

there is a passage between the place and the waters of the ocean, some two thousand yards away. I am told that there are a number of these natural ice-houses to be found in the county, the only difference between them and this one being the subterranean passage.

The place may very probably become as well known hereafter to geologists and *curiosity hunters* as it is now to fisher men who carry off ice without leave or license.

MORE ANON.

DEAR SIR,—The Ellesmere pigs are taking the place of other breeds here. Feed on grass equal to Berkshire. Do well in ordinary pasture, are very quiet, not inclined to roam about or to root. They are excellent feeders; take on fat and grow remarkably well. Are thin in the skin, and when dressed have a fine white appearance. The farmers of Stewiacke have taken the hint from Dr. Lawson's lecture delivered last autumn, and are determined to make grass hay instead of straw hay. Yours, &c.

D. MCG. JOHNSON.

Brookland Farm, July 16th, 1878.

THE AMERICAN BERKSHIRE RECORD.

To the Editor of the N. S. Journal of Agriculture:

BEL AIR, MARYLAND, 1878.

Allow me to call your attention to the advantages offered by the American Berkshire Record, two volumes of which have already been issued, and a third will soon be completed.

To show the right appreciation in which it is held by breeders of Berkshires, I have but to mention the fact, that though Vol. I. contained upwards of 300 pages, Vol. II. numbered over 500 pages, and contained more than fifteen hundred pedigrees. A careful inspection of either volume, but especially of Vol. II., will show the fact that it is used by the most reliable and extensive breeders in the country. The great care exercised in its compilation and the consequent accuracy of its information, make it an authority acknowledged by those who are best posted on such matters.

The question may very naturally present itself, "Is not a fine animal just as good, even if it be *not* entered in the Record?" Certainly it is. We do not claim that recording *makes* the animal *better*; but we do claim that thereby we preserve a permanent certificate of the good or bad qualities the animal may possess by inheritance. It is one of the most approved rules of breeding, that "like produces like, or the likeness of some ancestor." The object, therefore,

of the Record is to preserve and put before the public the ancestral history of each animal registered therein, thus enabling the reader to see, at a glance, what qualities any particular individual is likely to transmit. It is surprising how soon a person taking interest in such matters becomes familiar with the history and peculiar characteristics of hundreds of animals; and, upon seeing their names in the Record, is enabled to form a very correct idea, based upon the maxim just quoted, what strain of animals would suit him.

I will, probably, most effectually direct your attention to this matter, and may induce you to take an active interest in it, by adverting to the great importance attached to the registration of the pedigrees of *other* kinds of stock, and to the advantages derived therefrom; for instance, as in thorough-bred horses and short-horn cattle.

On inspecting any list of winners on the turf, for many years past, it will be found that the greatest number in each year, tracing to any one sire, are the get of Lexington. It would not be sound reasoning to set this down to chance. It can be accounted for, only by the supposition that Lexington inherited, and *had* the power of imparting to his descendants, those qualities that go to make up a winner. The records of the turf prove this to have been a fact; but, unless there had been a *careful preservation of pedigrees*, the superiority of his get could not be shown.

Can any one suppose, that the high prices paid for Short-horns, at the New York Mills sale, (and I may say every day,) would have been paid for animals, that, we will grant, for the sake of the argument, *had* the appearance of being as good as those there sold, and for which no pedigrees or, at best, poor ones could be given? Certainly not; for the reason, that in the latter case, knowing the ancestors to have been mongrel stock, their apparently splendid descendants could be considered merely *accidentally* fine animals, almost certain *not* to produce their like; but, most probably, the likeness of their indifferent ancestors. In the case of the animal whose breeding is unknown, there remains in spite of his fine appearance, *the uncertainty*, which precludes any reliable calculation as to his prospects as a breeder of first-class stock. It, however, being a fact, *easily established by their recorded pedigrees* that the Short-horns in question, were descended from ancestors, possessed, like themselves, of the same excellent qualities, persons in search of animals for breeding purposes purchased at astonishingly high figures, giving to their former owner a rich reward for his care and judgment in breeding, *and his judicious foresight in preserving*

thoroughly authenticated published pedigrees of his stock.

It cannot be doubted that those principles, which are recognized as correct in the breeding of horses and cattle, will apply with equal force to the breeding of Berkshire Swine. The same end is had in view, viz: the obtaining of those qualities, which, in each, are considered most desirable. This can be done only by careful selection, judicious breeding, *and the preservation of well authenticated pedigrees*. In no way can the latter be so well accomplished, as by the use of the AMERICAN BERKSHIRE RECORD, whose claims I now present to your careful consideration.

The cost of recording is but a *trifle* compared with the benefits to be derived from it in the near future. "Put money in thy purse," says Shakespeare, "put money in thy purse;" and I know of nothing that will, with greater certainty do this than the amount expended in the registration of really fine Berkshires; for the time is coming, yea, even now is, when the only stock that can be sold *at paying prices*, is such as have *good pedigrees properly recorded* in the AMERICAN BERKSHIRE RECORD.

On application to the Secretary, Mr. Phil M. Springer, Springfield, Ills., blank forms, and all necessary information will be promptly furnished.

ALEXANDER M. FULFORD,

Vice President American Berkshire Association for Maryland.

RELATIONS BETWEEN LABOR AND SCIENCE.

BY A. P. REID, M.D., ETC.,

Professor of Medicine in Halifax Medical College.

(Read before the Institute of Natural Science, April 8th, 1878.)

In the greater number of occupations, the term *labor* conveys a very different idea now from that which obtained previous to this 19th century, for the discovery of the steam-engine, with its adaptations, made a new point of departure which bids fair in time to render obsolete the original meaning of the word *labor*, at least so far as the mechanical trades and agriculture are concerned.

This term did mean the muscular effort which was directly applied in order to obtain the products. But, since the steam-engine (the best type of work-producing apparatus) can or does accomplish all that muscular power can, and since it has associated with it all the valuable mechanical inventions of this century, it is not remarkable that the modern meaning of the term *labor* becomes restricted to what might be better described as