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The Sort of Horses and Tools That Have Made the West Rich



terday—big, splendid, beautiful Percherons sweeping along almost rhythmically, the rich, mellow soil crumbling swiftly behind them in long, deep, straight furrows. Usually the horses were two abreast, but very frequently there were three or four great, gentle, well-kept fellows that it would be a privilege for anybody to sit behind. I shouldn't have much respect for the farmer boy who wouldn't be prouder to plow a couple of these beautiful animals than to be somebody else's hired man in town or to measure calico at some cross-roads store. And when we get more of them down South, every grown-up farmer, too, will feel more pride in his business. Incidentally, let me say, we must begin to breed more for farm work horses instead of coach and trotting types."

When such outfits as those shown here are the rule on Southern farms—when the inefficient one-horse plow has given way to modern implements drawn by three or four big mares or heavy mules,—then the farmers of the South will rival in wealth and achievement those of the West, but

OUR readers will recall Mr. Poe's recent letter on the kingly farm horses of the Middle West—how he traveled hundreds of miles without seeing a one-horse plow and how the beauty of the farm horses everywhere impressed him. While in Wisconsin he set out to get for *Progressive Farmer and Gazette* readers some pictures of these beautiful plow teams at work and from the John Deere Co., Moline, Ill., he secured the typical photographs given herewith. In this connection we also reprint a paragraph from Mr. Poe's letter about these horses:

"I had never seen outside the pictures such beautiful horses plowing as I saw on the way from Chicago here yes-



this cannot be while the average Southern farmer drives one little mule. The mule may remain the great work animal in the South; but the mule of the future will be much larger than the average mule of the present, and when he goes across the fields it will be in company with one or more of his mates.

Better work stock and more of it is essential if farming in the South is ever to pay as it should.

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