

## The Dairy.

### Butter Making in Devonshire.

CUTBERT W. JOHNSON sends to the *Mark Lane Express* the following account of dairy management given by a North Devon farmer's wife:—

"Cows are milked twice a day, morning and evening, and the milk strained into the milk-pans, which are generally made of tin, and should not be too deep, or the milk will not cool quickly. Early the next morning, (as soon as the fire has attained a sufficient heat), the milk is placed on the stove or steam apparatus, to be scalded, beginning with the previous morning's milk until all is scalded. There should be from 12 to 15 pints in a pan, and, with a proper heat, it will take from twenty minutes to half an hour to scald. When it is sufficiently scalded you will see the cream look rough, and a ring or mark will appear on the surface just the size of the bottom of the pan. After scalding the milk is placed in the dairy to cool, and on the following morning the cream is taken up from each pan with a skimmer, and placed in a large basin, where it remains until it is removed into the tub, to be made into butter. In the summer butter must be made every day; in the winter three times a week will be sufficient.

"When you make butter you must pour off any clear or thin cream there may be in the bottom of the basin, and then put the thin cream into your butter tub; stir it with your hand, or with a stick, round the tub, all one way, until it becomes a very thick substance; continue turning it until you see milk coming from it, then pour off the buttermilk and wash well the butter with cold spring water until there is no milk left in it, and the water is quite clear; then add a little fine salt to make it a proper saltiness, wash it again, and continue working it with the hand or stick, as may be, until you cannot get a drop of water from it; then weigh the butter and make it up into pounds. If this plan is strictly followed your butter cannot fail to be excellent. In very hot weather the morning's meal of milk must be scalded in the afternoon, and the evening's meal early the following morning, to keep it sweet. The stick used in our dairy, and which is preferable in every respect to the hand, is formed like a small spud, with the handle about 12 inches long. When the red earthenware pans are used for the milk, it takes nearly an hour to scald each pan. We consider tin pans preferable for two reasons—first, economy of time in the dairy work; second, the milk in hot weather is less likely to turn sour when quickly scalded."

## Veterinary Department.

### Operation of Tracheotomy in a Horse.

THE history of the following case is sent us by Mr. Robert Robinson, Veterinary Surgeon, Tullamore, formerly a student of the Toronto Veterinary School. Mr. Robinson passed a highly successful examination in March last, for the certificate of the Board of Agriculture, and is now carrying on the practice of his profession in the township of Chinguacousy.

On the morning of the 18th Oct. I was sent for by Robert Scott, Esq., lot 31, fourth concession, to attend a valuable horse that had received a serious injury during the previous night, through being cast in his stall by his hind foot shoe becoming entangled in the neck rope. The horse seemed in a very dangerous condition, the head was very much bruised and swollen, and the muscles of the neck so badly injured that he was unable to raise his head. I administered some medicines and ordered hot fomentations to the head and neck, and applied a blanket, wrung out of hot water, to the neck. On my return in the evening I found the swelling had enormously increased, the lips and mouth were open, and the tongue protruding. The respirations were performed with difficulty, as the mucous membrane of the nostrils had become swollen. I remained with him all night, and about daybreak he appeared much worse, pawing violently with his fore feet; a fetid bloody discharge was issuing from the mouth, he was heaving violently at the flank and rapidly becoming exhausted; in fact death appeared at hand unless some relief could be obtained. I proposed the operation of tracheotomy,

as the only means of saving him from suffocation, and immediately cut into the windpipe. Not having a tube at the time, I passed the suture needle with a stout thread through the skin and muscles, and secured them around the neck, in order to keep the wound open until I could procure a tracheotomy tube. Having got one I inserted it into the windpipe, and allowed it to remain for several days. After a few days the swelling began to abate, and as soon as he was able to swallow, port wine and quinine were administered, and such other medicines as the case appeared to demand. The wounds about the head and neck became gangrenous, with a putrid offensive discharge, which was got rid of by the usual means. I had the head supported occasionally by a sling and the wounds have now healed, and the horse is able to resume his work.

## The Spiry.

### Size and Proportions of Bee-Hives.

"John Jewett" of Lucknow, sends us a long communication in reply to "Bee-Fancier," the main points in which we condense as follows:

