

A GOOD JOB FOR THE OLD MAN OR THE YOUNG BOY.

If any of our readers are becoming tired of farm life and think of moving to town, we would like to suggest an easy job, but one that will result in increasing the yield per acre and at the same time revive waning interest in farm life.

If any of this class of men are growing winter wheat, we suggest that they take a leisurely walk through the wheat field, carefully examining the heads and the stalks as well, and select enough of what they deem to be the best heads to plant, say, a quarter of an acre. While this is an easy job, it is one that will furnish pleasant and profitable exercise for the mind. For in selecting these heads, he should avoid parts of the field where, by reason of the thin stand, the heads grow abnormally long. He should rather go to the parts of the field that have a good, normal stand, and then select what he judges to be the best heads. If he can find those that run three in the mesh, so much the better. Before cutting off the head, he should examine the stalk and the stools from the same stalk, noting its freedom from smut, its stiffness and general appearance of vigor and hardiness. Under favorable conditions, rust will attack almost any plant, but the point is to determine the rust resistance under the same conditions, which will be found very considerable unless the field is so badly rusted that it is not fit to furnish seed. It goes without saying that smut should be avoided, and also plants growing near smutty heads. In fact, we would not care to select seed from any field badly smutted.

Now, when the farmer has done this and become interested in it, he can follow one of two courses: He can simply plant this seed that he has gathered in one corner of the field, or at some point where it can be easily identified and compared with seed taken from the bin. This is an easy job. Or he can go farther and adopt the methods that are used by the plant breeders. Instead of getting a peck of seed, he can get say two or three hundred heads, tie them to gether, and hang them in some place where the mice can not get at them. He can then amuse himself by shelling each head separately into a different envelope, and plant it in the garden, one head to a row, two inches apart. He need not have the bed more than four to six feet wide. This will seem to many men a rather ridiculous job, savoring too much of planting garden truck; but, none the less, it will pay.

He is likely to find, as corn breeders have found, that there is quite a difference between the yielding qualities of heads that look very much alike. The grains from one head will germinate quicker, or perhaps stand the winter better, or stool out better, than the grains from a different head. He can count the heads in the fall to determine germination, and in the spring after the winter is over, to determine resistance to the winter frost. He can amuse himself by watching their growth during the summer, and from the best of these rows select his seed for the next years' experiment. In this way it is quite possible—we say this because it has been done—to develop a variety of wheat of the same variety than will yield one, two, three bushels per acre more than the same variety of wheat sown under the same circumstances, but sown from the bin.

While he is making these selections in the field, we drop a reminder that some of the best varieties of wheat have been developed from sports, that is, from a single stalk or stool, which for some reason that our

wise men have not yet definitely ascertained, differ materially from the seeds sown out of the same sack in the same circumstances and conditions. Nature seems to be at work in developing something new and better—some people call it "short," some call it "evolution"; we believe some call it "transmutation," or some such word. It is wise for the farmer to take advantage of all these efforts of nature. If it does nothing else, it will quicken the powers of observation. He must remember that our timothy is said to have all come from a single stalk, which some Yankee found growing in his field. His name was Timothy Herd. When it became cultivated, some called it Timothy's grass, and some Herd's grass; the fellows who called this man by his first name calling it Timothy's grass, and those who spoke of him as Mr. Herd calling it Herd's grass.

While this is a fine job for the man who is past heavy work and still wants to keep up an active interest in farming, it is also a very good job for the bright boy, with this advantage, that the boy, while lacking experience and judgment in making the selections—having the years before him, can carry on the experiment and reap the full reward. In either case, it will teach him to see things and exercise judgment, which, after all, is the main object in education whether in man or woman, boy or girl.—Wallaces' Farmer.

THE GENTLEMAN FARMER.

Have you ever thought about the senses in which we use the word "gentleman"? In the days of ancient Rome it meant a member of a gens, that is, a tribe or clan. We use it in a somewhat similar sense when we say ladies gentlemen," when we wish to distinguish the sexes. The English people use it to describe a class of people beneath the nobility and above the farmers—men who have no title, but who, on account of something their daddies did are entitled to, or at least, are possessed of a coat-of-arms; or, to put it another way: men of independent means who do not need to engage in any business for a living, who have descended from people of a like class.

