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RURAL NOTES.

The *Iowa Register* speaks of "those scabs called patent agents."

The *N. Y. Tribune* denominates the Wilson strawberry—"despitefully used, but irrepresible."

TUBERCULOSIS is prevailing among the cattle of Iowa to a serious extent. So says the *Farmer's Review*.

EXPERIMENTS in India have proved that Indian corn can be successfully grown there, and steps are being taken to introduce it generally.

SQUEEZED curd is excellent food for young turkeys. By "squeezed curd" is meant curd from which all the watery portion has been taken.

Mr. Vick's large seed establishment in Rochester, N. Y., passes into the hands of his four sons, who have been educated in it from boyhood, and thoroughly schooled in its management by their late father.

THE long-continued experiments of Messrs. Lawes and Gilbert have proved that nitrogen is the element in the soil that first fails under a long course of cropping without manure. Clover is the simplest, cheapest, and most effectual restorative.

THE Maryland Legislature being required by law to make an annual appropriation to the State Agricultural Society, has voted \$5 for this year. This shows that the Solons of Maryland have either a low appreciation of agriculture, or a poor opinion of their Society.

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science will meet in Montreal next August, and during its sessions there will also be held the annual meeting of the "Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science." For further information, address F. W. Putnam, Sec., Salem, Mass.

THOUGH the area of pasturage in Great Britain has greatly increased of late years, there has been an immense decrease in the number of sheep kept in the old country. This falling off is attributed by some to "liver-rot," but the *Mark Lane Express* says it is owing to lack of capital—"purse-rot."

"No man," says a prominent dairy authority, "can afford to keep a cow that will not make from 200 to 220 pounds of butter or its equivalent in a year. And," he adds, "never keep a poor cow a second season,"—advice which we beg

to amend thusly:—"Never keep a poor cow a single season."

THE *English Agricultural Gazette* notes it as a remarkable fact, that nearly half of Lord Bective's present herd of Shorthorns "are from cows re-introduced from America." Most of them, we believe, were re-introduced from Canada, but that is the usual way of speaking in England. It's all "America," without distinction, to the average John Bull.

A WELL-DESERVED baronetcy has been conferred upon the world-renowned farmer and experimenter of Rothamstead, England, and the name of J. B. Lawes will go down to posterity with a "Sir" prefixed to it, in proof that his country and age were not ungrateful to the public benefactor who made two blades of grass and grain grow where only one grew before.

CATTLE accustomed to the locomotive whistle care so little for it, that trains are sometimes obliged to come to a dead stop while the train-men drive them off the track. To obviate this source of trouble, a device has been recently invented and patented, by which hot water can be squirted twenty yards ahead of the engine, and this, it is believed, will speedily clear the track of lingering bovines.

WITH the subsidence of the Shorthorn mania, under the influence of which extraordinary prices were given for fancy animals, must be chronicled the rise of a similar Jersey mania. At recent sales of this breed in New York, very high prices were got. One cow sold for \$4,800, another for \$3,700, a third for \$3,550, and a fourth for \$2,525. A young bull calf, three months and three days old, brought \$1,810.

EFFORTS are being made in France to get up machinery that will extract sugar from the beet root by ordinary labourers on the farm. A firm in Paris claims to have succeeded, and is giving practical lessons with fair results. Cheap machinery that farmers themselves can work, so as to enable them to produce beet sugar, as they now do maple sugar, will give an immediate impulse to this industry, and secure a widespread adoption of it.

MRS. JOHN M. ARMSTRONG, of Oak River, Manitoba, writes the *Globe* an account of what she did last season with her "little Red River cow." She commenced making butter May 14th, and by Dec. 13th had sold 164 pounds, besides supplying her family of three persons. She thinks not less than two pounds per week were used for home consumption, or 61 pounds, making in all 225 pounds in seven months. She also raised the

cow's calf. This is highly creditable both to the "little Red River cow" and her thrifty mistress.

THE *Farmer's Review* (Chicago) states that about fifty young men from England, sons of lawyers, merchants, etc., have been sent to Fillmore and Olmstead counties, Minnesota, and placed on farms among leading farmers, to learn the art of farming. When competent to manage farms, they will be settled on land with a start of about \$2,000 each. If the parents of these young men had known all they ought to know, and been as patriotic as they should be, they would have apprenticed their sons to farmers in Ontario, and arranged for their future settlement on British territory.

THE *Guelph Mercury* says.—"Some time ago a man representing himself as A. L. Burke, agent for a patent washing machine, succeeded in swindling two Eramosa farmers out of \$282. He sold one of his so-called machines to them, and received three joint notes of \$94 each, and was to forward the machine immediately. The notes are now due and the machine has not arrived. Burke tried to cash the notes in Guelph, but did not succeed. He got them cashed, however, at Hay & Co.'s, Listowel, and as the notes are perfect in every respect the farmers will have to pay the shot. Time and again the farmers have been warned against having any dealings with this sort of characters, unless they are perfectly satisfied that the parties represent some well-known and reliable firm. Those who purchase articles of this kind and give their note in payment have only themselves to blame."

THE *Manitoba Free Press* says.—"Mr. Robert Campbell, lately of the Hudson's Bay Co., has returned from his visit to Scotland, and has brought with him some twelve head of Highland cattle of the purest breed, which are at present at Quebec, where they have to remain in quarantine for the specified period. They are, we believe, the first of the kind ever imported into Canada, with the exception of a few which were within recent years taken to the vicinity of Montreal, and will certainly be the first of this well-known stock ever brought to the Prairie Province. They have been selected from the best herds in Scotland—some from the Duke of Athole's stock, which are directly descended from the famous breed of the late Marquis of Breadalbane; some from the original stock bred by the Stewarts, of Cashlie, Glenlyon; and some from Bochartle, where the first prize-takers of the present time are reared. From their hardy nature, they should thrive well in this country. They are to be taken to Merchiston (the old Riding Mountain House, formerly a Hudson's Bay Co. post), where a son of Mr. Campbell's is farming."