

spring blossoming it is, to use another's words, 'most gladsome of the early flowers.' A bed of crocuses is certainly a keen pleasure, glowing in the sun, almost as grateful to the human eye as to the honey-gathering bees that come unerringly, from somewhere, to hover over the golden cups.

How welcome after winter is the sound of that humming.

**Catalogues.** John A. Bruce & Co., Seed Merchants, Hamilton, Canada.

Robert Evans Seed Co. Ltd., Hamilton, Ont. Catalogue of Farm and Garden Seeds, 1902.

## QUESTION DRAWER.

### Pure Paris Green.

Mr. Bruner of Olinda, asks where to buy pure paris green. We would be pleased to have this information for our own use. Mr. Bruner says what he had last year was of no use at all. He wrote to the house in Toronto from which he purchased it, complaining and received the following reply:—

With reference to Paris green, we never sold so much as we have this year. In fact we supply the city with it for spraying purposes, and they say they never had such good green. In fact one-half pound Paris green to a barrel of water is not nearly sufficient, you ought to use three pounds to the barrel.

It is no wonder it was useless if so weak that three pounds was needed for a barrel of water!!

We would advise sending samples of

Paris green to Pro. Shutt, of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, asking for analysis, before purchasing in any considerable quantity.

**Barbed Wire Fence.**—A subscriber at Whitby, proposing to erect a barbed wire fence around his orchard, asks whether it would be more difficult to get in or out if the fence were built on a slat, say of six or eight inches at the top. If so, whether the fence should lean in or out?

We would not favor a barbed wire fence around any orchard or garden. We consider them an abomination, destroying the usefulness of more horses, and tearing mere clothes, than all the fruit that would ever be stolen. No doubt such a fence leaning outward would be impossible to climb and keep out all fruit stealers.

## OPEN LETTERS.

### Interprovincial Trade in Live Stock.

Trade in live stock between Eastern and Western Canada has been growing rapidly within the last few years. This increase of trade has been promoted, and in fact made possible, by the wise and generous treatment of the C. P. R. During the month of December and the first eight days in January, forty-six cars of grade and pure-bred cattle were shipped from Eastern Canada to British Columbia. These cars contained 2,223 head, and cost in the East something over \$30,000.00. Besides these, a considerable number have recently been sent to the North West Territories, and orders are now in hand for additional shipments to be made to the last mentioned territory. In order to

promote this trade, which has proved very profitable in many districts in Eastern Canada, farmers should use first-class Shorthorn bulls. By careful selection and wise treatment females sired by such bulls will prove excellent dairy cows.

It is a noticeable fact that seven-tenths of the stock used for dairy purposes in Great Britain are Shorthorns and Shorthorn grades. Probably the most suitable dairy cow for the average farmer is a Shorthorn-Ayrshire cross. Steers whose dams are strong grade Ayrshire cows if got by a Shorthorn bull prove excellent feeders and very desirable shipping cattle. As dairy animals there are none in the hands of the general farmer, that will excel the Shorthorn-Ayrshire cross.

F. W. Hobson.