

THE O. A. C. REVIEW.

The Dignity of a Calling is its Utility.

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THE O. A. C. REVIEW.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, DURING THE COLLEGE YEAR,
BY THE LITERARY SOCIETY OF THE ONTARIO
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Annual subscription, 75 cents; \$1.00 if not paid before 1st February; Single copies, 10 cents.

Advertising rates on application.

Ex students will confer a great favor on the Editors of this journal by sending news, particularly experiences of practical value.

EDITORIAL.

We are glad to be able to announce another prize essay competition. The Literary Society offer \$10 for the best essay on "The O. A. C. as a Link in our Educational System." The essays are not to exceed 1,500 words and are to be handed in to the Secretary, Mr Gibson, by April 1st. At least four must compete. The essay must be signed with a pseudonym, which with the writer's real name must be handed in under separate cover. The judges will be the Minister of Agriculture and Prof. Shaw.

All students, past and present, will be allowed to compete and we hope that a number of our very best writers will plume themselves for the occasion.

It is intended to publish the best essay in the REVIEW and in all the local, agricultural and leading daily papers of the Province, so

that the farmers may know what kind of work is being done here and a larger number of students be induced to attend, thereby benefiting the interests of the College and the whole Dominion.

It will be remembered that this prize was offered last year, but unaccountably no essays were handed in. Let this not occur again. A thoughtful man will see at once the immense influence a really first rate essay would have, and from such thoughtful men, those who have the agricultural interests of this fair Dominion closely at heart, we trust to receive excellent compositions, well worthy of immense circulation.

* * *

With great feelings of regret we have to record a change in our staff of editors. Mr. Harris, our popular and talented local editor, has left and our hearty good wishes follow him to his farm home in British Columbia. His mantle has descended on the sturdy shoulders of Mr. F. A. Wilkin, who we fully believe will creditably fill his important position.

Agricultural.

Farm Fences.

The advisability of maintaining fences on the farm is a question which must soon receive the attention of all farmers. Already the most progressive are finding out that, like many other things on the farm, fencing does not pay. Fences yield no direct returns for the outlay. They are supposed to be a necessary expense in connection with stock raising, but how many farmers in estimating the proceeds from any branch of live stock, debit it with its share of the cost of the farm fences? It is doubtful whether much of the stock, as now kept, really pays, and if the cost of fencing is taken into account, as it should be, it is

quite evident it will not pay at all; hence the folly of fencing. In this age of progress, farmers are learning that partial if not complete soiling is the most profitable method of keeping stock, and that as a result, inside fences can, to a great extent be done away with. Road fences and division fences between farms are equally unnecessary, and it will only require time to convince us, that, like our Yankee cousins of New York State, we can profitably get rid of all such fences. That they have remained so long is a reflection on our progressiveness.

Let us consider a few of the advantages to be gained by their removal. By doing away with fences we save time and lessen labor in connection with farm work. No time and trouble need be expended in their construction and maintenance; in the tedious mowing of fence corners with scythes; in opening and closing gates or bars; in breaking roads and shovelling snow-drifts in winter.

No one thing would so improve the appearance of our farms, and the country generally, as the removal of fences, and the improved appearance would enhance the value. In travelling through the country, who has not been more than a little depressed to see the usual dilapidation of fences? And who has not noticed what hotbeds they become for the propagation of weeds? Without fences many farmers would find another place than the fence corner for dumping stones and stumps removed from the fields. There would be no temptation to the greedy man publicly to manifest his selfish nature by crowding his fence into the road. The road-sides could be levelled, planted with trees and kept clean with the mower, thus giving a clean, airy appearance, with the view unbroken by unsightly fences. A home with no fence to divide the lawn from the road, has a hospitable look which never accompanies a home surrounded by a picket fence. The place looks as if the owner was honest, and also considered his neighbors honest.

The removal of fences effects a great saving of land and increase in crop returns. It is estimated that on a 100-acre farm divided into 10-acre fields, ten acres of land are taken up and rendered worse than useless. The average township of Ontario contains about 30,000 acres. At this rate, by the removal of fences, three thousand acres additional in every township might be brought under crop, or the produce of every township increased by what

can be grown on thirty farms of one hundred acres each.

By doing away with fences we remove a great shelter for such pests as skunks, weasels, squirrels and mice, which work much harm, and we destroy a nursery for the millions of insects, which, breeding in old fence bottoms, destroy annually a large share of the growing crop. Grasshoppers, when they first appear for the season, are always seen to be most numerous along the fences, where they live and breed undisturbed. Wire worms and cut worms, though they may be killed by cultivation, spread from the fence bottoms, where they multiply in security. Sparrows are short flighted, and seldom injure crops in the centre of a field, but often do great mischief to grain growing along the line of fences. And who has not seen the damage done to fruit trees and vines by mice which harbor before the snow falls in some adjoining fence bottom? Get rid of fences and you will to a large extent get rid of these pests.

