

# AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

## IMPROVED ANGORA GOATS.

In some sections of the country they could be raised easily.

The earliest attempts to rear Angora goats in the United States were only partially successful because they were introduced to localities where the climatic conditions were not such as they require. They can withstand considerable dry cold, but the comparatively humid climate of the middle and southern Atlantic states proved unfavorable to them. But in Texas and on the Pacific slope, where they have more recently been bred, they flourish abundantly. But nearly all of the Angora goats in this country have become more or less alloyed by crosses with the common goat, and American mohair is held in the market at much lower prices than the imported fleeces of the strictly pure-bred Angora goats. Imports of fresh breeding stock would give a new impulse to the industry. Something more than two years ago an effort was made to en-



ANGORA GOAT FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

list the aid of the general government in this direction, but it failed to receive the support of either congress or the department of agriculture. There is a fine field for individual or corporate enterprise. One difficulty in the way has already been removed by the recent opening of a railway between Constantinople and the province of Angora. This cuts off the former tortuous journey from the Ottoman capital to the native habitat of the goats and the costly transportation of the animals to the port of shipment by mountainous bridle paths. There are vast regions west of the Mississippi in which physical and climatic conditions are not greatly unlike those of Armenia, where the Angora goats have flourished from immemorial time. These tracts are wholly unsuitable for agriculture, but may be utilized for breeding and rearing these goats. If sufficient capital could be enlisted to secure the importation of thoroughbred stock, a new impulse would be given to the industry. The accompanying illustration presents a spirited likeness of one of the animals forming the exhibit of the live-stock department from South Africa at the Columbian exposition, of which they formed an attractive feature.—American Agriculturist.

## SUNLIGHT FOR HORSES.

Sick Animals Require as Much Nursing as Sick Men.

The proper nursing for sick horses requires only slightly less delicate attention than the nursing of sick men, says the London Live Stock Journal. Not to speak of diet and medicine, frequent change of bedding and clothing are as indispensable in one case as in the other. Perfect attention, abundant light and pure atmosphere should always be prime considerations in treating the stable patient as well as the human subject. The influence of light on the animal frame, and even on the rudest form of organism, is highly beneficial. The horse is by nature one of the children of light, and not of darkness—the open air, not of the confined, stuffy stall. In his wild state he seeks the sunlight of the plains and avoids the darkness of forest glens; and if we would fortify him against the destructive effects of protracted illness, we should insure him the free light of day and full enjoyment of the pure circumambient air. He should, when ailing, not be tied up to rack or manger, but have the compartment freedom of a roomy box. It is strange that most stable architects think any odd space in a dark corner, that cannot be well utilized to form stalls, is quite good enough a situation for a loose box or for an infirmary for a horse "told off" as too ill to work and requiring veterinary treatment. There is much room for improvement in the architecture and sanitation of the stable for both sick and healthy horses.

## LIVE-STOCK NOTES.

In breeding sheep that will produce the best mutton we are breeding sheep that will produce the best and most wool.

In Nebraska a farmer, as he states, accidentally learned that millet seed was first rate for pigs. He fed it with corn.

If we do not learn from the present depression that breeding scrub horses is a losing business, we never will learn.

The best animal has not yet been bred. Progress is still possible. Act upon the fact and breed to a higher standard all the time.

The British government has ordered from this country a large assignment of fodder bricks which are made of crushed oats, corn and chopped hay.

It costs more to feed pounds on a scrub animal than it does on a grade or thoroughbred. The breeder of scrub stock loses at both ends of the business—at the grain bin and at the market.

With the sheep breeder now working to produce the best and most mutton, it is more necessary than ever that the breeders of all kinds of meat-producing animals should breed the best.—Farmer's Voice.

## THE NAPOLEON REVIVAL.

Why the Emperor Is the Most Popular Character in History.

Within the past year there has been a revival of interest in the career of Napoleon Bonaparte that is almost phenomenal. In literature he has figured in the pages of memoirs and reminiscences by those who came into more and less intimate contact with him. In art not only has he been a potent inspiration to modern painters and sculptors, but he has made price-less all pictorial records of his time. In the drama he poses as the most picturesque figure that has been brought upon the stage within the century. Personal relics of the man are held as sacred and beyond all price. As Paul Bourget aptly says, "Napoleon has hypnotized the French people again." In France the sting of defeat after the Franco-Prussian war turned the thoughts of all to their period of greatest glory, and so it needed but time to see Napoleon enshrined as an idol. An equally logical explanation is found for the most notable feature of the Napoleon revival in this country.

The Century's life of the emperor was projected five or six years ago, before anyone could have foreseen the present attitude of the public mind. It was undertaken solely with the idea that Napoleon was one of the greatest, most forceful and picturesque characters in the entire range of history, and that hitherto he had been inadequately represented. For that reason Prof. William M. Sloane, the greatest American student of French history, was commissioned to write the life, and his years of study among unpublished archives have brought out his completed labor at the most opportune moment. And Prof. Sloane shows us a new Napoleon, a devourer of books, an unsuccessful literary aspirant, an ineffectual Corsican political agitator, but the new Napoleon certainly makes the old Napoleon more easily comprehended.

## MUSICAL NOTES.

NEW YORK city letter carriers have an organized brass band.

COUNT TOLSTOI has written a popular opera entitled "The Distiller." It is in the interests of temperance.

