

*Ontario Veterinary College.*—This college was established in 1860, when Mr Andrew Smith, on the recommendation of the well known Professor Dick of Edinburgh, was appointed Principal. Three regular students attended the first course of lectures, and the numbers increased rapidly until at present the lecture-hall, which is calculated to seat 400 people, is inconveniently crowded. The lecturers are: A. Smith, on anatomy and the diseases of domesticated animals; Dr. Thorburn, on *materia medica*; Dr. Barrett, physiology; Prof. Buckland, on the breeding and management of farm work, while chemistry, &c, are taught in University college.

*Sir John Lawes.*—The Farmer's Advocate, speaking of the magnificent gift of £100,000, made to trustees for the purpose of carrying out the Rothamsted experiments after his death, says, with great truth:

As most of our readers are aware, Sir J. B. Lawes is the largest private experimenter on agricultural matters in the world, and it is very doubtful if all the experiments ever conducted on the American continent have benefited agricultural science as much as his have done, and for the man who has devoted most of his life and a large amount of money to this object, to bequeath as a final tribute so princely a legacy is philanthropic indeed, and deserves the gratitude of every intelligent agriculturist.

*Do Cows Need Exercise?*—The Hon Hiram Smith, Dairy Commissioner for Wisconsin, recently made the statement that cows do not need exercise. It has long been conceded that ruminants require but little exercise, and Mr. Smith claims that in the case of cows sufficient is furnished in the elaboration of milk. The best stockmen in Ontario assert that cattle may be tied up in the fall and not turned out until spring, and the very best results obtained, and we have yet to hear of evil results from such a course. The writer has for some years past pursued this course with one or two cows with very satisfactory results, and would not hesitate to repeat the experiment on fifty, if necessary. This removes the most serious objection to the soiling system, and there is little doubt that, before another decade, soiling will be adopted by many who now sneer at the idea of taking food to the cattle instead of taking the cattle to the food.

I think it will be a long time before soiling will be a general practice except in the immediate neighbourhood of large towns, but experience long ago taught me that cows, if kept in well ventilated stables, can do without exercise in winter. Roomy yards and commodious racks are necessary for soiling: a hot stable in July and August is not a proper place for any stock.

*What Sheep?*—M. Casgrain, one of the most successful sheep-breeders in the province, must have more patience than I have, and displays a wonderful amount of good temper in a correspondence, published in the July number of the *Journal of Agriculture*, with M. J. O. Coulombe, on the question: which breed of sheep should we keep?

M. Casgrain is a *Down* man; M. Coulombe prefers the *Cotswold*, and gives nine reasons for his preference, the third of which is worthy of notice. Because the meat of this breed is at least equal if not superior in weight and *quality* to that of any other breed whatsoever!!! And then he talks about *amateurs* and *practical men*, as if M. Casgrain were not known as a thorough flock-master!

The meat of the *Cotswold* equal if not superior, &c. Is it? I can tell M. Coulombe that no respectable butcher at the West end of London would dream of buying a *Cotswold* to supply his customers; and I presume they know what mutation is.

M. Casgrain relates that, at his visit to the quarantine last summer, he found there 900 *Shropshire downs*, 60 *South-downs*, 20 *Oxfords-downs*, and 20 *Cotswold*. But his whole letter is worth reading, and I will translate it for the October number.

*Antrachnosis of the French bean*—This is the name, according to M. J. C. Chapuis, of a disease that is playing the very mischief with my "butter-beans." The Latin name is almost more terrible than the other: *Gleosporium lindemuthianum*! I wish MM. Saccarda and Magnus, who gave it that name, had added the derivation. Anyhow, the disease is fatal to the crop. It makes its appearance first as a small red spot, and increases rapidly until pod and beans rot completely.

*Cooked vs. uncooked food*—Beyond steeping crushed linseed in water and boiling potatoes for pigs, I have always found that cooking food for farm stock was an unnecessary trouble and a useless expense. Several experiments have been made of late years to settle the question, a few of which I note for my readers' information:

Several were made at Poppelsdorff, in Germany, with hay, which went to prove that the albuminoids of steamed fodder with cattle, digested at the rate of 30%, while with hay in its natural condition, the digestion amounted to 46%.

Mr. Ladd, of the Experiment Station of the State of New-York, showed that the digestion of the albuminoids was diminished by cooking. Corn-meal, cooked and uncooked, was submitted to the action of pepsin, and it was found that with the raw food the ratio of digestion was 72.58%, in the cooked, 63.17%.

M. Dulong, of Pomerania, found that uncooked barley-meal produced in his pigs an increase of weight three times greater in a given time than when cooked. (This seems questionable. A. R. J. F.)

Prof. Henry, Wisconsin, mentions, in his report for 1886-7, that uncooked barley-meal gave 15% more pork than when the same amount of meal was cooked, and the same with corn- and wheat-meal and pease.

As to potatoes, the evidence is in favour of cooking them for pigs in the ratio of 86.5 to 57.5 uncooked.

In fact, the almost invariable practice of English farmers is as correct now as it was 50 years ago.

*Sugar.*—In 1840, the annual consumption of sugar in England was 16 lbs. per head; in 1888, it had increased to 72 lbs. per head! The average price was formerly sixpence a pound; now, it is twopence!

*Scour in calves.*—A correspondent, whose calves have been suffering from this complaint, asks for a remedy, and would be glad to know from what cause or causes the complaint originates.

There are several causes whence the scour springs. First, injudicious feeding, as giving pail-fed calves too much milk at a time; giving milk at too low a temperature; feeding at irregular periods, letting the calves drink too greedily, &c.

Calves should be fed at least three times a day for the first month, Jersey calves—in fact, the calves from all rich milk-giving cows—should have a little water mixed with their milk for the first week; a pint and a-half is enough for a meal during the first few days, increasing the quantity gradually according to the size and well-doing of the calf; the weaker the calf the smaller should be its meals, but they should be all the more frequently administered. Good dry beds and plenty of ventilation are necessary to the health of every calf.

New milk for the first fortnight; then a small quantity