Making a money calculation we see what a saving can be effected by farming without fences. From an Iowa Agricultural Report we glean the followings:—"There are in the United States 6,000,000 miles of fences. They have cost \$375 a mile, or about \$2,000,000,000. This is an almost inconceivable sum. Convert it into silver dollars and it would require 6,500 freight cars to carry it, or a train of cars sixty-one miles long." This is an emphatic way of showing the cost of fences to the nation, and in proportion to the number of farms Canada has as many fences. But let us look at the cost to the individual. After careful investigation it has been found that the average annual cost of building and maintaining fences on the farm is at least \$1 per acre. To the owner of one hundred acres without fences, this means an annual saving of at least \$100. Then if the 10 acres saved by the removal of fences be sown to oats, yielding say forty bushels per acre, or four hundred bushels, selling at 75¢ per bushel, straw paying for the cost of production, we have \$140. The owner of one hundred acres has thus, by the removal of fences, to say nothing of the increased value of property, or the value of crops saved from insects, an annual saving of \$240.

In consideration of these facts then let us give more serious thought to the subject of fencing and though we may not be prepared to make a clean sweep of fences at once, let us look the farm over this winter and instead of building up let us take down every fence we can possibly do without, and we shall hasten that time when farming will be carried on without fences.

Farmers' Institutes.

The following is the list of 94 Institute meetings to be held during January, addressed by the groups of speakers mentioned:

DIVISION NO. 1.

Prof. Grenside; T. Raynor, B. S. A.; T. H. Race, Esq.

Tara, (N. Bruce) - 2nd., 10 a. m.

Port Elgin, (N. Bruce) - 3rd., 10.30 a. m.

Paisley, (C. Bruce) - 6th., 10 a. m.

Walkerton, (S. Bruce) - 7th. and 8th., 1 p. m. on 7th.

Listowel, (N. Perth) - 9th., 10.30 a. m.

Milverton, (N. Perth) - 10th., 10 a. m.

Brussels, (E. Huron) - 12th. and 13th., 1 p. m. on 12th.

Smith's Hill, (W. Huron) 14th. and 15th., 1 p. m. on 14th.

Exeter, (S. Huron) 16th. and 17th., 1 p. m. on 16th.

Lucan, (N. Middlesex) - 19th., 10 a. m.

Parkhill, (N. Middlesex) 20th., 10 a. m.

Thorndale, (E. Middlesex) 21st. and 22nd. 1 p. m. on 21st.

DIVISION NO. 2.

John I. Hobson, Esq.; C. A. Zavitz, B. S. A.; D. W. Beadle, Esq.

New Hamburg, (S. Waterloo) 2nd. and 3rd., 1 p. m. on 2nd.

St. Mary's, (S. Perth) 6th., 10 a. m.

Wyoming, (E. Lambton) - 7th. and 8th., 1.30 p. m. on 7th.

Appin, (W. Middlesex) - 9th. and 10th., 1 p. m. on 9th.

Chatham, (W. Kent) - 12th., 10 a. m.

Wallaceburg, (W. Kent) 13th., 10.30 a. m.

Dawn Mills, (E. Kent) - 14th., 10.30 a. m.

Belle River and Woodslee, (N. Essex) - 16th. and 17th., 10.30 a. m. on 16th. at Belle River.

Kingsville, (S. Essex) - 19th. and 20th., 1 p. m. on 19th.

Highgate, (E. Kent) - 21st., 10 a. m.

West Lorne, (W. Elgin) - 22nd., 10 a. m.

Shedden, (W. Elgin) 23rd., 10 a. m.

DIVISION NO. 3.

President Mills; W. H. McNish, Esq.; L. Woolverton, Esq.

Freelton, (N. Wentworth) - 2nd. and 3rd., 10 a. m. on 2nd.

Embros, (N. Oxford) 6th., 10 a. m.

Norwich, (S. Oxford) 7th. and 8th., 1 p. m. on 7th.

Aylmer, (E. Elgin) 9th. and 10th., 1 p. m. on 9th.

Delhi, (N. Norfolk) 12th., 10 a. m.

Vittoria, (S. Norfolk) 13th., 10.30 a. m.

Port Rowan, (S. Norfolk) - 14th., 10.30 a. m.

Caledonia, (Haldimand) 15th. and 16th., 1 p. m. on 15th.

Waterford, (N. Norfolk) 17th., 11 a. m.

Welland, (Welland) 19th. and 20th., 1.30 p. m. on 19th.

Pelham, (Monck) 21st. and 22nd., 1.30 p. m. on 21st.

DIVISION NO. 4.

John McMillan, M. P.; F. J. Sleightholm, Esq.; E. D. Smith, Esq.

Weston, (W. York) 2nd. and 3rd., 1 p. m. on 2nd.

Brampton, (Peel) - 6th., 10 a. m.

Milton, (Halton) - 7th., 10 a. m.

Burlington, (Halton) - 8th., 10.30 a. m.

Hamilton, (S. Wentworth) - 9th. and 10th., 1 p. m. on 9th.

Jordan, (Lincoln) - 12th. and 13th., 10.30 a. m. on 12th.

St. George, (N. Brant) 14th. and 15th., 10 a. m. on 14th.

