

MONKEY WORKERS.

FIVE HUNDRED TO BE USED FOR PICKING COTTON.

Mr. Mangum's Experience May Revolutionize the Cotton Industry in Our Southern States—Monkey Slaves to Be Imported from African Forests.

Monkeys are developing intelligence rapidly along some lines of human endeavor and soon may become such a factor that labor unions will have to recognize in them a formidable element in the sphere of manual labor. The tangled forests of Darkest Africa, which, in the early days of the nation, supplied the Southern planter with slaves to cultivate his cotton fields and to gather his crops, have again been drawn upon by the farmer, whose ingenuity is equally great, whether he devotes his energies to the manufacture of wooden nutmegs in Northern States or of liquid moonshine in the South.

This time the demand is for monkeys—good, able-bodied monkeys, who shall be equal to a heavy day's work in the cotton fields. For that is the scheme which the wily Southerner has planned, and which he has found to be practicable. He will set monkeys at work picking his cotton crop, according to our voracious correspondent in Vicksburg. And why not? Monkeys have been used in some parts of Asia to fetch and carry, and they learn rapidly all that is required of them.

Scores of them have been working on the plantation of W. W. Mangum in Mississippi since the fall of 1897. Mangum attended the Vicksburg fair in 1896 with Prof. S. M. Tracey, and watched the antics of a number of trained monkeys who were performing various tricks under the supervision of their trainer.

"As sure as you're alive, Mangum," said Prof. Tracey, "those monkeys can

the understanding that the greater part of them were to be females. About the first of September of this year the new batch of monkeys arrived, and the services of the old trainer were again engaged to train the new lot. But this was not such an easy task as was at first imagined, for many of the monkeys were wild and untamable at first. Finally, with the aid of the twenty old monkeys, who were of great assistance, and a great deal of harsh punishment and of reward, the new gang of monkeys was trained by the middle of last October.

Cotton planters throughout the South have watched the experiment with a great deal of interest. Many have visited the plantation near Smedes to see the monkeys at their work. On the big plantation the rows were filled with monkeys, each with her little cotton sack about her neck, picking away quietly and orderly and without any rush or confusion.

As fast as the monkeys got their sacks full they would run to the end of the row, where a man was stationed to empty the contents of the sacks into baskets. Then the monkeys would scamper back along the row and would immediately resume their work. The monkeys seemed actually to enjoy picking. Each monkey was protected from the rays of the sun while picking by a cotton cap, which was tied under its chin with a piece of string.

Mr. Mangum is enthusiastic over the success of his experiment. "The introduction of monkeys as cotton pickers means more to the South," said he, not long ago, "than a cotton picking machine; for the monkeys are a success as pickers, while the machines, so far, have been failures. The monkeys are in every way superior to negroes as pickers. In the first place, the cost of picking is about one-third. Then they are far more careful than negroes and pick a finer grade of cotton. Even during the rainy fall, when all other cotton was of a low grade, that picked by the monkeys of my plantation was all mid-

"I don't know. I asked an old Virginia shucker that same question, and he said it was because they were lonesome and went in for company. But I don't believe it. That would mean that crabs think, and we know they don't. Neither does a lobster. I think the biggest fool in water is a lobster. I suppose you know how we catch lobsters in the sound? Take a box, bore holes in the side of it, and sink it. Put out your buoy so you'll know where to find the box. Leave the box sunk all night and go out next morning and haul it up, and you've got a box full of lobsters. And the funny thing about it is that they go into the holes backward. Even people will put their heads into holes where they are looking, but it takes a lobster to back into a hole, and they keep on doing it. Fish are smart. You have to play with them to get them to bite. But lobsters, they back right into your arms. Biggest fools that live."—New York Sun.

PATE DE FOIE GRAS.

The Cruel Way in Which a Great Delicacy Is Produced.

A recent Paris Figaro gives us a very interesting description of how that delicacy of delicacies, pate de foie gras, is made. To the ordinary man or woman no conception of the torture to which the poor, unfortunate goose is put could possibly be imagined.

The geese, when about nine months old, are taken from the pastures and placed in an underground cellar, where broad, slanting stone slabs stand in rows, and are bound fast to the tables. They are literally crucified.

Feet, wings, and bodies are spread out and bound by bands, so that only and neck is left free. As may be imagined, the animal struggles with all its might against this stretching, till, after days of vain endeavor to free itself from the bands and its position, its powers of resistance are overcome, and a dull resignation, broken only by its low cries, takes possession of it. Two



School Hygiene.

G. Stanley Hall has the right idea concerning school education. He tells us that "the great danger in our schools arises from imperfect health. It has become the custom in some countries that some of the best and most progressive city wards provide doctors to examine every child in the lower grades of the schools. This doctor examines the child's complexion, eyes, muscles, and appetite, etc., and gives directions according to the needs of the case. For myself, I say, 'what shall I profit a child if it gain the whole world of knowledge, and lose its own health? Or what shall a child give in exchange for its health? We have forgotten that children cannot sit still, yet it is one of the commands that resound in the school-room from morning till night. We have found that the idea that children can sit still must be abandoned, and teachers must learn to possess their nerves and patience if the children do not sit still. We all live for life. There is nothing so good as being alive.'—Journal of Hygiene.