KING OSCAR of Sweden, who is said to be a good musician and singer, has composed a new symphony. The queen of Belgium is said to be an excellent harp player.

STREET bands are not permitted in Germany unless they accompany processions. In Vienna the organ grinders are allowed to play only between midday and sunset.

PATTI has just discovered a new tenor near her Welsh estate, and will have him sing at her next London concert. He is a tin miner named Jon Williams, but his local nickname is Eryr Afon.

NOTWITHSTANDING his rough and unsociable character—few persons have seen him smile, much less laugh—Verdi, the great composer, is very charitable. Numerous philanthropic works, and in particular the hospital at Bussetto, owe their existence to him.

REV. SAMUEL F. SMITH, of Newton Center, Mass., author of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," is now eighty-five years of age and in excellent health. He is a graduate of Harvard, class of 1826, and reads fifteen different languages. Mr. and Mrs. Smith celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage September 9.

## SKETCHINGS AND ETCHINGS.

A BUST of Herod the Great, believed to be authentic, was recently discovered at Jerusalem. It has been bought by the Russian government for the Hermitage museum at St. Petersburg.

The price of Rembrandt's continues to rise steadily in the art markets from year to year. The fact is tempting forgers and touchers-up to impose works as his that slightly suggest his mannerism.

WILLIAM L. ELKINS, the railway traction magnate of Philadelphia, has offered through the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts a prize of \$5,000 for the best American picture painted by an American artist.

GEORGE DU MAURIEU, the novelist, and Alma Tadema, the artist, were students together at Antwerp, and resembled each other so closely that they were hardly distinguishable apart until du Maurieu lost the sight of an eye and began to wear blue spectacles.

Queer decorations are often seen on graves in cemeteries used by the poor. In one of the older burial grounds in Brooklyn there are faded photographs and even ambrotypes of the dead, flowers made of paper, cloth and tin, toys in glass cases that the dead children used to play with, borders and designs in knobs and seaworn pebbles. One small grave had at one time a little house over it containing a torn doll and a pair of baby's shoes. Another has a metal upright, terminating in a hook, from which is suspended a wire basket filled with seashells.

Dorchester, Mass., once contained the only powder mill, the only paper mill, the only cracker manufactory, the only chocolate mill and the only playing-card manufactory in the whole country. Hayward's Gazetteer, early in the thirties, mentions Dorchester as "an agricultural and manufacturing town of about 3,500 inhabitants, large farms covering broad acres, card factories (Thomas Crebore's being the first in any part of the country to manufacture playing cards), cotton, chocolate and starch mills."

Deviled Sauce: Put in chafing dish over open fire two pats of butter, two teaspoonfuls of chopped parsley, one of mixed English mustard, two chopped onions and two teaspoonfuls of vinegar; after butter is well melted cook two minutes, keep continually stirring; add one tablespoonful of Worcester's sauce, a good pinch of salt, some black pepper and a little cayenne. Additional mustard and Worcester's sauce may be added if desired to have it more sharp.—N. Y. Observer.

The men who fought the establishment of the department of agriculture a few years ago, on the ground that it was unnecessary, will perhaps be surprised to learn that one hundred years ago there was a "Clothing Department," and that congress issued regulations for a clothier general, a regimental clothier, and so on. A "Department of Clothing" would excite derisive laughter now. There was a good deal of inquiry and report on the subject of clothing for the continental army, and at one time Gen. Horatio Gates reported that the cost of clothing each man was twenty-three dollars.

## THE TEXAS FAST MAIL.

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EDITH—"My dear child, it's no use arguing with Mr. Remsen. You can never convince him." Alice—"I am sure of that, dear. Why do you know, in a discussion we had the other night, he actually reasoned."—Harlem Life.

You Can't Eat Wrought Iron Nails. Of course, and expect to digest them, but you can eat ordinary food that is wrought with the iron, and keep fully abreast with the passenger service of the day. If enfeebled, has been strengthened by a course of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Your kidneys, liver and bowels will be rendered active and vigorous by the great tonic, and your system fortified against malaria and rheumatism. Use it, also, if you are nervous and sleepless.

"When did I give you that promise?" "On one of the last two days of February." "That shows what a fraud you are. February hasn't got the last two days."—Fleugde Blaetter.

In Olden Times People overlooked the importance of permanently beneficial effects and were satisfied with transient action, but now that it is generally known that Syrup of Figs will permanently cure habitual constipation, well-informed people will not buy other laxatives, which act for a time, but finally injure the system.

BARBER—"How do you want your hair cut?" Customer—"Off."—Harvard Lampoon.

No Opium in Piso's Cure for Consumption. Cures where other remedies fail. 25c.

FRIEND—"Are you superstitious? Do you believe in signs?" Successful Merchant—"No, my dear advertisement man, are better and cheaper."—Printers' Ink.

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GAZING AT THE GIRAFFE—"Hey, Chimmy, how'd dat for a trout ter holler extra wid?"—Life.

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Receipts for making restaurant chicken salad should begin: "First catch your calf."—Texas Siftings.

Every time a bad man throws mud at a good man he hits himself in the face.—Bum's Horn.

An Insult.—Miss Bean (of Boston, visiting in Chicago).—"Mamma, that Mr. Parkinsam insulted me last night, and I shall never speak to him again." Mamma—"How, my child?" Miss B.—"He asked me if we were from New York."—Detroit Free Press.

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