Burford, (S. Brant) 16th. and 17th., 1 p. m. on 16th.

Berlin, (N. Waterloo) - 19th. and 20th., 1 p. m. on 19th.

Guelph, (S. Wellington) - 21st. and 22nd., 10 a. m. on 21st.

DIVISION NO. 5.

Prof. J. H. Panton, M. A.; D. E. Smith, Esq.; A. H. Pettit, Esq.

Newmarket, (N. York) - 2nd. and 3rd., 1 p. m. on 2nd.

Bondhead, (S. Simcoe) - 6th., 10 a. m.

New Lowell, (C. Simcoe) - 7th. and 8th., 1 p. m. on 7th.

Thornbury, (C. Grey) - 9th., 10 a. m.

Owen Sound, (N. Grey) - 12th., 10 a. m.

Markdale, (C. Grey) 13th., 10 a. m.

Shelburne, (Dufferin) - 14th. and 15th., 10 a. m. on 14th.

Erin, (C. Wellington) - 16th., 10 a. m.

Glenallan, (W. Wellington) - 19th., 10 a. m.

Drayton, (W. Wellington) - 20th., 10 a. m.

Durham, (S. Grey) - 22nd., 10 a. m.

DIVISION NO. 6.

Prof. H. H. Dean, B. S. A.; W. Fraser, Esq.; W. Cowan, V. S.; P. C. Dempsey, Esq.

Markham, (E. York) - 2nd., 10 a. m.

Uxbridge, (N. Ontario) 3rd., 10 a. m.

Cannington, (N. Ontario) 6th., 10 a. m.

Little Britain, (S. Victoria) - 7th. and 8th., 1 p. m. on 7th.

Bobcaygeon, (E. Victoria) 8th, 10 a. m.
 Fenelon Falls, (E. Victoria) -10th, 10 a. m.
 Peterboro', (W. Peterboro')-12th. and 13th,
 1 p. m. on the 12th.
 Norwood, (E. Peterboro')-14th, 10 a. m.
 Keene, (E. Peterboro')-15th, 10 a. m.
 Warkworth, (E. Northumberland) -16th.
 and 17th, 1 p. m. on the 16th.
 Brechin, (N. Ontario)-19th, 10 a. m.
 Orillia, (E. Simcoe)-20th. and 21st, 1 p. m.
 on 20th.
 Alliston, (W. Simcoe) 22nd. and 23rd, 10
 a. m. on 22nd.

DIVISION NO. 7.

Prof. C. C. James, M. A.; E. Jeffs, Esq.; G.
 C. Caston, Esq.
 Oshawa, (S. Ontario) 2nd. and 3rd, 1 p.m.
 on 2nd.
 Bowmanville, (W. Durham)-6th, 10 a. m.
 Orono, (W. Durham)-7th, 10 a. m.
 Harwood, (W. Northumberland) -8th, 10.30
 a. m.
 Grafton, (W. Northumberland)-9th, 10.30
 a. m.
 Picton, (Pr. Edward)-10th, 10 a. m.
 Napance, (Lennox) 12th. and 13th, 1 p. m.
 on 12th.
 Centerville, (Addington)-14th. and 15th, 1
 p. m. on 14th.
 Sunbury, (Frontenac)-16th. and 17th, 1 p.
 m. on 16th.
 Delta, (Leeds)-19th, 10.30 a. m.
 Lansdowne, (Leeds)-20th, 10 a. m.
 Lyn, (Brockville Riding)-21st, 10 a. m.

DIVISION NO. 8.

Professor Shaw; G. Harcourt, B. S. A.; E.
 Morden, Esq.
 Perth, (S. Lanark) 2nd and 3rd, 10 a. m.
 on 2nd.
 Lanark, (N. Lanark) 6th, 10 a. m.
 Carp, (Carleton) 7th. and 8th, 1 p.m. on 7th
 Renfrew, (S. Renfrew)-9th 10 a. m.
 Rockland, (Russel)-12th. and 13th, 10 a.m.
 on 12th.
 Vanleek Hill, (Prescott) 14th. and 15th, 10
 a. m. on 14th.
 Alexandria, (Glengarry)-16th. and 17th, 10
 a. m. on 17th.
 Cornwall, (Stormont)-19th. and 20th, 1 p.
 m. on 19th.
 Morrisburgh, (Dundas) 21st. and 22nd, 10
 a. m. on 21st.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST.

Kenilworth, (N. Wellington)-3rd. February,
 10 a. m.

Bracebridge, (Muskoka)-5th. February, 10
 a. m.

Utterson, (Muskoka)-6th. February, 10 a.m.
 Thessalon, (Algoma) -9th. and 10th Febru-
 ary, 1 p. m. on 9th.

**The Beefing Properties of Short-
horns.**

In order to understand fully the idea of
 the beefing properties of this race of cattle,
 it will be necessary to glance at their history
 for a short time and see whence it was de-
 rived.