Where Is the College-Made Man?

Andrew Carnegie having recently asked: "Where is the college made man?" the Superintendent of Schools in Sioux City, Iowa, has directed a systematic search for the missing individual, with no little success. A canvass of the leading men in the following named professions and occupations in the principal towns of Iowa gave these results, which are published in the Educational Review for March:

Profession.	canvassed.	bred.	cent.
Ministers	67	60	90
Teachers	65	55	85
Lawyers	78	53	68
Doctors	85	52	60
Bankers	66	26	40
Editors	53	16	30
Merchants and manufacturers	119	31	26

—Philadelphia Record.

The School Grounds.

It will not be difficult to educate school boys to respect flower-borders, window-boxes, vines, and shrubbery, if teachers themselves will display intelligent interest and affection for the school grounds. When these are of considerable size a great educational field can be opened by teachers who know something of botany, plant-growth, and forestry. Such surroundings can be employed to the highest advantage in cultivating in children observation, and in imparting elementary ideas of natural science. How many teachers are there who care for these things or are qualified to instruct children in the laws of plant-growth? We apprehend that there are comparatively few who do not need an elementary education in botany and forestry. The beginning of this educational reform really lies with the teachers themselves.—New York Tribune.

Praise for American Schools.

Dr. Krohn, a prominent educator, a graduate of Yale and who has studied in France, Germany, Austria, Italy and England, says that he is firmly convinced that the system of public schools in this country is far in advance of all other nations, but that our system has too much forcing, and unless much care is exercised in that regard it will tell on the children. He further says that precocity, unless carefully guarded and directed, is almost as dangerous as imbecility.

Any Language but Her Own.

A writer on one of the newspapers published in an Eastern city lately overheard a conversation between two high-school girls. This, according to his report, is what they were saying to each other:

"What do you think I done to-day, Clara?"

"Well, what did you do?" asked the other.

"I translated four pages of French exercises. Wasn't that fine?"

"Fine? I should say so. I wish I had done as good as that. I only translated two."

It is unnecessary to comment on such a revelation of the English spoken by promising young students of French, except to say that it must be some one's duty to teach them less French and more English. Sometimes we learn our own language the better for acquiring a knowledge of a foreign one, but that peculiar sort of philological enlightenment comes only after we have acquired at least a fair speaking knowledge of our own tongue.

Expelling Foreigners.

Kaiser Wilhelm's tactics of expelling foreigners from Germany are being applied to Germans by some of his neighbors. Prof. Leo Mayer, for thirty-three years professor of comparative philology at the University of Dorpat, in Livonia, has been dismissed and a Russian appointed in his place.

The next thing to worry about will be funnel-shaped clouds, with forked lightning playing about them.



MONKEYS AT WORK IN A MISSISSIPPI COTTON FIELD.

be taught to pick cotton better and far more cheaply than our negroes do, and perpetual fame will be the part of the man who tries the experiment and finds it a success."

Mangum laughed at the suggestion, but the more his friend talked to him about the matter the more inclined he was to try the experiment. In September, 1897, he hunted up the owner and trainer of twenty trained monkeys in New York City and made arrangements both to buy the monkeys and to get the services of their trainer, who assured him that it would be the simplest thing imaginable to teach the monkeys to pick cotton.

The training was at once begun. The males weigh about 110 pounds and the females average 90 pounds each in weight. Bags were made for each monkey that would hold twenty-five pounds of cotton, and a bag was placed over each monkey's shoulder. It was surprising how fast the monkeys learned to pick cotton. Baskets to hold the cotton were placed at each end of the rows, and one man besides the trainer was necessary to take the cotton out of the sacks and put it in the baskets provided.

The female monkeys proved much better pickers than the males. For they not only picked cleaner cotton, but they also picked more of it in a day than did the males. In less than a month after the twenty monkeys were started they could pick 300 pounds of seed cotton a day. They picked in weather when negroes would not have picked, and always a cleaner grade of cotton. The cost of picking was, of course, infinitely less.

This first experiment proved to Mr. Mangum that monkeys could be used with great success as cotton pickers. So, in June, 1898, he gave an order for 500 monkeys of the same breed to an exporter of monkeys from Africa, with

dilling. And that cotton sold for more than one-half a cent more than that which was picked by the negroes. In fact, I believe that the discovery that monkeys can be taught to pick cotton is the greatest that has been made for the cotton planter since Whitney discovered the cotton gin.

"People around here laughed at me when I first tried to teach monkeys to pick cotton, as they always do when a man tries anything new. But now that my experiment has proved to be a success, my neighbors are wild about it. The negroes around the plantation have sworn that they would kill the monkeys. They haven't done so yet, however, and I apprehend no great danger in that direction." Mr. Mangum intends to import more monkeys from Africa, and he desires other planters to join with him in importing a lot of them.