"Allow me to reply to some remarks advanced by 'Bee Fancier' in THE CANADA FARMER of Nov. 1st, 1866, about the size and shape of my hives. His remarks apply only to the width of my smallest hive. My largest size is my standard hive. The other two are only first and second steps towards a proper sized hive, according to my opinion, which is supported by apiarians whose experience, no doubt, is equal to that of 'Bee Fancier.' In quoting my remarks, he says: 'A natural cluster of bees is half as deep again as it is broad; therefore as that is the position they like to be in, a hive should be made nearly as deep again as it is broad, which is about the shape of the Thomas hive,'—while my hive he says, 'is considerably more than as deep again as it is broad.' I cannot see how he makes that appear, when the Thomas hive, according to their printed description, has the front end piece 12 by 16 1-4 in., and the back end piece 12 by 11 3-4 in., and my hive is 14 7-8 wide by 22 1-2 deep. He then tells us 'a hive containing 2,000 inches is sufficiently large for any climate;' and he further states 'that Mr. Quinby says—'Every inch over 2,000 is worse than useless.' As far as I am acquainted with their views, all leading apiarians, except bee-hive vendors, recommend large hives. Taylor says '40,000 bees subject to one queen are more profitable to the proprietor than if divided into two or more swarms.' (See Taylor's Bee Keepers' Manual, p. 111.) Dr. Smith says, in speaking of the destruction made by millers and wasps, 'that no security is equal to numbers.' Captain Conswar says: 'A hive containing 50,000 bees is a match for any enemy that comes before them.' I might also remark that the quantity of honey required in winter is not dependent on the population of the colony. The number of months makes little sensible difference, even when two or three stocks are united. This fact was first observed by Gelien, and has been corroborated by the experiments of others."

## The Household.

### Homedale Farm.

FINIS.

With the closing number for the year, we suspend at least for the present, our sketches of country life, under the above heading. They were begun with the design of creating an interest in rural pursuits, especially on the part of young people. It was pertinent to this design, to give, along with detailed accounts of divers farm and garden operations, home pictures that would show how pleasant and attractive life in the country might be made. For various reasons, we have chosen to write a series of fragmentary sketches, rather than a connected story. It would no doubt have been interesting to have woven into our narrative a variety of incidents, adventures, and conversations not particularly connected with agriculture or horticulture. This, however, is rather the province of a purely literary journal than of a periodical such as the CANADA FARMER. The same

remark will apply to a continuation of Homedale Farm. The pen of a skilled novelist might trace the further history of the Perley family, narrate the amours, marriages, births, deaths, &c., and construct many an ingenious and exciting episode out of the rough material we have supplied, but it would be going somewhat out of our latitude to do this. We have striven to make our sketches bear as closely as possible upon the practical details of every-day life and duty on an improved Canadian farm. Among other things, we have aimed to show that there may be intelligence, refinement, and enjoyment in a quiet country home, and that far from the bustle and many gilded attractions of the city, there may be solid comfort, content, and happiness.

We are aware of an objection that may be raised against the pictures we have drawn. It may be urged that it is not the experience of ordinary farmers' families that has been related, and that while it is no doubt a very pleasant thing to live in the country and to farm with plenty of money, it is a different affair when you have to struggle with difficulty, and to farm under disadvantages. This is readily granted, and in reply we have to say that it was not the experience of an ordinary farmer's family we set out to record, but rather to show the possibilities of life on a farm with ample means at command. We have sought indirectly to undermine that mischievous sentiment which sends so many farmers' sons from the country to the city, the substance of which in its varied versions is, that it is low-lived and ungenteled to plod and delve on a farm—that to be respectable one must become a professional or at least a commercial man, and that the path to honour and distinction, to wealth and comfort, is via the city. We utterly disbelieve that sentiment in all its forms. There is nothing degrading about honest labour of any kind, least of all about agricultural labour. If there be any toil that is dignified, elevating, and noble, it is that which is bestowed on the culture of farm and garden products, the rearing of animals, and the operations of the dairy. There is no good reason why wealth should not set itself to the task of embellishing and elevating country life. The nobility and gentry of older lands than this, and the highest civilization and most luxuriant affluence compatible with rural scenes, are wont to establish their villas, castles, and palaces, not amid city smoke, but in the pure country air, where they can have parks, gardens, lawns, ponds, and grain fields, for their surroundings. To make and enjoy a comfortable rural home is no mean ambition; and the false notions of respectability and gentility which are over-crowding professional offices, banks, and counting-houses in the city, cannot be too soon exchanged for juster views of things as they are.

It is a mistake to suppose that wealth is necessary to make country life desirable and pleasant. There is ample scope for a good use of wealth on a farm; but in the absence of it, there may be independence, health, freedom from anxiety and care, a well-filled barn, and a happy home. There are discontented souls in every condition, but we believe that the great majority of farmers and their families appreciate their advantages and are contented with their lot. Quite another set of pictures, just as truthful and scarcely less pleasing than those we have drawn, might set forth the patient struggles of an intelligent family, from roughing it in the bush, to enjoying it in the improved clearance, and these equally with the "Homedale Farm" articles, would furnish proof that life in the country is not to be despised, and that he is no fool who adopts and acts upon the motto, "A farmer's life is the life for me." The agricultural resources of this country are but very partially developed as yet; farming has been too much a process of exhaustion rather than of improvement; rural architecture is terribly behind-hand, and country life is regarded with undeserved contempt, but as wealth and intelligence are turned into rural channels, wiser systems of culture adopted, neatness and taste studied, and smiling, inviting homes established along our sidelines, concessions, and railways, we shall see a gratifying change in the aspect of things, and there will be a more general belief of that sentiment in which there is after all more truth than poetry:

"GOD MADE THE COUNTRY, BUT MAN MADE THE TOWN."