They are an old breed and were formerly
 confined to the counties of York and Dur-
 ham in the north of England. They have a
*history which dates as far back as the Con-
 quest of Britain by the Danes, but the work
 of improvement did not begin until 1780,*
 when Charles and Robert Colling entered
 upon the stage. The Collings bred many
 famous animals, notable among which were
 the "Durham Ox," and "The White Heifer
 that Travelled." These animals were much
 thought of throughout the country and from
 the above fact it will be seen that Shorthorns
 at this early date had a decided beefing ten-
 dency.

The Collings were the first great improv-
 ers of Shorthorns, and the work of improve-
 ment has steadily advanced until the present
 time. The great improvers of Shorthorns
 since 1780 have been Richard Booth, of
 Studley, and his sons T. and J. Booth, of
 Warlacy and Killerby; Thomas Bates, of
 Kirklevington and Amos Cruikshank, of
 Sittyton. The Booths and Cruikshank turn-
 ed their attention entirely to beef, but Bates
 improved the milking as well as the beefing
 tendency of his cattle, a property which de-
 scendants of that strain inherit to the present
 day.

Shorthorns have been largely used for
 purposes of crossing with pure breeds and
 grades of the other breeds, for which pur-
 pose they are exceedingly well adapted.

Of the 70,000 fat animals exported from
 our shores annually, it is estimated that
 nearly the whole of them are Shorthorn
 grades, this gives an idea of the number of
 them in the country, and that they are a
 favorite breed with the farmers who follow
 the beefing industry.

In order to have success in the fattening of cattle the following properties are necessary: Animals of a beefing tendency, size, early maturity, quality, the laying on of the flesh on the most valuable parts, and a good utilization of the food consumed. We will now see how the shorthorn conforms to this scale.

In regard to a beefing tendency the facts of history given above show that this is possessed and that it is hereditary to a marked extent, a fact which renders them of still greater value, as in crossing with grade animals they stamp their characteristics upon the progeny. As to size they are a large breed and have the faculty of attaining heavy-weights at an early age. Large animals are not desired now for purposes of export, and Shorthorn grade bullocks at the age of about two and a half years, weighing from 1200 to 1500 pounds, answer the purpose well. The quality of the meat is good, although not equal to that of the Galloway, or West Highland. Butchers frequently remark that they like to have animals which carry their meat mostly on the "upper deck," meaning those whose loins and backs are broad and full. As to the fulfilment of this property, the Shorthorns will, in nearly every case, lead. As to the use they make of their food, it may be said that under right conditions they are ahead of all the breeds of cattle. They do well on our Western ranches and are good grazers, but are not quite equal to the Hereford for this purpose. In Ontario, where cattle are grazed in the summer and stabled in the winter, they answer the purpose well, and if given good attention can be very profitably turned off as prime animals at the end of the second winter. As to the weights to which Shorthorns attain at different ages, nothing need be said here, as every reader of the agricultural press, who has taken any interest in beef cattle during the last ten years, will be conversant with them.

R. E. COWAN, A. O. A. C.

The dude is not of much practical use, but he makes an excellent background when you stand him up beside a real man.

If you are leaving college without the intention of going to some other, you have admitted that you are a failure, either because you don't care, or because you are an ambitious fool, or because you are too lazy.

To Tell the Age of Horses.

To tell the age of any horse,
Inspect the lower jaw, of course;
The sixth front tooth the tale will tell,
And every doubt and fear dispel.
Two middle "nippers" you behold
Before the colt is two weeks old,
Before eight weeks two more will come;
Eight months the "corners" cut the gum.
The outside grooves will disappear
From middle two in just one year.
In two years from the second pair;
In three the "corners," too, are bare.
At two the middle "nippers" drop;
At three the second pair can't stop.
When four years old the third pair goes;
At five a full new set he shows.
The deep black spots will pass from view,
At six years from the middle too.
The second pair at seven years;
At eight the spot each "corner" clears.
From middle "nippers," upper jaw,
At nine the black spots will withdraw.
The second pair at ten are white;
Eleven finds the "corners" light.
As time goes on, the horsemen know,
The oval teeth three-sided grow;
They longer get, project before,
Till twenty, when we know no more.

Toronto Truth.



Correspondence

South-Western Alberta.

What is South-western Alberta? Well, a strip of country, bounded on the west by the Rockies, and running parallel to them, averaging some twenty miles in width, extending from the International Boundary line northward to Willow creek. (About seventy miles.)

Why twenty miles in width only? Because within this limit the rain fall is greater than it is further east, where droughts are by no means uncommon.

It is a district with both scenery and climate especially its own. The peaks and ranges of the Rocky Mountains, hereabouts, average 6000 feet in height above the sea level, but as

the surrounding country lies at an elevation of 4000 feet, the mountains themselves are dwarfed to a considerable extent.

