Ensilage.—According to many writers on this subject, a cubic-foot of ensilage weighs 50 pounds; Mr. Barnard, if I remember rightly, puts it at 40 pounds; and Mr. Voelcker, whose experiments at Woburn my readers have seen reported, calls it, from actual measurement and weighing, 24 pounds! A vast discrepancy between the three, which can partly be accounted for by Mr. Voelcker's stuff being meadow-grass, and that of Mr. Barnard and the others being corn.

The general opinion seems to be decidedly in favour of nearly ripe corn for the silo. Mr. Brown, of New-Hampshire, says: "Corn must arrive at a certain degree of maturity before cutting, if the best silage is to be produced," and a dozen others hold the same view, particularly Mr. Hazen, his neighbour, who ensiled 889 tons, the produce of 50 acres, last season! A dairyman, of course, is Mr. Hazen, and on a large scale, I should think.

We must not forget that, though corn sown thickly and cut green takes but little out of the ground, it is a very different matter when the seed is allowed to form and nearly ripen.

Some farrow-cows were fattened, on an ensilage diet alone, by an extensive farmer near the White-Mountains, and the beef was pronounced first class by a cook who had been employed at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New-York, and other first-class houses. He said he had never cut any finer beef in any place where he had been employed. It may be so, but if the New-York people do not know better than to call the meat of farrow cows fine beef, I cannot estimate the opinion of this cook very highly. In England all the bulls go to the convict-prisons, and the farrow-cows to the troops and the manufacturing towns; though a heifer after her first calf is good enough for most people; yet so great is the power of prejudice, that if a butcher were known to buy one for slaughtering, he would infallibly lose all his best customers. He must kill nothing but steers and maiden-heifers, if he wants to keep in with the better class of people.

One writer in the Country Gentleman states that his cattle are fed on one-third silage, one-third salt-hay, and one-third steamed *cummins* or malt-sprouts. A curious ration enough, but fed on it, his working-bullocks—yoked every day—will be fat enough for the butcher by spring. I do not take it the butcher will find much internal fat when he comes to open them. The mixture has a nutritive ratio of 1:7·2, and contains only 1 °/₀ of fat. The addition of a couple of pounds of crushed linseed a head a day, would make a considerable difference in the feeding properties of the ration. Salt-hay is, I presume, hay cut off the marshes on the borders of the sea, and if it resembles what I have seen in England on the Essex coast, it is at best but poor stuff; in fact, the writer says that his cattle would hardly eat it until he bethought him of mixing silage with it.

Canadian Cattle.—The importation of store-stock into the North of Scotland, from Canada, has not been a paying venture in either of the two seasons in which it has been tried. But it so nearly paid its way last year, that the speculation is to be tried again. As the cost of carriage of lean and of fat beasts is about the same, surely it would pay the Canadian farmer better to send over his beasts in a completed form than in a lean state! However, there may be something to be said on the other side of the question.

Lawes again.—The debt farmers owe to Sir John Lawes is enormous in amount, and is spread over a vast extent of the civilised world. People in every country are opening their eyes to the fallacies that he, with his indefatigable adjutant, Dr. Gilbert, has exposed, and are absorbing with earnest attention the truths that he has, for the last half-century, been teaching. For example, I was delighted to see the following passage, in answer to a correspondent, in the Country Gentleman. "The analysis of any plant would not be likely to show what manure should be applied to produce a crop of that plant, as the ingredients which crops are found to contain largely do not always, or even often, show that those ingredients in manures are the best suited to their growth. Thus, although turnips are found to contain a large amount of potash, and less than some other crops of phosphoric acid, repeated experiments have shown that the crop is more benefited by superphosphate than other crops of different composition." Of course, this is a thorough following in the steps of the great teacher of Rothamsted, and it is very much to be desired that the gentleman who wrote the above passage would find it convenient to read some of the perverse letters sent to the agricultural papers of the United States before publication, and add such annotation to them as may show the readers of these publications the absurdity of too many of their positions.

Russian apples.—It is really quite refreshing to turn to Dr. Hoskins' articles in the Rural Vermonter. *He*, at least, never talks nonsense, and though I do not always agree with his dicta, still his good, sound reasoning invariably gives one a certain degree of respect for his most, at first sight, surprising statements. Lately, Dr. Hoskins has been growing the famous Russian apples, and I think our people ought to know that he does not by any means feel satisfied that they are, what they are asserted to be, *iron-clad* in the climate of Vermont, the temperature of that State being, I believe, pretty much the same as the temperature of the province of Quebec. "It seems," says he, "that all the Russian apples are generally supposed to be able to resist any climate in the United States, if not in Canada. This, however, is far from being the fact. *Red Astrachan* has long since proved itself to be no hardier than the *Tolman Sweet*, less hardy than *Ben Davis*, and not nearly so hardy as the *Fameuse*. On Lake Memphremagog, the Fameuse can be grown quite successfully, and Ben Davis will grow, and bear a good many apples, but our test winters wipe it out. My greatest disappointment, however, in regard to the Russian apples, is that most of the long keepers seem lacking in hardiness. *Borsdoff* (No. 341) is not any nearer an iron-clad than Fameuse; while *Bogdanoff*, a highly praised winter apple of the Budd-Gibb importation is quite as tender as Ben Davis. Babuschino (469) is another that shows tenderness, much to my regret, as it is highly praised for quality and keeping by Mr. Gibb. But my greatest disappointment is in *Longfield*. I have this from three sources, all seemingly alike in trees (though none have fruited), and they are all killed back in the nursery and orchard, fully as much as Fameuse, and became blackhearted. It is exceedingly disappointing, in our dearth of iron-clad long-keepers, to find that of the few Russians reported to be keepers so many should fail in this point."

Dr. Hoskins' reputation as an orchardist, pomologist, or whatever the last new term may be—we used to call them fruit-growers in my day—is so high in the estimation of our people, that I am sure it will be unnecessary for me to do more than call attention to these remarks of his.

Draught of ploughs.—Somewhere about the year 1848, I remember very well the astonishment that pervaded the minds of the more advanced portion of the farmers of England on hearing that, at the experiment on the draught of ploughs tried at Lord Ducie's Example Farm, near Dursley, Gloucestershire, the dynamometer, then used for the first time for purposes of the test in public, proved that the draught of the