He says, (this was in 1867) "some four years ago he went up into Vermont and bought four full-blood Durham cows, but this *Ayrshire*, that a heifer, would make more butter than all of them!" Has tried "several different breeds, but prefers Ayrshire before any." Four years ago he slaughtered an Ayrshire ox, which weighed, dressed, nineteen hundred and ten pounds."

"Colonel Fitch, of New London Co., U. S., possesses a cow that is remarkable in many respects. She is one-fourth Ayrshire and three-fourths Jersey. In January, 1870, she was 24 years old, had had 15 heifer-calves in succession, and was in calf again. When 15 years of age, she gave 17 lbs. 4 ounces of butter a week, besides the new milk and cream used in a family keeping three servants. Every one of her heifer-calves that has come to maturity has proved a first class butter cow. He has another cow, a pure Ayrshire, that gives 5,000 quarts of milk each year, and a Jersey cow that gives milk yielding one pound of butter to 5¼ quarts of milk; also another Ayrshire cow that has given 28 quarts of milk per day for several weeks. He has a herd of 200 head of Ayrshire and Jerseys, and crosses between the two breeds, that are said to have no equals anywhere for quantity and quality of milk and butter."

"In the *Agricultural Gazette* for Feb. 8, 1868, a correspondent gives his experience of dairy farming. He says: "I consider 720 gallons (2,880 quarts) a fair return in a year for a cow, and this quantity of milk, if the food do not contain more than 80 per cent of moisture, will produce from 280 to 290 lbs. of butter." This same writer says that 25¼ lbs of milk, or about 10 quarts, will make one pound of butter. He also states that 5 gallons, or 20 quarts, was the highest daily yield of one cow. He was evidently a practical man, for he actually kept 48 cows. He states that 47 cows actually gave throughout the year an average of 84 gallons daily, or 84 by 365—30,660 gallons, or 122,640 quarts in one year, from 47 cows, or 2,610 quarts from one cow; and if 10 quarts produced 1 lb. of butter, that would be 261 lbs. of butter yearly from each cow, as the average from 47 in one year. Again, in the Farmer's Almanac for 1868, I find it stated that a Holderness cow gave 29 quarts daily, yielding 1 lb. of butter from each 12 quarts; an Ayrshire cow gave 20 quarts daily, yielding 1 lb. of butter from 9½ quarts; an Alderney cow gave 19 quarts, yielding 1 lb. of butter from 12 quarts; and a Devon cow gave 17 quarts, yielding 1 lb. of butter from 9¾ quarts. Of course these last are exceptional cases, but your own correspondent gave his actual experience of one year of a dairy of 47 cows. Now I reckoned on 3,000 quarts, but I allowed 12 quarts to produce one lb. of butter, which gave 250 lbs in a year, instead of 261. I do not think that I have greatly overestimated the produce of a cow. Moreover, in Dorsetshire, it is by no means uncommon for a farmer to let out his dairy to a dairy-man at £15, and even £18, per cow per annum, and that dairy-man makes a profit out of it."

But what are our own farmers doing? Will some of them reply through the columns of the "Journal?" My experience has not been such that it may be contrasted with that of English and American farmers, but in order to stimulate others, and for the benefit of the farming interest, I will narrate it. In doing so, I trust that due allowance will be made for the common cows of the country, of which mine are, and the dry hills of Truro.

In 1869 I kept a strict account with two cows. One calved on the 18th of March, and gave 20 quarts per day at the flow of her milk; the other on the 8th of June, and gave 24 quarts. Kept one calf one week, and the other three. We reserved four quarts of new milk every day for family use. The rest was set aside for butter, the cream only being churned. Began to churn 31st March, and finished February 4, 1870, during which time 339¾ lbs. of butter were dressed. Had all the milk been churned, allowing 11 quarts to yield one pound of butter, 114½ lbs. would have been added to the result, making a total of 454¼ lbs. of butter from two cows between calving and going dry before calving again.

Yours respectfully,

J. L.

Miscellaneous.

HINTS FOR MARCH AND APRIL.

FLOWER GARDEN AND PLEASURE GROUND.

It is often said by those who have plants to set out, that they give so much more satisfaction than sowing seed. We hardly think so; and, then, see the thousands who can have some flowers from seeds, who could have no plants in other ways. In going among amateur horticulturists, we scarcely find a place where we are not shown some choice flowers which we are told, with a pardonable air of triumph, was bought of Henderson, or Dreer, or Thornburn, or Bliss, or Vick, or some other of the well-known names familiar to the readers of our advertising columns. During this month of March, and the next April, millions of little packages will have traveled through the mail, and find their resting place on the bosom of mother earth; and here we find we are giving a hint unconsciously, but one which is a capital one to the seed sower, namely, to sow the flower seeds on the surface, and *not beneath* it. Much of the ill luck with them comes from *rotting in the ground. A rain comes* after sowing, and if the seed has partly swelled, it easily rots by being a few hours under water. To avoid this, sow on the surface, and close the earth over with a trowel. It is even a benefit to make a little mound of a half-inch or so, before sowing. Then it will make no difference if the rain continue for a week, the seeds will always be *above the level*, and never get saturated. Another little thing, often neglected by seed sowers, is to mark the place where the seeds are sown. A little stick set in will always be found useful, as all who have not done so will readily understand. In olden times this was always attended to, and a little *slit made in it, in which the name on the* paper was neatly folded and set. Of course a neat label looks prettier, but somehow those people of the olden time, who followed these primitive ways of naming their plants, knew more about them than many of the moderns. Only the hardy Annuals must be sown in March; those which are tender must be reserved until the soil and weather is settled warm. We need not give a list *of these, as every seedsman has now* these particulars on every package he sends out.

If flowers have been growing in the the ground for many years, new soil does wonders. Rich manure makes plants grow, but they do not always flower well with vigorous growth. If new soil cannot be had, a wheelbarrow of manure to about every fifty square feet will be enough. If the garden earth looks grey or yellow, *rotten leaves—quite rotten* leaves—will improve it. If heavy, add sand. If very sandy, add salt—about half a pint to fifty square feet. If very black or rich from previous year's manurings, use a little lime, about a pint slacked to fifty square feet.

Prune shrubs, roses and vines. Those which flower from young wood, cut in severely to make new growth vigorous. Tea, China, Bourbon and Noisette roses are of this class. What are called annual flowering Roses, as Prairie Queen and so on, require lots of last year's wood to make a good show of flowers Hence, with these, thin out weak wood, and leave all the stronger.

To make handsome, shapely specimens of shrubs, cut them now into the forms you want, and keep them so by pulling out all shoots that grow stronger than others during the summer season.

Do not transplant extensively till the ground is warm and the buds are about to push. Many things die by exposure to winds for a few weeks before they have warmth to push roots and leaves into growth.

The rule for pruning at transplanting