

Southern negro at work in the cotton field; the steamboats plying the Mississippi; the great pine, cypress, gum and hard wood forests of the South; the iron and coal mines of Alabama; the famed fruit belt of the Ozarks, and scores of other things to entertain and educate. It is a trip that once taken is never regretted, but rather repeated. It is well for us all to see and know our own country.

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## LULLABY.

BY EUGENE FIELD.

What though thy stricken mother weep—  
 Sleep, O my baby darling, sleep!  
 The ship goes sailing out afar  
     Upon the bosom of the sea;  
 The moon is singing to a star  
     The lullaby I sing to thee,  
 While angels hover round and keep  
 Their loving vigils o'er thy sleep.

And, tho' thy little eyelids close,  
 The wakeful star will not repose;  
 "Nay, mother moon," it seems to say,  
     "I fain would watch the baby face  
 That drifts upon the ship away,  
     While angels guard that holy place  
 And sing the little soul to sleep,  
 Upon the bosom of the deep."

What tho' thy stricken mother weep—  
 Sleep on, O child, thy gentle sleep;  
 And may thy heart be e'er as light  
     In all thy life that is to be  
 As are thy baby dreams to-night,  
     When, floating on the tranquil sea,  
 The angels and thy mother keep  
 Their vigils o'er thy quiet sleep!

So hush, my babe, and close thine eyes,  
     As, floating on the tranquil sea,  
 The angels come with lullabies,  
     And sing them o'er and o'er to thee.  
 So hushaby—oh, hushaby.

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## PROFIT IN ANGORA GOATS.

BY WM. R. DRAPER.

The raising of Angora goats for profit is destined to be one of the main sources of revenue to the farmer of Missouri within a few years to come, especially the farmers who live in hilly sections. And what the Angora goat is doing for the Missouri farmer it is doing throughout the Western country. In the course of time Angora goat raising will be a principal factor in the animal industry of the United States. There is one main reason for this: The demand for goat skins in the United States is enormous. In fact, \$35,000,000 is spent annually for these skins, to say nothing of what is spent for goat meat and goat milk. In the United States there are about one-half million Angoras, while 17,000,000 are killed every year for the filling of orders from the United States. Hence there is no danger of over-doing the growing of goats for profit. There will be a market for them for a long time to come.

A wonderful interest is now being manifested by the farmers of Missouri and other southwestern states in the raising of Angora goats. In the Ozark mountain region these animals thrive and grow fat on the underbrush that covers the mountain sides and thus act as clearers of the forests.

A most substantial beginning has been made recently by the organization of the Frisco Live Stock company, which has purchased 8,000 acres of rough land near Cuba, Mo., on the Frisco System, 87 miles from St. Louis. The company has abundant capital and intends to stock the ranch with 50,000 Angoras, to be kept for breeding and sale. It is expected that from this ranch numerous smaller ones will be stocked all through the rugged Ozarks in Southwestern Missouri and Northern Arkansas.

The object of the company is to sell Angoras to farmers in the Ozark region who desire goats but do not care to pay the expenses of a trip to Texas, New Mexico or California to buy a small herd.

Coincident with the organization of this company, it is announced that the National Angora Goat-Breeders' Association will establish in Kansas City a packing house for goat meat, to compete with the beef, mutton and pork packers.

The stockholders and officers of the Frisco Live Stock company are: Zack Mulhall, president; A. B. Hulit, general manager; Isaac H. Orr, treasurer; S. A. Hughes, secretary; W. T. McIntire, W. C. Bailey, H. J. Cantwell, J. L. McCormack and R. B. Hart.

Mr. Bailey, who lives in Kansas City, has been in the Angora goat business 32 years.



Kids at Play on Teterboard.

Mr. McIntire, also of Kansas City, is secretary of the National Angora Goat-Breeders' Association. Mr. Hart lives in Springfield, Mo., and was the first man to bring a herd of Angoras to the Ozark mountains.

Mr. Hulitt, originally from Chicago, has been engaged in the Angora industry in Texas and New Mexico several years.

