



Vol. I. No. 5.

Toronto, Wednesday, February 1st, 1882.

\$1 per annum, in advance.

**RURAL NOTES.**

MR. THOMAS McCRAE, of Guelph, has sold two imported Galloway heifers to an Ohio man for \$600, and a grade yearling for \$65.

A WRITER in the *Chatham Courier* condenses a volume of practical wisdom into eight words, by saying, what "nobody can deny," that "inferior cows will always keep a farmer poor."

"THE adjusting process is at work," remarks the *London Agricultural Gazette*. "America cannot always enjoy a steady run of remarkable harvests, nor England suffer from an unbroken series of miserable years."

CHARLES TIZARD, of Collingwood, writes thus to the *Hamilton Spectator*:—"I have ten chickens hatched on Saturday last, 28th ult. Should any of your subscribers require early chickens with their asparagus, I shall be happy to accommodate."

A TRAVELLER in Kansas testifies that, during a late visit to that State, he "saw men dumping good stable manure into the Kansas River." Canadian farmers used to be equally wasteful, but they have learnt better, as, in due time, Kansas farmers will.

THAT eminent agricultural experimenter, Dr. J. B. Lawes, of Rothamstead, England, is not a convert to ensilage as yet. In a letter to the *Rural New Yorker*, he says, "I do not altogether like a process which appears to be so destructive of food."

NEXT to copious watering, constant stirring of the soil is the best antidote against drought. At a recent meeting of the Illinois Horticultural Society, Mr. Hoover, of Ohio, stated that in a very dry season, five or six years ago, he kept the cultivator constantly going until August, and raised 562 bushels of raspberries on four acres.

SAYS the *English Journal of Horticulture*.—"A single row of American raspberries across a quarter of the kitchen garden, afforded bushels of fruit last year." Whereupon two questions arise. 1. How long was the row? 2. Are "American raspberries" better and more productive than English or other European varieties?

AN American wit says the following notice ought to be stuck up all over the country, just

prior to every general election:—"Wanted—men who will look after the interests of railroads, banks, and other moneyed corporations in the Congress and Senate of the United States. N.B.—No farmers need apply." It would not be inappropriate in Canada.

THE Ogdensburg, N.Y., *Journal* states that a farmer living near that place, recently husked and shelled his corn by one passage through an ordinary threshing-machine, getting at the rate of forty-five shelled bushels per acre. This method left the stalks in a "fine-cut" state for feeding. The experiment was so satisfactory, that he declares "he has got through with the tedious old-fashioned way of husking and shelling."

THE *New York Tribune* gives a recipe from one of its correspondents to do away with "the tug of churning," which, it is affirmed, is worth the subscription price of that journal for many years. It will be just as valuable to readers of the *Rural Canadian* who make their own butter. Here it is.

"Heat the milk as soon as strained (but not to the boiling point), which causes the cream to rise in twelve hours. When ready to churn, warm the cream to the proper temperature, then stir with a spoon, in one direction, 300 times without stopping. Churn immediately, and the butter will come in from five to fifteen minutes. A small piece of pulverized saltpetre added to the cream also helps to bring the butter quickly."

WHEN the Clawson wheat began to be extensively grown in Michigan a Millers' Convention and the Detroit Board of Trade graded it No. 2, and reduced its price ten cents per bushel. The farmers would have had no alternative but to submit, had not Prof. Kedzie of the State Agricultural College, by his analysis and experiments demonstrated that it was one of the best wheats ever grown in the State. As the result, Clawson wheat went up ten cents a bushel, and that gain on the crops of the past five or six years, has given back to the farmers of Michigan all the cost of the College twice over.

ACCIDENTS with bulls are nearly as common as accidents with threshing-machines. On the 11th ult., a farmer near Chatham, Ont., had a narrow escape from his thoroughbred bull, which was infuriated at the smell of blood on his master's hands from the salting of pork. The bull tossed him three or four times, and had not the animal's horns been brass covered, serious results might have followed. Not only should a bull's horns always be tipped with brass or wooden knobs,

but he should invariably be led by a pole, hooked to a ring in his nose. Accidents would then be impossible.

A GREAT painter was once asked by a tyro in the art, how he mixed his paints. "With brains, sir!" was the suggestive reply. Herein lay the secret of his eminence. A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* links the same idea to Agriculture in the following words:—

"We are steadily and surely coming—and it is already open to many—to the time when the farmer must be a deep student, and the text-book is his acres. The men of scientific training will be able to teach him scientific methods, but they cannot do even that much unless the mind is open to the truth. Take all things into account, the successful farmer of the future will know more about his own farm—its capacities, weak and strong points—better than anyone else. It is evident, then, that our coming farmer must be as full of good judgment, or to put it in a homely phrase, good common sense, 'as an egg is full of meat.' To be such a farmer demands a careful attention to that part of man's nature which is styled the thinker. In short, the upshot of my farm notes for January is, that now is the best time in the year to increase the stock of that fertilizer so much to be in demand in the future, the chemical symbol of which is B-R-A-I-N-S."

IT is matter of regret that the "Balmoral Herd" of Berkshires is about to be scattered. The owner of it, Mr. McArthur, has made a record of which he may well be proud. He has carried off the highest honours at some of the best Shows on this continent. His exhibit at St. Louis last fall was pronounced by the *National Live Stock Journal* of Chicago, "the finest display ever made in the world by one individual." Of late, he has repeatedly beaten recent importations by animals bred in his own yards. A conspicuous advertisement of his own wish to sell out has appeared in the *Country Gentleman*, which will, undoubtedly, attract the attention of American breeders.

AT the annual show, Tredegar, England, Nov. 22nd, where the Shorthorns and Herefords come in competition for special prizes, the prize was won by the celebrated Hereford bull, Lord Wilton (4,740), the property of Mr. S. J. Carwardine, Stocton Bury, Leominster, against Telemachus 9th, a Shorthorn, previously a great winner; and at Birmingham, Mr. Price, Court House, Pembroke, Herefordshire, after winning first prize with his steer in his class, won all the extra prizes as best beast in the yard, against all breeds. This grand steer was only two years and eight months old, and weighed 17 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs., or 1,950 pounds. It was from these two noted herds that the Hon. M. H. Cochrane selected near thirty bull calves, which are now in quarantine at Quebec; several are by the grand bull Lord Wilton (4,740).