

ine, free from preservatives, and the quality was so good that we cannot resist the pleasure of giving their analyses, as far as regards the principal features, in full :

Butter-fat.	Other solids.	Total solids.
5.11	8.41	14.34
4.70	8.77	14.09
4.42	7.93	13.15
3.98	8.35	12.99
5.12	8.26	14.21
4.70	8.65	13.99
5.06	8.21	14.00
5.01	8.01	13.62
4.23	8.21	13.24
4.07	8.33	13.05
4.70	7.71	13.18
4.48	7.25	12.54
4.90	8.50	14.19
4.71	8.27	13.66
4.67	8.21	13.59

"Free-Martins."—A Holstein cow belonging to Matthew Gunson, at 362 Lansdowne avenue, Westmount, presented her owner last Monday with a pair of calves, a bull and a heifer, almost exactly alike in color and markings. These calves are of fair size, being larger than many of the "bobs" which are sold for veal at the East End abattoir. Twin calves are rather of rare occurrence, and seldom of opposite sexes. In such cases the heifer calf is called a Free Martin, and, if raised to maturity, will not breed.—"Witness."

We have bred one lot of twin calves, and, as one was a bull and the other a cow-calf, we did not keep the latter for breeding, as the odds are that the "free-martin" is barren. Still, we have known instances in which in twins, heifer and bull, the heifer has proved fertile; so, if they are the progeny of anything very rare in the cow line, we should be mightily inclined to try the heifer two or three times before fattening her for the butcher.

#### ABOUT CROWS.

(To the Editor of the "Witness.")

Sir,—In your issue of to-day I notice the following under the heading "Preparing for spring": "Another sign of spring

follows the arrival of the first crow on Mount Royal, etc." May I inform you that I have seen a number of these birds on Mount Royal all winter, they having lived, no doubt, on garbage, etc.; in fact, there is a field back in the Lachine woods where farmers place dead cattle and horses, and the cows congregate there by the hundreds, residing in the vicinity the whole winter season. These birds are practically scavengers. I do not think the crow is a harbinger of spring.

W. J. BROWN.

Westmount, March 13, 1901.

We remember, some years ago,—fortunately, we have just found the reference—remarking in the "Journal" (v. p. 55, April, 1889) that "crows do winter in the Island of Montreal." We have had them in the bush, on the crest of the hill, behind the new station at Lachine, all the winter." And a few days afterwards we were told, by a highly instructed ornithologist, that crows never wintered here, but that they left for the South at the arrival of the first severe cold; returned hither, some of them, when a break occurred and a mild wind blew; went back again on the occurrence of cold, and so went backwards and forwards according to the changes of the thermometer and anemometer. All which our ornithological friend most devoutly believed!

Besides our own unbiassed conviction that crows "do" stay hereabouts all the winter, our amiable friends, the police, on beats in the Western part of the city, are good enough to be on the look-out for us in the early mornings and at sunset; they all, without exception, agree with our own view of this question. What needs there then any further question.

"Artificial fertilisation."—This process was known to the ancients; the palm was the most valuable object of culture in the plains of the Euphrates, and was honoured as a sacred tree. It is inferred, from statuary, and hieroglyphics, that have been discovered, that the process of artificially