The goats of Missouri to-day—that is the Angoras, are to be found in Pulaski, Taney, Stone, Ozark and Greene counties, although the industry is spreading through the Ozark region, and especially along the Frisco system. In Greene county, eight miles from Springfield on the farm of Geo. A. Ramsey,

is a herd of 1,800 Angora goats. These goats belong to F. D. Ougterbaugh of Chicago. The second largest herd at present in Missouri is owned by F. H. Goss of Taney county. Mr. Goss has 500. They are selected stock, and promise to become the most profitable stock on the farm. They roam over 160 acres of rough country and are of little or no trouble. Other farmers in Missouri have some very good-sized herds, but when the 8,000-acre ranch near Cuba, with its 50,000 bleating billies and nannies become an established fact this will be the largest goat ranch in the United States, or anywhere else except in the domain of the Sultan of Turkey, where the Angora is



Friends of Children.

on its native heath. It is a little over half a century ago that the Angoras first made their appearance on American soil. In return for a courtesy shown the Sultan by President Polk in 1849, he presented the President with nine of his choicest Angoras. From that small beginning with partial importations in later years the Angora has grown to be a numerous and much-prized factor in the domestic animal life of America.

The Angoras are pure white, their hair being a foot long. The hair, which is sheared in the same manner as sheep's wool, is marketable at 35 cents to \$1 a pound, and from it are made all the mohair articles of which women are so proud. The hides them-

selves sell at a high figure, being useful as rug material when the hair is long.

There are three uses to which the Angora goat can be put. First for the skin, the kid leather being used in great quantities; second, for the use of the hair or wool, and third, for the dairy product. Of very recent years many meat markets make a specialty of the meat. Some of the goat raisers of this country are in the business for the purpose of supplying mohair, while others use the goat as a clearer of brushwood. In Missouri the goat is good for both purposes, more than paying for its keeping by the work it accomplishes as a forester. The goat enriches the soil and makes it fit for cultivation while growing into profit for the owner at the same time.

The skins of the Angora, if taken when the hair is about four inches long, make very handsome rugs. There is a great demand for Angora rugs in the United States, which so far has not been supplied by domestic production. These rugs can be purchased at prices ranging from \$4 to \$8. Another article of manufacture from the skin is the carriage robe, rivaling in beauty and durability the buffalo robe, which is no longer a factor in the market. They are not expensive when the demand for skins is considered, and may be purchased for about \$20.

These skins are used largely in the manufacture of children's muffs and as trimmings for coats and capes. The finest kid fleeces adorn the collar and border of some of the ladies' most handsome opera cloaks. In the store they are sold often under some peculiar name which does not inform the purchaser that they are ornamented with the hair of the Angora goat.

The goat industry can be commenced with but very little capital. A herd of twelve good Angoras will cost from \$100 to \$150. The hair of these goats would weigh about 98 pounds at the annual shearing in April and selling it at an average price of 50 cents per pound, the owner would clear \$49. He should pay for his goats in less than two years, for they will increase rapidly. It

costs but little to keep an Angora. The only necessary thing in a goat pasture is plenty of shelter, so they will not have to get wet, and steep hills for them to climb. The average Angora would rather starve than to venture forth in a snow or rain storm. There are thousands of acres of land in Missouri that can be bought for \$1.25 an acre that is suitable for a goat ranch, and for that reason the industry is certain to expand and that very rapidly.

A late government census shows there are 24,487 goats in Missouri, valued at \$64,786. In Kansas there are 18,388, valued at \$71,-

Ludlow of Lake Valley, N. M., a well-known raiser. Mr. Ludlow says:

"We have always made it a point to cull out all undesirable stock. We have 6,000 Angoras on our ranch, and, of course, have to have a suitable plant for the handling of such a vast number. We have spent much time and money in fitting up corrals, sheds, shearing plant, etc., of which a brief description will be in order. In the first place a suitable shelter for the little fellows will more than pay for itself every year. The Angora cannot stand much cold, wet weather, especially a cold rain ending in hail, di-



Herd of Angora's on Ludlow Ranch.

290; Nebraska, 2,399, valued at \$9,126; Illinois, 8,877, valued at \$19,932; Indiana, 4,482, valued at \$8,290; Indian Territory, 10,529, valued at \$21,538; Iowa, 41,468, valued at \$146,708; Kentucky, 11,967, valued at \$10,008; Minnesota, 3,821, valued at \$7,879; North Dakota, 1,122, valued at \$5,308; Ohio, 5,432, valued at \$16,975; Oklahoma, 3,772, valued at \$10,854.

