

SOUTHERN BOYS TO SHOW CORN

The One Hundred Boys in the Southern States who have Raised the Best Corn will be Allowed to Exhibit at National Corn Show.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The 100 boys in the Southern States who have raised the best corn crop during the past year will be given an opportunity to exhibit ten ears each at the National Corn exposition to be held at Columbus, Ohio, January 30 to February 11, said Dr. Clarence J. Owens, commissioner of agriculture and immigration of the Southern Commercial congress, in a recent interview.

There are 45,000 boys belonging to the 'corn clubs' in the Southern States, and the Southern Commercial congress, cooperating with the United States department of agriculture, will pay for the transportation of exhibits of the 100 most successful boy 'corn raisers' to the exposition grounds. The selection of the exhibits will be done by the county and State agents of the farm demonstration work of the department of agriculture. We hope to bring together exhibits from 100 acres whose total output was 12,000 bushels.

The boys' corn clubs throughout the South had wonderful success last year, and Dr. S. A. Knapp of the department of agriculture who is directly in charge of farm demonstration work, anticipates even better results next year.

Believing in the tremendous and wonderful resource of the South, the Southern Commercial congress is actively cooperating with the United States department of agriculture in disseminating correct information, and is watching very carefully the publication of bulletins which may be of value to the Southern farmer, so that they may be brought to his attention immediately upon publication. The department has recently issued two valuable bulletins, No. 115, 'Corn and Corn Raising,' and No. 416, 'Seed Corn,' which may be had upon application to our Washington office.

Dr. Owens is now making a trip through the Southern States, visiting each governor, regarding a State committee of 11 business men to represent the State at the great meeting of the Southern Commercial congress to be held in Atlanta, March 8, 9 and 10. Gov. Mann of Virginia, Gov. Glascock of West Virginia and Gov. Willson of Kentucky are each heading such committees.—The State.

THE "BACK HOME MOVEMENT."

Altapass, N. C., Jan. 11.—Last night's session of the Immigration Board of Associated Railroads in the South, marked the beginning of cooperative action on the most remarkable plan of immigration ever undertaken in this country.

The "Back Home Movement" is simply that of specially inviting each person who has moved from the South into states beyond the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to re-visit his old home country with a view of again living there. With the invitation are given facts concerning the changes and wonderful improvements which have taken place in the South in the last few years. The plan was inaugurated by the Industrial Department of the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railway last August, and a tender of the methods it has employed was formally made to and accepted by a majority of progressive railroads of the South in a conference which closed here last night. Throughout the day yesterday letters and telegrams were received from Southern Editors and commercial organizations offering support, and sending long lists of former Southerners in other States. Another conference will be held at Chattanooga February 15th, when the organization will be perfected, and a permanent press bureau established. Until then W. D. Roberts, Assistant Industrial Agent of the Clinchfield road will continue the press work for the board, and the gathering of names and addresses. The Governors of the Southern States will appoint one delegate from each Congressional District and two from the State at large to attend the Chattanooga convention, and confer with the railroad representatives, and all newspaper editors are invited to be present.

A number of Boards of Trade are gathering names, and the prospect is that in the next two months two million or more native Southerners will be asked to come "back home", which means that fully five million of people in other states are going to hear of the South as the best part of the United States in which to live and prosper.

Old Soldier Tortured.
For years I suffered unspeakable torture from indigestion, constipation and liver trouble," wrote A. K. Smith, a war veteran at Erie, Pa., "but Dr. King's New Life Pills fixed me all right. They're simply great." Try them for any stomach, liver or kidney trouble. Only 25c at Laurens Drug Co. and Palmetto Drug Co.

LEGEND OF THE PELICAN.

Born of the Peculiar Way the Bird Feeds Its Young.

Perhaps the strangest of all legends pertaining to birds is that of the pelican, said to have been the third bird to emerge from Noah's ark. It still thrives as ancient a type among birds as the badger is among quadrupeds. The legend of the pelican is, "The pelican turneth her beak against her breast and therewith pierceth it till the blood gusheth out, wherewith she nourisheth her young."

On examination the tradition explains itself. The distinctive feature of the pelican is its enormous bill, with the commensurate pouch depending from the lower mandible. So great is the capacity of this pouch and so considerable its strength that the natives of many countries to this day convert it into a very serviceable bag. The upper mandible terminates in a hook which curves over the lip of the lower and is of a reddish color. The tint of the feathers is, in the words of the poet, "pearly white, but ruby tintured."

It may be assumed, the above facts being premised, that the two or three eggs laid by the mother bird have been hatched. Then the parents begin to realize that the cares of paternity are heavy indeed. The amount of food consumed by the young pelicans is prodigious. As pelicans derive the whole of their sustenance from the water and feed almost exclusively on fish, the use of their formidable fishing implements is apparent. Whether they are wading or swimming, they dredge and scoop out their prey into the pouch, where it passes through some amount of maceration before being given to the young.

At this point enters that curious act to which the observers of so many ages have given an incorrect interpretation. In order to eject the contents of the pouch the bird presses its bill strongly and with a kind of spasmodic action against its breast, and the pinkish hue of its feathers, the red tipped bill and often enough the blood of its captured victims combine to produce the effect that gave birth to the legend.

