

## Correspondence

## \* and Contributed.

## A WOULD-BE REFORMER.

For the O. A. C. Review.

A meddlesome monkey once set out  
 On a tour, to reform the world;  
 Now here, now there, he strutted about,  
 And his long, handsome tail he twirled.  
 A cat, lapping milk, he soon espied,  
 "Such food isn't good for you," he cried;  
 Upsetting the saucer with his paw,  
 The cat scratched out an eye with her claw.  
 "You were not meant to gnaw at a bone;"  
 With these words, he a dog did assail,  
 Ran off with the bone, but ran not alone,  
 The dog followed, and bit off his tail!  
 He next, not far off, an ox espied,  
 Pasturing upon a green hill-side,  
 "Grass," he exclaimed, "will not make you fat,  
 Here is a bone, better feed on that."  
 The ox quickly tossed him into a tree,  
 Overhanging the succulent grass;  
 Up there, with one eye and no tail, sat he,  
 And soliloquized sadly, "Alas!  
 This is pretty sure to be the fate  
 Of those, who would mend a world ingrate,  
 Its benefactors it abuses,  
 And pays them off with wounds and bruises!"

WM. F. CLARKE.

Guelph, Ont.

## The Vacant Dairy Chair.

Once more the Dairy Chair is vacant. That we shall lose the services of Prof. Robertson at the end of January, 1890, is a source of regret to all concerned, and could we do anything to retain him how gladly would we do so, but fate wills it otherwise.

Although dairying had been long recognized as an important factor in the agriculture of the Province, yet means were not provided for giving special instructions in this line of work to the students of the College until April, 1885, when a Professor of Dairying was appointed to lecture to students, take charge of the creamery, and when his duties permitted to address meetings of farmers throughout the Province. The Professor's name was S. M. Barre, and judging from the rather lengthy report given in the Annual Report of the College for 1885, he appears to have accomplished a considerable amount of work. During the winter of 1885 he resigned his position to undertake work of a similar nature in Manitoba. Professor Robertson was next appointed, whose duties commenced 1st of April, 1886. Besides his duties in connection with the College for that year he was placed in charge of the Ontario Exhibit of Butter and Cheese at the Colonial

and Indian Exhibition, to which, and to the excellent management and good work done by Prof. Robertson while there, the good prices which Ontario realises at the present time for her dairy products, is largely due.

Early in the year 1887, the Dairy Chair again became vacant, Prof. Robertson having resigned to engage in the produce business in Montreal. He returned again, however, in about a year and has since been closely connected with the College and the dairy interests generally of the Province,

Never before in this country (possibly in no other) has dairying taken such rapid strides as it has done since Prof. Robertson took charge of the dairying interests. The total output has been enormously increased while the quality has kept pace with the quantity, and we think it is but fair to say that a large part of this credit is due to him who has been at the head of affairs. But not only have the quality and quantity of dairy products been improved, but as a necessary sequence or rather precursor, the methods of feeding and managing dairy stock have been greatly improved, which is no doubt owing to the many practical hints given by him at the almost innumerable meetings which he has addressed in all parts of the Province. Corn fodder and the silo have received that attention which they ought to receive, and if on any one point more than another the results of his labors is more marked, it is here. Dry pastures and long winters do not trouble those who have followed the advice given them, while they are enabled to double the amount of dairy stock ordinarily kept on a farm.

While his loss will be seriously felt by the whole Province, yet it will not be to such an extent as his loss to the College, because he will still (to a certain degree) look after the dairy branch of agriculture, although his attention will be distributed over a much larger area, hence no one Province will be so well looked after.

As a Professor he is a general favorite, and the boys will be heartily sorry to lose him. It is not only what a Professor says, but the way in which he imparts his information that makes a good impression and carries esteem. His lectures, as a whole, have been of the highest order, and his system of skeleton lectures is such that others might do well to copy and save the interminable amount of writing out lectures, whereby a great deal of time and labor is uselessly spent. The best wishes of the whole College attend him in his new field of labor, and he will not soon be forgotten by those who have been associated with him in any way during his connection with the O. A. C. His example has always been such that young men would do well to follow, and his influence for good has been in no small degree. "In him the elements are so mixed that nature might stand up and say to all the world, 'He is a man.'"

Who his successor will be, has not yet been determined, but doubtless several are already aspiring. While we do not wish to discourage anyone from soaring, yet we would have them consider that,

"As in a theatre, the eyes of men,  
 After a well-graced actor leaves the stage  
 Are idly bent on him that enters next,  
 Thinking his prattle to be tedious;  
 Even so, or with much more contempt, men's eyes"

May be dreamily fixed upon the coming Professor, and their ears may wax dull with heaviness from hearing his roaring all the day long.