

broad area of the cotton-planting States. To do better, is "better late than never," and we shall make a beginning at improvement. The much neglected docile cow is one of the greatest blessings bestowed on poor, ungrateful man, and in the neglect of caring for them, we evince to the Donor a want of thankfulness for his gifts.

We saw a part of the Colonel's flock of sheep; mostly we believe of the French Merino variety. They were in fine order, particularly for the cold dry season we are yet passing through. Their wool has just been taken off; one fleece from a year old buck, weighed eleven pounds; one from a ewe with her first lamb, weighed eight pounds. The Colonel told us one of his ewes yielded a fleece of ten and a half pounds. Say, readers, if too great a plea for these innocent and important animals is asked in a dog-law? We think not.—We saw also a couple of Suffolk hogs. We can't say much about them. They were pretty, and we think will do finely for a pet operation; but of this we know nothing; we can't condemn anything without a good reason. We dislike all protests that can be backed by no stronger reason than that very ready and unmeaning, "it won't do because it won't do." So we shall pass over the Suffolks, and leave them to work their way on their own merits.

From what we have seen of Laurens District, we are disposed to think that her farmers are beginning to feel the necessity of a reform in their business. We think some influence is at work, that will tell of better things. A few such men as the Williams', Davis', &c., will leave the "foot-prints" of their doings as foci of improvement.—Abbeville must arouse to the work if she would save herself from a laggard position. Laurens has an Agricultural Society, of what strength we know not; but from the report of some of their committees, they are awake to their duty, and the wants of the farmers as to the system of education suitable for their sons. There is one thing certain, before a man can do anything well, he must know how to do it. Knowledge is not born with us; it must result from immediate application of the powers of the mind, or be communicated to us by oral or written signs of ideas. Isolated efforts like that of our friend, will do much. He is rendering a great public service, and deserves the notice of his fellow countrymen.

Wisely and patiently conducted experiments are the surest to remove prejudice and test the value of every earthly interest. Our people as yet appear to be averse to any co-operative efforts for the

improvement of agriculture and its adjuncts, and individual effort is left to struggle for the elevation of the major pursuits of life. The few men who are engaged in these experiments, are often made the butt of the thoughtless, and their motives ascribed to the love of money, or a display of a low and paltry vanity. Excuse the length of this article as we think it of some importance.

ABBEVILLE.

CHINQUEPIN RIDGE, May 12, 1855.

CASHMERE GOATS.

R. PETERS, Esq., of Atlanta, in a private letter, thus alludes to the hardiness and frugality of this valuable stock:

"I am better pleased every day with my Cashmere Goats. They are now living and growing fat on the seed of 'rag weed'—a plant which no other animal will eat.

We are also indebted to Mr. Peters for several samples of wool from some of his half-blood kids (raised from the common Goat and a Cashmere Buck.) These samples, which may be seen at our office, are really of astonishing fineness and length of fibre; and when we consider the undoubted value of this wool for manufacturing purposes—the hardy character of the Goat—its exemption from nearly all diseases—its dog-defying character—and its superiority in almost every respect over the sheep, so far as vigor and stamina are concerned—we are constrained to repeat, with increased confidence, our declaration of last month, that the Cashmere Goat is by far the most important and valuable addition that has been made to our domestic animals within the past century. In concurrence with this opinion, we are pleased to mention the name of that profound scholar and zealous naturalist, Rev. Dr. Bachman, of Charleston, whose allusion to their value will be found near the close of his very able article on Southern Grasses, in present number.

We also learn that Dr. Jas. B. Davis, of South Carolina, passed through this city recently, with fifteen three-quarter bred Cashmere ewe kids, 7 months old, and one pure bred 2 year old Cashmere Buck: having sold the lot (16) to a gentleman of Gallatin, Tenn., for the handsome sum of Four Thousand dollars—the kids rated at \$200 each, and the Buck at \$1000.

It will be observed that Mr. Peters offers a few half-blood Cashmere Bucks for sale. See advertising columns.

Southern Cultivator.