Texas has the largest number of Angora goats of any other state, leading the roll with 85,000, while California has 65,000, and New Mexico, 60,000.

The following advice as to how to raise Angora goats for profit is given by E. D.

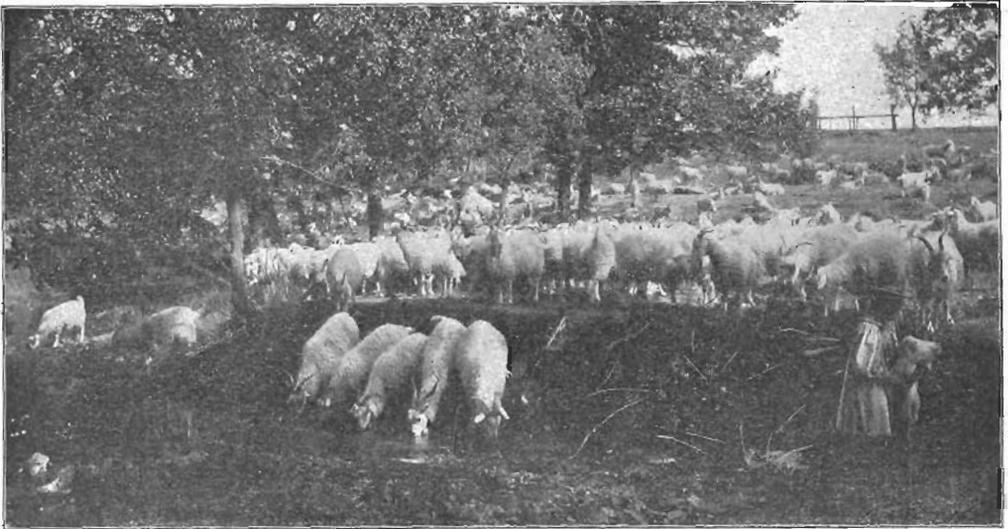
rectly after they have been sheared, particularly if machine shorn, which means very close shearing. The next thing to be considered is fencing. We use 1x4 inch boards 16 feet long, making them into panels that will dovetail together at the end. Using posts 10 feet apart, with the panels wired to them, gives a rigid fence, and one that can be readily changed or raised up as the corrals fill with the manure. We place the corral on a side hill, so that the goats in passing out trample the bulk of the manure out through the large gate, which we make so that it can be lifted up, instead of a swinging affair, which is being continually clogged up.

The next most important thing is plenty of small pens for handling goats when necessary. Of these we have 18 or 20, with a suitable cutting chute for distributing the goats into the various pens. This we find necessary at kidding and breeding time, and when selling. We have such a chute that we can take a flock of 1,000 head and put them into twenty bunches if necessary, within an hour, or as fast as they can pass through, which they do very quickly after knowing what is wanted of them.

The next thing is a large, commodious shearing house. We use a gasoline engine to drive our shearing machines, in connec-

tion of the breeder at this time. We mark all our breeding stock with metal ear tags, numbering consecutively, and keep a record of each and every doe's breeding, the quality of offspring, etc. We also use a tattoo ear marker to good advantage for identification purposes. The metal ear tags we place in various parts of the ear. To illustrate: In front of right ear for one grade, front of left ear for another and back of right and left for other grades, this work being done at shearing time, when goats show their true worth to best advantage.

You can readily see the advantage of this system at breeding time. All the goats are



Angora Goats Clearing the Forest.

tion with the shearing table designed by ourselves. The goat is sheared on this table and before another is put in its place, the first fleece is all picked up and put on a long table in front of the shearer, a partition of which is provided for each. All tag ends, cactus and other detrimental substances are removed, the fleece rolled up inside out and placed in a baling machine. By this method we get all there is in the mohair out of the business.

Breeding time we consider our most critical and important season, inasmuch as the future crop of kids depends entirely on the

separated into four classes, in separate pens. They are then all gone over, taken one at a time, and a glance at the record shows which buck to breed to, and a record is then made. One buck we spot with red paint, another blue, another green, etc., and the proper number of does to correspond.

Our next important season is at kidding, of which much has been written by various breeders. Our method is this: After shearing we take all but the does which are to kid, and send them off to a dry flock or herd, leaving at our kidding ranches nothing but the "dropping herd" to look after. When