with no ties to bind them to any locality, are deprived of those high incentives which make enterprising and industrious citizens. They should be furnished with comfortable houses, in which they may board themselves, have their own gardens, their own milch cows, a beehive or two, and such comforts as laboring men feel that they ought to have. They will then know that they reap the full measure of their labor, and that their superior skill and industry will be rewarded by increased enjoyments and comforts.

2. As the introduction of machinery into the operations of the farm is becoming more general each year, so a larger degree of intelligence is constantly demanded. The senseless exercise of muscle cannot compete with the precision and intelligent action of machinery. Each succeeding year will show a diminished demand for ignorant labor and an increased inquiry for skilled labor. The highest interest of the South, then, demands a recognition of this fact, and the adoption of measures by which the laborers may be instructed in the highest requirements of the farm, for all the experience of this country goes to prove that it is more economical to employ intelligent labor to direct machinery than to employ ignorant and dispense with machinery. The production of cotton since the invention of the cotton gin, the increased production of wheat since the invention of the reaper and thresher are cases in point; and so far from machinery reducing the average price of labor, the producing power of a day's labor is greater now than it ever has been, employment is more constant, sales of agricultural products more certain, and a gradual elevation of the laborer in the scale of dignity and intelligence more decided.

3. No labor can be made permanently profitable that is not contented. Whatever, then, is done to make the laborer contented and happy is equally conducive to the interest of his employer. For this reason I think every large employer should have a school house erected on his farm, so that the children may be instructed in the elements of "virtue, learning and science." Apart from the happiness which it gives the parents, it fits the children for the more intelligent labor demanded by the advance of a true civilization. The largest profit ever paid by any cotton factory in the South was paid in Georgia, where the stockholders not only furnished complete homes for their employees, but kept a teacher constantly employed for the instruction of their children. The operatives considered it a rare privilege to be employed there, and the owners of the factory were never troubled with "strikes," dissatisfaction or a scarcity of labor.

Some regard ought also to be had to the negro's capacity for enjoyments. All nationalities have their special pleasures. The Germans, for example, have their beer gardens; the Irish their wakes; the French, their soirees; the Spaniards, their fandango; and if the negro shows a predilection for "big meetings," loud prayers and doleful songs, it must be set down as one of his "peculiar" pleasures, to which he has a right by nature and a desire by instinct. Let him enjoy them; nay, let him be assisted in enjoying them, if it will make him a more effective, reliable and honest laborer.

4. The confidence of the negro must be secured, and he must be made morally certain that he will get the full value of all his labor, and that he has a right to spend it in any manner that he pleases. He may need advice, but advice should not be forced upon him. When he is firmly convinced that his employer is looking to his interest, he will not be tardy in seeking and following his advice. A laborer should be paid, also, in proportion to his real value. The habit of having a fixed rate of compensation for grown men or women, and so much for boys or girls of equal age, is discouraging to those who wish to excel by the quality and quantity of their work. It retards progress in the right direction. It stretches all upon a Procrustean bed, cuts down good qualities and elevates bad ones to the same level.

5. The most liberal rates should be paid for labor. The best interests of the farmer require this. In this manner he may always secure as many laborers as he wishes on his farm, and be able to secure the best. Knowing that they are receiving the highest wages, they are not so easy to take offense, and "quit," but are willing, in pushing times, to move forward with alacrity and a will which the poorly paid laborer never feels. More satisfaction is felt, and greater energy secured and developed in the management of the farm.

6. The employer should be kind, and act with impartiality and justice towards his employees. Fretting and

fault finding, persisted in, will ruin the best set of farm laborers in the world. Rules should be reasonable, but rigidly enforced. Too many orders should not be given at once. The farm should be supervised by the owner, and the laborer should be made to feel his responsibility for faithful work. Occasional holidays should be given, and for good and faithful service, well and truly performed, a Christmas present or New Year's gift would be no bad investment. It is not the value of the gift, in which its efficacy consists. It is the manifestation of good feeling, the sympathetic link that unites the superior to the inferior; it is an evidence of kindly regard that is always appreciated by the most ignorant. One of the most intelligent business men in the South, who employs Irish servants, when on a visit to Rome had a number of beads consecrated by the Pope, and the distribution of these among his house servants has made the bond of attachment between himself and them indissoluble. All admirers of Sir Walter Scott remember how proud his old servant was made by a gift bought for him in Paris by Sir Walter. "It is not the gift," said the servant, "that I prize so much, but that the laird should think of me so far from home."