This tradition seems to have found credence throughout Christendom, and the proverbial "pelican in her piety" took root both as a symbol and a phrase. By degrees the figure of the pelican feeding her young developed into a common emblem of charity, the use of which prevailed in southern Europe. The figure is sometimes found carved in wood or stone work of ancient English churches and is still used as a symbolic emblem of charity. The pelican is often used, too, as an ornament of the lectern in Episcopal churches.—New York Press.

Temple Garden Roses.
Perhaps the two most famous flowers in history are associated with the Temple gardens, for, according to tradition, it was in these gardens in 1430 that the two leaders plucked the red and white roses which became the badges of the rival houses of Lancaster and York. The gardens were for centuries famous for their roses. Among their floral curiosities one finds in the accounts for 1700 an expenditure on two perimic box trees and wonders what a perimic tree is until one remembers the custom of trimming box trees in a symmetrical or "perimetric" fashion.—London Chronicle.

Rear End Collision.
Noticing a splintered stock car on a siding near the station, the lone traveler became curious. "Big wreck around here?" he inquired. "Only a rear end collision," drawled the ancient station master. "Who was responsible?" "It's hard to say, as both parties concerned are not present." "Two parties, eh?" "Yes—man and mule. The mule got excited because the flies got on his hind legs, and Jim, the helper, in the box car tried to brush them off with a palm leaf fan. We haven't seen Big Jim since."—Chicago News.

Theology and Religion.
Theology is man's thought about the cause of the world, the purpose for which the world and himself exist and his final destiny as a spiritual being. The "creeds," for instance, are theology, the statements of human opinion in the above mentioned directions. Religion, on the other hand, is a sentiment or impulse or instinct of man's nature as man, which feels instead of reasons and which, instead of depending on logic or speculation, falls back wholly upon itself for its inspirations. We are religious by nature, while we have to be taught to be theological.—New York American.

DAVIS AND LEE.

The Great Leader's Feelings Toward The President of The Confederacy And The Secret of His Hold.

Undoubtedly Lee esteemed and admired Davis; but the expression of these feelings does not go beyond kindly cordiality. Soon after the war he writes to Early: "I have been much pained to see the attempts to cast odium upon Mr. Davis, but do not think they will be successful with the reflecting or informed part of the country." After Davis' release from captivity, Lee wrote him a letter which is very charming in its old-fashioned courtesy: "Your release has lifted a load from my heart which I have no words to tell * * * That the rest of your days may be triumphantly happy is the sincere and earnest wish of your most obedient and faithful friend and servant." Lee is, of course, even less outspoken in criticism than in praise of his superior. It is only very rarely that we catch a trace of dissatisfaction, as in reference to the anxiety of the authorities in regard to Richmond: "The General had been heard to say that Richmond was the milstone that was dragging down the army." In the delightful memories of General Gordon we get perhaps Lee's feeling about the President really was. It was at the time of the most explicit statement of what Davis' refusal to abandon the capital. Leek spoke to Gordon in the highest terms of the great qualities of Davis' character, praised "the strength of his convictions, his devotion, his remarkable faith in the possibility of still winning our independence, his unconquerable will power. "But," he added, "you know the President is very tenacious in opinion and purposes."

Jefferson Davis shrank from the sight of every form of suffering, even in imagination. When "The Babes in the Wood" was first read to him, a grown man, in time of illness, he would not endure the horror of it. His sympathy with the oppressed was almost abnormal, "so that," says Mrs. Davis, "it was a difficult matter to keep order with children and servants." All this shows that he was nervous and sensitive, which is a terrible handicap to a leader of men. He suffered always from nervous dyspepsia and neuralgia, and "came

home from his office fasting, a mere mass of throbbing nerves and perfectly exhausted." He was keenly susceptible to the atmosphere about him, especially to the moods of people, "abnormally sensitive to disapproval. Even a child's disapproval discomposed him." And Mrs. Davis admits that this sensitiveness and acute feeling if being misjudged made him reserved and unapproachable. It made him touchy as to his dignity also, and there are stories of his cherishing a grudge for some insignificant or imagined slight and punishing the author of it.

How did Lee manage to retain his hold on the President? Pollard, who admired Lee, but detested Davis, more, says plainly that the General employed "compliment and flattery." This is an abuse of words. One can no more associate flattery with Lee than with Washington. Lee respected and admired Davis in many ways. With that fine insight into character which was one of his strongest points the General appreciated the President's peculiarities, and adapted himself to them for the sake of the cause to which he had devoted his life. Davis required deference, respect, subordination. Lee felt that these were military duties, and he was ready to accord them. He defends Davis to others: "The President, from his position being able to survey all the scenes of action, can better decide than anyone else." He refers again and again to Davis' opinion: "Should you think proper to concentrate the troops near Richmond, I should be glad if you would advise me." On many occasions he expresses a desire for Davis' presence in the field: "I need not say how glad I should be if your convenience would permit you to visit the army that I might have the benefit of your advice and direction." Those know but little of Lee who see in such passages anything but the frank, simple modesty of the man's nature, or who read a double meaning into expressions like the following: While I should feel the greatest satisfaction in having an interview with you and consultation upon all subjects of interest, I cannot but feel great uneasiness for your safety should you undertake to reach me." The solicitude was perfectly genuine, as we see from many charming manifestations of it elsewhere.

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