At the base of the mountains, and extending eastward a few miles, are the foot-hills, which consist, for the most part, of parallel ranges of Down-like hills, running north and south, here and there broken by valleys crossing at right angles in an east and west direction. The slopes, at the base of the mountains, are covered with timber, some green, the remainder dry or burned. The foot-hills for the most part, are destitute of trees, with the exception of willow and cottonwood brush on the banks of streams. They furnish, however, excellent feed for stock, better pasture in the form of bunch-grass, and wild hay in the shape of slough-grass. East of the foot-hills lies a rolling bunch-grass country, intersected by deep coulees and ravines, (in which flow several rivers and creeks) besides high buttes, or hog's-back hills. The creeks, for the most part, rise in the foot-hills, whilst the rivers have their origin further west, in the mountains.

Here and there, on the banks of various creeks and rivers, are flat "bottoms," or valley lands, suitable for irrigation.

So much for the general aspect of the country, and now as to the climate. This, to say the least, is most peculiar and perplexing. Taking it all through, the summers are cooler and the winters milder than in the neighborhood of Guelph. The main cause for this is the "Chinook," or south-west wind, which blows in season and out of season, and is at the same time a drawback (as in the hay season), and a blessing in winter, when it hinders the snow from lying too long, and thus permits stock to graze.

It is not an unknown phenomenon to have snow in some shape in every month of the year, but this, of course, is exceptional. At the same time ploughing has sometimes been begun in February. One thing is certain, the bracing air agrees with all kinds of stock, especially horses and cattle. The former 'rustle' as a rule all the year round, and the latter often do the same on the larger ranches.

It is more economical, however, to say the least of it, to feed heifers and heavily-in-calf cows in periods of deep snow, and during prolonged stormy weather, amounting, perhaps, to a month or six weeks in an average year. Calves are weaned by December 1st, and fed in corrals until spring.

At present the country, for the most part, is divided into large leases, which are rented by cattle companies and wealthy individuals for grazing purposes. On the majority of these leases settlement is permitted, so that numerous small ranches, or stock farms exist, and are springing up in all parts of the country.

Many first-class stallions and pure-bred bulls of the various breeds have been imported, so that the stock is rapidly being improved, and, indeed, can now compare favorably with that from other provinces of the Dominion.

South-western Alberta is essentially a stock country, and does not pretend to compete with Manitoba in grain growing; yet oats and barley of A 1 quality are raised and in parts very fair wheat is produced for chicken feed, for, as yet, grist mills are almost unknown.

The yields per acre of oats is not exceptional but the quality is irreproachable. The writer has seen oats weighing 50 lbs per bushel and yielding 45 bushels per acre grown in the vicinity. The average sample seldom falls below 40 lbs, and the yield varies from 20 to 50 bushels per acre.

The soil, it may be said, is usually a light loam, but every variation, from almost pure sand to a heavy clay, is to be found.

Owing to the cool summers, the growing season for all crops is long, oats, for example, rarely being harvested until the end of August and this year not until the end of September.

A railroad, the Calgary & Edmonton, is now in course of construction, which will pass through a portion of this district.

The writer has no desire to pose as an emigration agent, and does not wish to delude anyone who is the fortunate possessor of a good farm in the Eastern Provinces, into the belief that south-western Alberta is an El Dorado, but he does believe that this district can compare with any for general stock raising, also that it will prove to be a dairying country hard to surpass, provided, as it is, with the best of water and grass, and a more equitable climate than that of Ontario.

C. E. '88

Men of many Figures.

When a mania for statistics possesses a man he not only becomes a bore to all his friends, but an arithmetical nuisance to himself. He always thinks in an aggregate, and the least thing to him is potent with gigantic possibili-

ties. He becomes outrageously dogmatic and at the merest spark of a suggestion of the least difference of opinion, he will crush you with the assertion "Statistics will prove it!"

A tramcar driver told one of his statistically inclined passengers that he drove eleven journeys per day, of 5 miles each. The passenger thereupon immediately worked it all out in pencil and informed the man that he drove 20,020 miles per annum, and that in 15 months he went around the world, and pursuing further inquiries informed the Jehu that he had already driven his car ten times around the world. The driver's astonishment was a picture, and he has ever since considered himself an important traveller.

If great wits are allied to madness your statistician is not far off. One long-haired Esau took upon himself to number the hairs of his head. He took a survey, like a land agent, then he sub-divided his cranium into square inches till he came to the back of his head, when he found, as his hair tapered off to skin, he could not reckon on the full square inch, so he made a map from a photograph of the irregular outline for the reason that his hair had been imperfectly cut, then he reduced the fringe consequent thereon to fractions of square inches. Having got his acreage, "basis of calculation" he called it, he counted all the hairs in one square inch, which took him a considerable time, for, as he said, the least error would be fatal. Having done all this at last to his satisfaction, he multiplied the whole by the number of square inches he had discerned upon his head, then he went into the tapering off part, as he described it, and averaged that variously but all on the basis of the 1 square inch, he had counted, and eventually he arrived at a grand total of many millions. But even this did not satisfy him. Figures have no bottom. By some "calculation" he found that fair people had more hair than dark, and he wanted to find out how much. So he took Toronto as a starting point. This, of course lead him to inquire the number of fair people as opposed to dark, so taking a coign of vantage for operation, he tabulated the passers by, as to the color of their hair, in a given time. This involved employing assistants, in that some people walked quickly, others slowly, but all must be noted. The upshot was that he obtained such a practical knowledge of hair, that he could tell, despite the fact of people having hats and bonnets on, who were bald, and who not, who wore false hair and who dyed their

wool. Then he discovered "a basis of calculation for these contingencies," and hit upon an "average of allowance," and not content with this he needs, must "pursue the subject." It "came to him" that he must include whiskers and moustaches; they were all hair, and, therefore, "they must be dealt with." He dealt with them, and people were told off accordingly, and then he died.