Thus let the negro become identified with and attached to the soil upon which he lives, and he himself, the land owner and the country will all be advanced by his labor.—J. B. Killebrew, in Southern Farm Magazine.

LIVE STOCK



FAVORITE HOGS OF THE SOUTH.

Col. J. B. Killebrew, in his article in the Southern Farm Magazine, says:

In some localities the Jersey red is a favorite breed with the farmers on account of its heavy weights and its great healthfulness. The males are active and vigorous and the sows prolific, but the very vigor and activity of the males make it a difficult matter to confine them within enclosures. The writer has seen the males of this breed climb fences with apparently as much ease as a dog. The pigs grow with great rapidity and often attain a weight of 130 to 140 pounds at the age of four months. The Jersey reds have a thick coat of fine reddish hair, which is often woolly next to the skin, making it much more tedious to dress them when butchered than the Berkshire. They have long pendant ears, broad faces and broad, straight backs. The hams are comparatively small, but the mid-ridings large. They are good lard producers. One report from a Jersey farmer states that 463 head of this breed slaughtered through a period of sixteen years at an average of twenty-one months averaged in weight 533 pounds. Pigs slaughtered at nine months of age dressed on an average 800 to 375 pounds. For the pork packer this tendency to large growth is a very desirable quality, but the Jersey red, while possessing a most vigorous constitution, is coarse and rough and is not so well suited for family use as the Berkshire or Essex.

The Essex breed, a few years since, was very popular in some localities in the South, but it is not a prolific breed and does not seem to possess the same hardy constitution that the Berkshire and Jersey red have. The characteristics of the Essex is pure black in color, dished face, small ears, broad between the eyes, with a body of medium length. The bones of the Essex are small, the hair fine and soft, but very thin on the body in Southern latitudes. Sometimes they appear almost hairless, with soft, black hides. They are good grazers and live well upon clover and the grasses and require but a small feed of corn to keep them in good condition. Like the Berkshires, they mature early. They are very docile. Mr. Joseph Harris says: "Those farmers who have plenty of clover could not do a more profitable thing than to keep plenty of Essex swine. In sections liable to visitation of hog cholera my plan would be to keep Essex and their grades and feed them largely on grass. I am confident we could raise healthier, better and cheaper hogs by the introduction of more Essex blood and by feeding more grass and clover. The subject is one of national importance." Mr. Harris says further that no hog cholera or similar disease has ever affected his herd, and he attributes the healthfulness of his hogs to the fact that they are summered on grass.

The Poland China breed seems at present to be running a good second in popularity to the Berkshire in the Southern States. It is claimed that this is an American breed that originated in the Miami valley by the cross-

ing of several distinct breeds with a view of reaching a combination of early maturity with great fattening capacity and large size. The Poland-China is black in color, with white spots irregularly interspersed over the body. They are lazy in their habits, rarely walking about after being fed. Nor are they noted for their symmetry of form, being squabby in appearance, with large, pendulous ears. They are probably the best of all breeds for converting corn rapidly into meat and lard, as they waste no flesh by the exertion of their bodies. At the age of ten months they will sometimes dress 350 pounds. Such hogs are not desirable for family use, and their tendency to grow into great "shapeless obesity," while it makes them popular with the lard producers, at the same time makes them undesirable with the bacon men. Mr. Garth, near Huntsville, Ala., writes that he killed a lot of Poland China pigs that at less than twelve months old weighed from 225 to 285 pounds. They were mainly raised upon the clover field.

Chester whites were tried in the South, but they did not appear to thrive in the climate. Indeed, no white hog has ever been long popular with Southern farmers. The Chester whites, however, mature early and often weigh from 175 to 200 pounds at six months old. These hogs are regarded as rather a fancy breed in the South, and while they are gentle and easily kept and fattened, they cannot bear rough usage. They are good mothers and prolific, but in strength of constitution they do not seem equal to some other breeds.

A new breed recently introduced in the South, called the Thin Hind, is deservedly popular for family use, because of the tendency of these hogs to make "marble meat" or a "streak of lean and a streak of fat." The best breakfast bacon is said to be made from the sides of these hogs. In color they are black, but white belted about the shoulders. They are tall and thin, mature early and have a greater proportion of lean meat in the "middlings" than other breeds. It is probable that this breed will come more and more into popularity as the fondness for breakfast bacon grows.

