

POSSIBILITIES OF GOAT RAISING.

Five hundred million goat skins have been imported into the United States during the last decade, and the money sent out of the country in payment therefor amounts to \$250,000,000.

This statement of the large value (\$250,000,000) of goat skins imported during the last decade, together with that indicating that the number of goats which this \$250,000,000 represents, is approximately 500,000,000, is extremely suggestive in conjunction with a statement recently supplied to the Bureau of Manufactures, Department of Commerce and Labor, by the United States Consul at Vera Cruz, Mexico, from which country large numbers of these skins are imported, in which he says that the meat of the goat, which is used as food and found very similar to that of the sheep, is of even greater value than that of the hides, and that the goats are grown in large numbers upon lands not available for agricultural purposes.

The above statement indicating that large additions to the meat supply of the United States may be grown upon lands not available for general agricultural purposes, together with the statement of the Bureau of Statistics that the skins of 50,000,000 goats are imported annually into the United States, coupled with the further well known fact that the meat of goats is now being sold for food in the markets of many cities of the United States, offers an interesting suggestion as to the possibilities of large additions to the meat supply of the United States and the retention at home of the \$25,000,000 per annum now being sent out of the country for the purchase of goat skins.

British India supplies about one-third the entire importation of goat skins into the United States, that country having been credited with 15,000,000 skins out of a total importation of 43,000,000 in the fiscal year 1911. The next largest importation of that year were 6,666,000 from China, 3,000,000 from Mexico, 275,000,000 from Aden, Arabia; 225,000,000 from England, 1,500,000 from British East Africa, 2,000,000 from Brazil, 133,000,000 from Argentina, 1,000,000 from Venezuela, about 1,000,000 each from France and Russia, and two-thirds of a mil-

lion from Turkey in Asia. Considerable amounts are also imported from Turkey, Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy, Peru, the Dutch East Indies and French Africa.

The following statement, furnished by the American Consul quoted above and printed in the Daily Consular and Trade Report by the Bureau of Manufactures of the Department of Commerce and Labor, will serve as an illustration of how the business of goat raising is conducted in Mexico (the money values are assumed to represent Mexican pesos, one of which equals 49.8 cents in American currency:

"In 1904 the manager of the farm received 66,000 goats, including large and small, at a valuation of \$1.50 each, equal to \$99,000. From the produce of these he sold, during nine months of 1904 and the years 1905 and 1906, 50,000 head at \$5 each, equal to \$250,000, and had, at the close of 1906, 88,000 head on the farm, being 22,000 more than he started with. The result was, counting the value of the 22,000 increase at \$1.50 each with the foregoing sales, the investment of \$99,000 produced in less than three years \$283,000 besides the original stock of 66,000 goats was intact."—Missouri Journal of Agriculture.

Resolved, never to do anything which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.—Jonathan Edwards.

SELLING COTTON DIRECT TO ENGLAND.

Mr. Editor:—I wish to call the attention of the readers of the Union Farmer back to the article by Mr. Wm. Whittam, of Manchester, England, in the issue of June 6th, on selling cotton direct to the manufacturers. The South should eliminate the big unnecessary expense of hauling cotton, and it is up to the producer to devise and establish the proper means to overthrow this old expensive custom of selling and adopt direct dealing. The warehouse system well equipped and managed is the necessary step. Every cotton growing county in North Carolina should at once organize a warehouse company and build substantial warehouses to take care of as much as one-third of the cotton produced in the county.

Our county has made the start. We have a very desirable site in Kinston, with one section of a brick warehouse built that will hold 800 bales of cotton, and 1600 bales by stacking it; and two more sections of equal size to be built as soon as practicable. With the warehouses and a good, reliable grader with reliable management, the system will naturally evolve, and confidence and cooperation will follow in its path, and the cotton trade can be thrown out of its present defective channel and an important reform set up that will bring justice to the producer of the

staple and advance the business interest of every phase of southern life. Depositors in our warehouse have realized from \$10 to \$15.00 per bale by storing and holding. I want the county Unions of every county to get busy and provide substantial warehouses. One Union man held 130 bales about three months and realized \$1,500 more than if he had sold in December. The only power to resist these devastations in prices that come to us every fall, is the Farmers' Union, and the time to act is NOW. "Never grow weary in well doing." Much is involved in this phase of cotton marketing. Study it closely.

WM. B. DALE, Secretary and Treasurer of Farmers' Union Warehouse Company. Kinston, N. C.

It may be thou dost not love thy neighbor; it may be thou thinkest only how to get from him, how to gain by him. How lonely, then, must thou be! How shut up in thy poverty-stricken room, with the bare walls of thy selfishness and the hard couch of thy unsatisfaction!—George MacDonald.

"Contentment is less an act than a habit of life. The possession of it does more than affect our conduct in a single instance; it alters our attitude toward all the tribulations that may come to us."

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