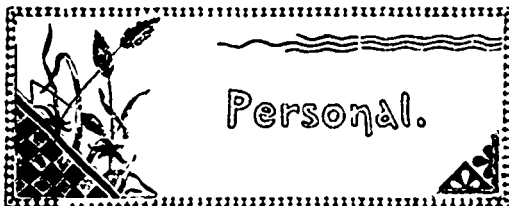
Jones is a statistician, but then Jones makes figures simply charming. He invests them with individuality to such a degree that they start up before one in an entirely new aspect. They become purified and pregnant. Jones asks me if I know the "consumption of milk alone in New York?" I honestly tell Jones I do not. Then Jones rises to the occasion. He tells me; he goes to a desk and brings out a mass of papers, all over calculations, and, in order to "bring it home to me," he says: "If 23 ironclads were in a dry dock, side by side, each drawing an average of 19,0038 feet of water and it was desired to float them, the water they would require, would equal the consumption of milk in New York per hour." What do you think of that? I don't know what to think of that and simply say, "Oh, Caesar!" He has made every allowance in his "calculation;" allowance for the destitute, who hard'y know what milk is, and for the meagre supply in prisons and colleges, all are tabulated in different columns and that is the crushing result. Now, if I see a jug of milk, I see ironclads floating out of docks, and if I see an ironclad, it suggests milk. Such is the force of association.

Smith again is a good man at figures, but he is of another color. He keeps on asking me how much a brandy and soda per day amounts to in a year, and that Dr. Johnson reminded someone that the interest on \$1,000 was but 60 cents a day. This is terribly depressing; every petty extravagance looms up to ruin and bankruptcy, and I never leave Smith without a sort of apprehension that the Brokers are in.

Brown, on the other hand, is an actuary; a charming man, indeed, when not engaged on mortality tables. Then! well, he dines with me and gives me average death rates over the walnuts. He tells me how long I shall live. I should not mind this so much but he knocks off two years on account of measles, which sets me calculating how many more premiums I shall have to pay; or Robinson, again, apropos of nothing at all, talks about some debt doubling itself in

10 years at compound interest and the nail in the horse's shoe. I suppose he knows what he knows. I don't. Statistics are no doubt respectable and necessary like fire escapes but one does not want them always immediately outside one's front door.

F. C. HARRISON, '90



Personal.

T. W. Macfarlane, A. O. A. C., '90, is furthering his knowledge of veterinary science by taking a course at the Toronto Veterinary College. We wish Mr. Macfarlane success.

T. J. Horrocks, A. O. A. C., '88, familiarly known as "Cholly" by his contemporaries, is studying law in Toronto, with the intention, we presume, of showing his fellow associates of the O. A. C. the proper way to make farming pay.

Elmer Lick, A. O. A. C., '89, and 2nd silver medallist of that year, writes us from his home near Oshawa, Ont. Mr. Lick gives a good deal of attention to fruit farming, chiefly apples and pears, and got good prices for his crops this year. Pears were an especially good crop, 2½ acres yielding 70 barrels. He is also engaged in the milk business, and ships the greater part of his milk to Toronto, where high prices are paid for it.

J. A. Gelling, A. O. A. C., '89, writes us from Manitoba. Mr. Gelling is farming in the "Lake Dauphin Valley" and is giving special attention to grain growing. He seems pleased with the surrounding country as it resembles his native province, New Brunswick, with its hills, valleys, mountains and rivers, differing in that respect from other districts in Manitoba, where there is nothing to be seen but the monotonous prairie.

P. C. Black, A. O. A. C., '84, is farming near Windsor, Nova Scotia. Mr. Black is one of the leading men in his district, he is Secretary of the Nova Scotia Dairymen's Association and also President of the society known as the "Maritime Ex-Students of the O. A. C.," a society which was established

in the Lower Provinces two years ago, its object being to form a bond of union among all ex-students who live in that part of Canada. Mr. Black has filled his position well as President of the society, and at the annual meetings has proven that he takes an interest in all matters pertaining to the O. A. C.

R. E. Cowan, 2nd silver medallist of last year, is farming with his father near Galt, Ont. Their stock at presents consist of Shorthorns, Leicester Sheep, and Berkshire Pigs. Two imported sows were recently purchased, which will form a valuable addition to their stock of Yorkshires. As these pigs bring very high prices, Mr. Cowan expects to do well with them. As the crops were especially good this year, they have bought a lot of sheep to fatten during the winter.