FEEDING EXPERIMENTS WITH HOGS AND CHICKENS.

These tests are recorded in bulletin 71 of Indiana station. The hog feeding test was to compare a mixed ration of corn meal and wheat shorts with a ration of corn meal alone.

The pigs used were six sows, 5 1/2 months old at the beginning of the experiment. They were divided as evenly as possible into two lots of three each. The pigs were high grade Chester Whites, and were bred on the station farm.

Those receiving the mixed ration are designated as lot 1, and those receiving corn meal alone as lot 2.

Lot 1 consumed 1,436 pounds of feed, costing \$9 70, and gained 353 1/2 pounds, at an expense of \$2 74 per 100 pounds. Lot 2 consumed 1,413 pounds of meal, costing \$9 18, and gained 326 1/2 pounds, at an expense of \$2 80 per 100 pounds. Lot 1 always seemed to eat with greater relish than lot 2.

As these sows were of breeding age, they frequently came in heat, and the record of daily weighings was watched to see if this condition checked their rate of gain in weight, but contrary to the general opinion in such cases, not the slightest check was noticed at any time.

The chicken feeding test was to determine the value of skim milk for poultry. As milk is not supplied to poultry by nature, it has been contended by some writers that it is useless for poultry.

Twenty young chickens of various sizes were used—ten Plymouth Rocks and ten Houdans. They were divided into two lots as nearly equal as possible, each lot containing five of each breed. Both lots were fed and treated just alike, except that lot 2 received all the skim milk they would drink. Both lots had all they would eat of a mixture of crushed corn, ground oats and wheat bran, and both had free access to water. The experiment extended from July 18 to September 5.

Lot 1 gained 27 1/2 pounds and lot 2 39 1/2. Following are the conclusions reached:

- 1. If skim milk be added to the ration fed to young chickens it will increase the consumption of the other foods given.
2. The great increase in average gain was coincident with the periods when the greatest amount of skim milk was consumed.
3. Skim milk is especially valuable as a food for young chickens during the hot, dry weather, and becomes of less importance as the chicken grows older and the weather becomes cooler.

Experimental Happiness.—They say that money does not bring happiness. This is an experiment, which every one wishes to try for himself.—Tit Bits.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FARMERS.

Dr. Harvey, one of the examining surgeons of the United States, in recent paper, explains the grounds for the rejection of so many volunteers.

One of the chief defects, we are told, was a failure in chest expansion among the volunteers from the farm. "These farmer boys were strong of limb; but so long had they bent to their task that their lung power had been impaired."

The following suggestions for the improvement of the physical man are made by Dr. Harvey:

- First—Look out for the eyes of the young, and be careful that they are not allowed to overwork or strain them.
Second—Let the young farmer boys, otherwise vigorous and strong, beware of the contraction of their chests and lungs. They ought to try setting up exercises as a regular routine.
Third—Bicycle riders ought to be aware of scorching and racing and of the long and tedious rides across country. Ride in moderation.
Fourth—Take care of the teeth, and look after them early and persistently. They affect the entire system.

Commenting on these statements Home and Farm also gives some good advice: These wise suggestions from one of the ablest medical practitioners in the country should not be lightly brushed aside or forgotten. On the contrary, they should be put into general effect at once. Americans are too prone to neglect the laws of health and they need sadly to amend this characteristic.

The American farmer gives himself too little recreation. Change of posture, change of occupation recreates the power of the individual. Excessive physical labor is the bane of the farm. Men and women should take better care of themselves that they may better care for their children. We know the first objection: "We cannot afford it." But men and women, can you afford to neglect yourselves, your health, anything that increases the vigor of the body and mind? It is the man on the farm after all that wins the victory as it was the man behind the guns on the American ships.

An overtaxed mother, an overtaxed father does not get from the land all that is in it, and cannot make of the children what they should be. Your horses and cattle are not neglected; your corn field, your cotton lands are not neglected. Do not neglect yourselves. Save labor by forethought, by labor saving implements, by limiting the work to the strength of body and soul. Take a day off occasionally. Walk erect. Look up to the blue sky as well as down to the furrowed field. Encourage the sports of the young. Teach them to ride well, to walk erect, to see victory through sorrow, and to look to the hills whence cometh our strength remembering that the body is more than raiment.

After thirteen years of continuous assault by all kinds of stock, the first Page fence, we built are still unimpaired against "hard forces." PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

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