FOOL TRAIT OF BABY CRABS.

Make Prisoners of Themselves by Crawling Into Live Oysters.

An oyster shucker found in the shell of the bivalve what he called a baby crab.

"That's the first one of that kind I ever found in a Long Island oyster," said the old shucker, "and I've been shucking along the sound for twenty years. But such crabs are frequently found in Virginia oyster shells and are considered great delicacies when you get enough of them. Last summer I was shucking while on a visit in Virginia, and I found enough baby crabs in oyster shells to fill an ordinary-size coffee cup. A young woman saw them and clapped her hands at the sight. She asked me what I would take for them, and I said \$2 without thinking. She took me up quicker than a mice, and off she ran with them as if she had drawn a prize."

"Why do they go into oyster shells?"

months must pass away before death brings relief.

The animals meanwhile are crammed with dumplings made of a dough of buckwheat, chestnuts, and stewed maize. Every two hours, six times a day, they received from three to five dumpling pills, which in time become so sweet to the tortured creatures that they stretch their necks to be crammed.

The most difficult task is to determine the right moment for death. Those who die of their own accord are lost to the liver factory; therefore a kind of study is needed to see when the cup of agony is brimming full and the liver is ripe for taking. The bodies of such ripe ones are like pumpkins—where ordinarily fingers are buried in flesh and fat nothing but skin and bone is found. The livers have absorbed all the strength and juices.

Ballet Dancers Are Long-Lived.

A statistician has been devoting himself to a study of ballet dancers, and his investigation seems to establish the fact that they are an unusually long-lived lot. The famous Carlotta Grisi is living now at the age of 77, and one of the ballet dancers at the Opera in Paris is 70; but he is a man. Amalia Ferraris is still teaching at the age of 78 in Paris, and seems likely to continue that work for some time to come. Fanny Ellsler was 74 when she died, and Taglioni has passed her eightieth year. Rosita Mauri, the popular premiere at the Opera in Paris, is over 50, and has begun to talk of retiring.

It should be some consolation to a man wheeling a baby buggy on the streets to know that at least he belongs to the push.

If you would enjoy the music of the band you must keep up with the procession.

The Evolution of the Steamship.

When it seemed that the limit had about been reached with wrought iron as the main reliance of the designer, mild steel had been so perfected as to enable progress to be maintained. The large boilers necessary to withstand the high pressures and furnish the power for high speeds would have been impossible but for mild steel, and the same thing is true of the moving parts of the engine. It may be noted also that workmanship had improved, and the use of anti-friction metals for bearings, combined with this improved workmanship, enabled the high rotational speeds to be carried out with safety and reliability.

The machinery of Wampanoag, designed in 1865, was so heavy that only 3.24 i. h. p. per ton of machinery was obtained. The San Francisco, one of the earliest of the modern cruisers of the United States navy in which advantage was taken of all the factors for reduction of weight, obtained 10.63 i. h. p. per ton of machinery.—Commodore G. W. Melville, U. S. N., in Engineering Magazine.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

Every girl likes to think she is full of moods.

Whom the gods destroy they first invite to dinner.

It takes a woman to invent a way of going to the devil respectably.

A girl's idea of a trousseau is to have real lace and two dozen of everything.

When a woman tries to explain how she came to a conclusion it reminds you of a tadpole explaining why his tail fell off.—New York Press.

"I," said the orator, "am an American of the good old stock, rooted deep in the soil." "The only stock I ever heard of that rooted deep in the soil," said the farmer in the audience, "was hogs."

Some men escape the traps of others only to get caught in their own.

THE DUTY OF MOTHERS.

Daughters Should be Carefully Guided in Early Womanhood.

What suffering frequently results from a mother's ignorance; or more frequently from a mother's neglect to properly instruct her daughter!

Tradition says "woman must suffer," and young women are so taught. There is a little truth and a great deal of exaggeration in this. If a young woman suffers severely she needs treatment and her mother should see that she gets it.

Many mothers hesitate to take their daughters to a physician for examination; but no mother need hesitate to write freely about her daughter or herself to Mrs. Pinkham and secure the most efficient advice without charge. Mrs. Pinkham's address is Lynn, Mass.

The following letter from Miss MARIA F. JOHNSON, Centralia, Pa., shows what neglect will do, and tells how Mrs. Pinkham helped her:

"My health became so poor that I had to leave school. I was tired all the time, and had dreadful pains in my side and back. I was also troubled with irregularity of menses. I was very weak, and lost so much flesh that my friends became alarmed. My mother, who is a firm believer in your remedies from experience, thought perhaps they might benefit me, and wrote you for advice. I followed the advice you gave, and used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Liver Pills as you directed, and am now as well as I ever was. I have gained flesh and have a good color. I am completely cured of irregularity."

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