Our esteemed friend, G. C. Creelman, B. S. A., '88, Professor of Biology at the Agricultural College, Mississippi, U. S., writes us in glowing terms of his work among the Southerners. Although Mr. Creelman is kept very busy lecturing and overseeing the College greenhouses and improvements on the College grounds, he still seems to find time for recreation. He is giving especial attention to lawn tennis at present and bids fair to develop into a champion player. He has also been officiating as "best man" at several weddings and is becoming quite an expert in supporting the groom. We hope that this will prepare him for the eventful time when we understand he will lead one of Guelph's fair daughters to the altar.

We are always glad to hear from ex-students in any part of America, but especially from those who are farming in Canada and who are making a success of the business. E. A. Wells, A. O. A. C., '90, is one of the latter. Mr. Wells is farming with his father in the Chilliwack Valley, B. C., and judging from the crops taken off their farm this year it must be one of the most fertile farms in Canada. They had over 350 tons of hay, the timothy averaging 3½ tons per acre, and about 3,000 bushels of oats, 12 acres, averaging 100 bushels per acre, this speaks well for the resources of the Chilliwack Valley as a farming district. Mr. Wells took home a team of Ontario horses last summer and is highly pleased with them; he has recently imported three more teams. We are pleased to hear that he intends coming back to the

College next autumn to take his 3rd year. The friends of Wm. Atkinson will be glad to hear that he is still working with Mr. Wells and is highly pleased with the country.

It gives us great pleasure to announce in this issue the appointment of two of our ex-students to positions of honor and trust in the College. Mr. H. H. Dean, B. S. A., of Harley, Ont., has been appointed Professor of Dairying in the place of Prof. Robertson, who resigned his position a year ago. The students have greatly felt the want of a Professor of Dairying this term and so are highly pleased at the thought of having lectures on that very important subject again. Mr. G. A. Harcourt, B. S. A., '89, who has been managing the Dairy Department lately, has been appointed assistant chemist to Professor James, and will thus supply a long felt want. The duties involved in the Department of Chemistry being far too heavy for Professor James alone. Both of these gentlemen will enter upon their respective positions on Jan. 1st. They will go around to the different Farmers' Institutes during the holidays, returning to the College on Jan. 22nd, when the term begins. We feel sure that they will fill their positions satisfactorily to those about the College and to the public at large, and will prove that the course of instruction given at the College, in all matters appertaining to agriculture, is of the highest possible order. Four of the College graduates are now filling highly responsible positions in Agricultural Colleges in the States, while others are leading farmers in Canada, and it surely speaks well for the capabilities of the 3rd year graduates, when two of them are appointed to such responsible positions in their *alma mater*. We hope that this will prove an incentive to many farmers' sons to take a course at the College and make use of the many privileges which it affords.



Local News.

THAT'S twice, Morgan, roll over.

ARE we to have a vet. subject this year? If not, why not?

GE. M. JARVIS, '88, of Clarkson, Ont., visited Guelph on Dec. 10th.

'AIN'T I a big man Field?" No doubt about it, Mr. Man." Titter an ejaculation.

VET. PROF. "Can you show me, please, on this animal which is the front leg, Mr. B t?"

WE were very glad to see Mr. Ballantyne, '84, carry off the cup at the Fat Stock Show; old students will remember that he was equally successful last year.

Oh! where, Oh! where, has old Harris gone, Oh! where, Oh! where, can he be?

He's gone right off, he'll be gone quite long, He's gone right off to B. C.

PROFESSOR OF HORTICULTURE. "All colours, simple or compound, are heightened by being near white. White brightens everything." At last we understand how it is that Thompson has such a fine complexion.

LIVE STOCK SHOW.— Student standing near a cow that was shaking its head.

1st student "Look out, Newcomen, that cow will knock your cheek off."

2nd Student "Take a pretty hard knock that!"

MESSRS. Carlyle, McKenzie and Thompson, the three students chosen out of the 2nd year to act as judges, at the Fat Stock Show in Guelph, on Dec. 10th., were remarkably accurate in their decisions, which tallied almost entirely with those of some of the experienced cattle judges of Ontario.

THE ORDER OF THE DAY.

Examinations.

Home.

Turkey and Plum Pudding.

Parties and Pretty Girls.

Home at . . . a. m.

On November 26th, some 30 enthusiastic students marched down to the G. T. R. station to see the last of Mr. Harris and to give him three rousing farewell cheers. Mr. Harris will be greatly missed in many ways, especially in the sports, where his vigorous aid did so much to help matters along. No more shall we see his smiling and genial countenance on the platform of the Literary Society. Never again shall we hear his original comic songs, which were always such a feature of our open meetings. And now that we have lost his lusty voice, who will lead us in the college yell, either at home in the dining hall, or abroad at the theatre or concert.

As Mr. Bryson was returning a few evenings ago, somewhat late from a call, he was horror-stricken to see the grim shadow of an indefinable something reposing on his downy couch. Greatly alarmed he hastily called together a council of war, thus showing his belief in the old proverb that in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom. One venerable sage suggested the expedient of trying to dampen the ardour of the spectre with H₂O, which sapient suggestion was instantly executed by Mr. Bryson's valet, Thompson. This so completely annihilated the apparition, that Mr. Bryson could no longer find any reasonable objection to his retiring for the night, save the extreme humidity of his blankets.

