

## PEN PICTURES OF GREECE.

Picnicing with the Immortals in the Flesh  
and Out of It.

## THE LIFE AMERICANS LEAD IN ATHENS.

The Experience of a Globe Trotter Who Started Out to See if the World Was Bound.

ATHENS, Jan. 30.—[Special Correspondence of THE BEE.]—I am invited by friends in The Bee family that it is a long time since we made our pilgrimage to Megara; and I accept the gentle rebuke. But there is no use trying to turn the brightest newspaper in the breezy west into a classical review, and having struck my gait, I find plenty of periodicals to welcome my antique ways. This, therefore, shall be a chit on things in general, so far as possible in things alive and above ground, and the ruling motives of it will be to show that life is not very worth living anywhere outside of Greece. In the old times, undoubtedly when Socrates went about the streets with his eternal quip and the very ferment of the human genius in every line was working here, there undoubtedly Athens was peopled by the most interesting souls upon the planet. Now that these are slumbering in the ceramics, their fame and works still draw to Athens the most interesting people that are left upon the planet. And so to live at Athens is to enjoy at once as nowhere else in the world the best society of the immortals, whether in the flesh or in the spirit.

At home, in any provincial place, one occasionally enjoys meeting a distinguished stranger; it is an incident breaking in upon the humdrum of daily life. At Athens it is almost an everyday experience. The determination or travel to the classical lands is a quite surprising fact. I mean, for quantity; for quality, of course, the people who go out of the beaten track to see Greece, do so because they have the culture to understand it, and the money to make it pay. I can say that we got no globe-trotters or people who are not simply trying to keep up with the processions. But the proportion of people of real culture among visitors to Athens is undoubted, and the number who are the globetrotters. And this is not all. Such is the order of things here that it is very like receiving them all in one's own house, and enjoying the very wine of life, and knowing whence it comes. There is a smaller than Omnia, as regards population, I mean; for all Attica would hardly hold Omaha territorially, and the foreign colony is quite limited while Greek society is practically non-existent for us Americans. The first place, however, where the Greeks and their own countrymen stay are all grouped here on the Square of the Constitution by the palace, so that one can call on everybody without a moment's waste of time. I do not know where to begin to name them, but much of the year these four hotels—the Grande Bretagne, Grand, Anglomere, and Strangers—afford a more choice society than does any city of half a million people in England or America. The second place of social gathering is the Agora, where the Greeks and their own countrymen have passed upon the road and called a truce. He was a plain fellow who had set out from his Hawkeye farm to see if the world was round. When he struck Athens he had set out to see the world, but he believed in the gods, and the circumference of an eagle's nest, for example, as pride of the North, Queen of the North or some other early yellow dent variety. This will be in the grizzled estate early in August, and we would prolong the sycophant pastime by surplus till the corn comes in, and then feed until the regular corn crop is in condition for profitable feeding.

Our reader will sit at once the advantage of this sycophant pasture. It will save a month of feed, and while not producing more feed than an acre of corn, yet it conceals a man's feed need. Besides, it gives a ration better adapted to grazing hogs than any corn ration, and we believe it can be made the most profitable piece of ground, acre for acre, on the farm.

## OF INTEREST TO THE FARMER.

An Excellent Plan for Securing Very Early Feed for Hogs.

## HINTS CONCERNING HORSE BREEDING.

How to Produce the Ideal Sheep—  
To Secure the Best Results  
With Stock-Tie in Butter Making.

We are receiving an unusual number of letters from different states asking how early feed for hogs can be grown so as to yield the best results. We are also receiving many inquiries concerning horse breeding, and the ruling motives of it will be to cover many letters of inquiry, that the best way we know of is what we have heretofore called a "sycophant" pasture, that is, a pasture made up of peas with any and every kind of spring grain the farmer may chance to have. It may be made of wheat, rye, oats and barley, or any one or two of them, but along with what are called the Canada field peas as a leading feature.

The mixture should be sown in any locality as early as it will do to sow oats. Peas are usually sown at the rate of from two to two and a half bushels per acre when sown alone. We would determine first the kinds of grain to mix with them, and then mix the usual amounts sown of each, and sow these over us many acres as we have kinds of grain, not, however, sowing less than three pecks of peas to the acre. The object of sowing grain with the peas is to allow them something for support, and to give a greater variety of feed. The object in sowing different kinds is to give greater variety and crops maturing at different periods. It will be seen, therefore, that sprouts and oats will give a better variety than either, and spring rye and barley will add to the list. This mixture will be ready to turn on about June 26 in the latitude of central Iowa, and earlier farther south, and will give feed for a month. We are not able to give exact figures as to the number of hogs a pasture of this kind will support, as we do not know the richness of the land, nor the nature of the season, nor the size of the hogs.

Next we would plant in April in the latitude of central Iowa, and earlier or later, as the case may be, of an earlieer corn crop, for example, as pride of the North, Queen of the North or some other early yellow dent variety. This will be in the grizzled estate early in August, and we would prolong the sycophant pastime by surplus till the corn comes in, and then feed until the regular corn crop is in condition for profitable feeding.

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## About Horse Breeding.

J. B. McAfee writes as follows to the Kansas Farmer: Twenty-five years ago I put eight Texas mares and ten grade stallions on my farm and entrusted them entirely to hired help. I sold some each year, and at the end of five years closed out the balance of the herd. This last year I gave some attention to the stock. I kept a strict account of all expenditures and receipts, and came out about even, but had given it careful attention. I have no doubt, but I could have realized fully 20 per cent per annum on the investment. Neateny ten years ago I bought one good stallion and eight good grade mares, but I soon realized that I had made a very grave mistake in purchasing a grade stallion. I then purchased a registered Clydesdale stallion and used him for a year or two, when experiments showed me that the best registered stallion was the cheapest, even if purchased at a long price. I then bought the imported horse that still stands at the head of my herd. 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