We speak of "gentleman farmers" with something of a sneer, and by it we mean wealthy men in the cities who can afford to have a farm, but who do not depend on what they make of it in order to support either the farm or themselves. Now, the real meaning of the word "gentleman" is that which appears on the surface—a gentle man. It does not apply to the size of the pocket-book nor to parentage. It describes a quality of the heart and mind rather than birth or pocket-book. David said that the gentleness of the Lord "hath made me great"; and there is no quality of mind more strongly insisted on in the Bible than that of gentleness.

Now, why should not the farmer be a gentle man? As a matter of fact, he must be so, if he is a successful farmer. Gentleness is opposed to coarseness, rudeness, roughness. A cow will not give down her milk except to a gentle man or gentle woman. The horses will not do their full work except when driven by a gentle man. Cattle thrive better if the gentleness of the feeder has driven away the instinct of fear and taught them to look upon him as a benefactor. It is a very great mistake to suppose that a farmer, and particularly a stock farmer, is not a gentleman. He must be, if he is to succeed in his business.

The gentleman farmer, using the word in the usual sense, is not always a gentle man. Attending a banquet in a spike-tail coat and great

amplitude of shirt bosom does not make a man a gentle man. Inherited wealth and the leisure that accompanies it does not make any man a gentle man. Some of the finest gentlemen we have ever seen have been farmers. They did not wear plug hats or spike-tail coats, but they dealt fairly and courteously with their

neighbors and their hired hands, and dealt with the unfortunate as if imbued with that very spirit of gentleness that David said made him great.—Wallaces' Farmer.

Subscribe for the Carolina Union Farmer—\$1.00 per year.

Study Your Wheat Before You Harvest It

If the yield and quality are bad you must do better. If they are good it will pay you to make them better. A better fertilizer will do it. The usual wheat fertilizers do not contain enough

POTASH


Use 6 to 8 per cent. Potash, instead of 1 to 2, and balance the phosphoric acid of the bone or phosphate.

Tell Your Dealer about this Now before the fertilizer salesman arrives. Write us today for our free book, "Fall Fertilizers."

We sell Potash Salts in any amount from 1 bag (200 lbs.) up. Write for prices, stating quantity needed.

GERMAN KALI WORKS, Inc.
NEW YORK—42 BROADWAY

Menadnock Block CHICAGO	Whitney Bank Building NEW ORLEANS	Bank & Trust Building SAVANNAH
----------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------




UNION TRADE SYSTEM

As the Spring season of Fertilizer is now over, I take this opportunity to thank our brethren for the hearty support and patronage they have given to this office during the spring season. While our sales have not been as large as was anticipated, we have had a fairly good trade, notwithstanding the confusion occasioned by cut prices. We have a host of true loyal members who always give their patronage to this office or to Companies' with whom I have secured contract, while there are others, who prefer to trade independently of our Co-Operative Trade System. While the latter class is deriving benefits through their purchases by being members of the Union, it is the faithful loyal members who are ever ready to shoulder this task and stand by the principles and plans of our organization. The continued success of the Farmers' Union depends upon the latter class. Again I want to thank each one of you who has contributed patronage to this office for either Fertilizer or Merchandise. Will try and get Fertilizer commissions to you within next thirty days.

Let me know when I can serve you.
Yours fraternally,

Sanford, N. C.
June 16, 1912.
J. R. RIVES,
State Business Agent.

Owners of Mares, Attention!



The Farmers' Jack Company of Raleigh, offer the services of their magnificent Kentucky Spanish Jack, MT. MITCHELL.

Few Jacks possessing the Size and Quality of MT. MITCHELL, have ever been seen in the South.

This is an opportunity which all owners of mares should consider and take advantage of the chance of raising high-class Mules.

MT. MITCHELL is a large, handsome Jack, 15 1/2 hands high and well marked. He will stand at the State Fair Grounds where he can be seen by those interested.

For further information, write

FARMERS JACK CO.
Dr. L. F. KOONCE, Manager.
Raleigh, - - North Carolina

MT. MITCHELL, 15 1-2 Hands High