

BIG FARM IN DAKOTA.

Thirteen Thousand Acres Under Successful Operation.

The big Grandin wheat farm in Dakota comprises about 40,000 acres, of which 13,000 are under cultivation, 11,000 acres being sown to wheat. There are used on the farm forty-five gang-plows, two plows in gang, each cutting fourteen to fifteen inches. There are forty-five gang harrows. These are six feet square, but are arranged together side by side to work twenty-four feet wide. One long evener draws the four with a pair of mules near each end. One man drives both teams. The advantage of this system is worthy of notice by other farmers. It reduces the number of men usually required by one-half. There are forty-four broadcast sowers, sowing eight feet each, but two of these are attached end to end with a span of mules before each, and one man drives both spans, another saving of half the man force. There are sixty-five self-binding harvesters employed on the place. Modern improvements have so far perfected these that only one expert is required for the whole, especially since the experienced workmen on the machine are kept from year to year, and they are able to attend to any little repairs. The harvesters are drawn by three mules, and one and one-half to two men are required to shock the bundles in each machine. The threshers, of which there are six, are quite extensive affairs compared with those of former times or with those of the mills or the animals on the threshing floor of our boyhood. Each one of these machines, driven by steam power, threshes out from 1000 to 2000 bushels a day. They are set down in the center of a hundred acres of shocks, and when these are threshed are moved to the center of another hundred acres. The working force on a single thresher form quite a little army. Thus, there is, first, the general superintendent, eight bundle teams to haul the shocks, with eight drivers, and eight other men, part in the field and part at the machine as pitchers and unloaders. At the machine two men are required simply to cut the band. There are three feeders—two at work and an alternate. Then there are the engineer, the fireman, the waterman, the "straw bucket," who with two mules and a pole removes the straw accumulating before the machine, a barn man to care for the animals, and a cook and his assistant. The wheat is received into wooden tanks holding 100 bushels each, and four men with four wagons drawn by four mules each, one tank wagon at the machine and three on the road, take the wheat to the elevators. This saves bags and bagging. It will thus be seen that there is a force of thirty men employed to run a single machine.

Arizona Cattle Kings.

The Tucson, A. T. Star, has the following about the owners of cattle in Pima county:
 W. L. Vail and associates have not less than 20,000 head. Last year they branded over 4000 calves.
 Maish & Driscoll have in the neighborhood of 25,000 head, and they also branded over 4000 calves last year.
 The Land & Hays Company of the Barabacouri grant, have about 15,000 head, a number of which are in Cochise county. They branded 3000 calves.
 The Cameron Brothers, on the San Rafael ranch, have almost 12,000. They branded nearly 3000 calves last year.
 The Calabassas Land and Cattle Company have about 13,000 head, and branded over 3000 calves last season.
 Sabino Otero has about 7000 head, and handled over 2,500 calves.
 Pedro Aguirre and associates have 6000 head, and handled 2000 calves.
 George Pasch has about 6000 head.
 Richardson & Gormly have between 7000 and 8000 head. They branded 2100 head from Ashburn Brothers.
 Arantha has about 2500 head on his Santa Cruz ranch, and there are about a dozen others in the Santa Cruz valley who have from 500 to 1500 head.
 Then there are a number on the San Pedro who have from 500 to 1000 head, and also a number of stockmen through the Tanque Verde, Santa Rita, Sierra and ranges west of Tucson who have bunches of cattle ranging from 500 to 1000 head, all of which goes to show that the stock interest of Pima is of paramount importance.

A Centenarian's Sixty-Six Children.

From the London Figaro.
 The death is reported in Turkey of a Mohammedan named Hadzi Sulejman Saba, who had reached the very respectable age of 132. He had seven wives, sixty sons and nine daughters and had survived them all. At the time he married his last wife he was ninety-eight, and when she joined the majority he was still so far under the influence of love's young dream that he wanted to marry again, but the state of his finances did not permit of any further participation in matrimonial joys. With the exception of meat at the Bairam festival, he lived exclusively on barley bread and beans, drinking only water, but on this spare diet he managed to preserve his health so well that until four days before he ended his long career he did not know what it was to be ill.

Four Girl Babies at a Birth.

Worcester Dispatch to Boston Journal.
 Mrs. Frank A. Degroot, of Milbury, gave birth to four girl babies this afternoon. Mother and children are doing nicely, but the father is badly broken up. The children are all bright and active and cry with as much spirit and in as good voice as any well-regulated baby ought to do at their age. The smallest weighs nearly 3 pounds and the others nearly 6 pounds each. The mother has always been in excellent health, and has had children before, but never cut up such a caper as this before. The father works in Buck's chisel works. The attending physician says there is no reason why all the children should not live.

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