On November 29th, the college played a friendly game of Association with Guelph. Our Association team is a very good one this year, and, as usual, we gained a complete victory, the score being 3 to 0 in favor of the college. The college play was superior to Guelph's throughout the game, only twice did the leather sphere come anywhere near the home goal, whereas it was continually meandering around that of Guelph. For the college, Millar, a first year man, played a splendid game, and so did the backs and half-backs. Millar put in two of the goals, one of them being made by an extremely difficult shot. The other was put through by Webster. A. Curson most satisfactorily filled the arduous post of referee.

MR. BUSCARLET, of the 2nd. year, entered the dining hall some days ago, with his young and beautiful bride on his arm. The couple were most enthusiastically cheered, and toasted by the assembled students, who then called upon the happy bridegroom for a speech. He arose, and thanked them for their cordial toast, but his speech was rather short, owing to the fact that his feelings (hunger and thirst) quite overcame him. The lovely bride was dressed in a striking combination of red and green, and wore a blue bonnet, with a black veil. The bridegroom wore his dress suit. Mrs. Buscarlet was afterwards heard to remark that she thought the fare very good, the prunes of an excellent flavour, and the beverage, (tea?) nectar, fit for the gods. The happy couple are spending their honeymoon in the O. A. C. turnip and potatoe fields, with an occasional visit to the threshing mow.

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT honored the College with a visit on December 6th. He was heartily cheered by the students, and held a long conversation with Prof. Shaw on the subject of agriculture, in which Sir Richard takes a great interest. In the afternoon of the same day, the College turned out in force to hear Sir Richard speak in the town hall, on the subject of Reciprocity. During the half hour before Sir Richard appeared, the students amused themselves by singing College songs,—"Old Grimes" and "Clementine" being among the favorites. When Sir Richard appeared on the platform, the College arose as one man, and jumping on to their seats, gave the hon. gentleman three hearty cheers and a tiger.

THE meeting of the Literary Society held on Dec. 12th, was hardly of the usual length. The orchestra did not, as usual, favour us with any music, being busy cramming for the examinations. The debate, "Resolved that the United States is a more suitable field for immigration than Canada" was most ably sustained by Messrs. Perry and Field for the affirmative, and Messrs. Palmer and Marsh for the negative, many very interesting arguments being brought forward by the speakers on both sides. The committee appointed to consider the merits of the respective speakers decided in favour of the affirmative. The open discussion which followed was very lively, some of the speeches being especially good, notably those of Messrs. Harvey and Youill.

THE regular weekly meeting of the Literary Society was held on Friday, Nov. 28th, the president, G. Harcourt, in the chair. At our last regular meeting, Prof. Hunt, the Hon. President, suggested the advisability of having an essay read weekly before the Society. The committee acting on this suggestion selected Mr. Palmer as the fittest person to introduce this new feature to us. Their choice proved a capital one, Mr. Palmer favoring us with a most interesting and well written essay on "The Natural Resources of Prince Edward Island." The debate of the evening "Resolved that Longfellow has done more to please and benefit mankind than Wordsworth" was a great success: the affirmative being represented by Messrs. Hunt and Eaton, the negative by Messrs. Sleightholm and Bell. The debate appeared doubly entertaining contrasted with the

hackneyed subjects usually chosen. Mr. Sleightholm's arguments were especially telling, his sarcasm proving too much for his opponents. The open discussion was well sustained. President Mills and Prof. Hunt taking an active part in it. Towards the close of the discussion, Mr. Bealey arose and gave us a touching description of the beauties surrounding Wordsworth's birth-place. The music was especially good, the songs of Messrs. Biscarlet and Soule being deservedly encored. The orchestra, a new innovation, enlivened the proceedings considerably. It is to be hoped it will be a regular item of the programme in future. The first year men were present in large numbers busily engaged in taking notes. The programme, although very good, was a trifle too long.

ACT I. SCENE II. *College Corridor.* A group of students assembled around the radiator.

Enter Perry.

Perry. Let me have men about me that are
[quiet:]
Sleek-headed men, and such as sleep o' nights;
Yond Bryson has a wild and wicked look;
He talks much; such men are mischievous.

Milne. Heed him not, Perry, he's not mis-
[chievous:]
He's a quiet student and musical.

Perry. Would he were quieter? Yet I heed
[him not:]
But when I wish to sleep I do not know the
[man]
I should avoid so soon as that noisy one.
He talks much, and stops on our flat long
[after ten:]
He often laughs, and laughs in such a sort
As if he mocked at me, and scorned my voice
That told him straight to go to bed,
I rather tell thee what is to be heard
Than what I hear, for always I am Perry
And both my ears are deaf.

On the evening of December 26th, Prof. Panton held an audience of some 50 or 60 persons, connected with the College, spell-bound for a couple of hours, while he described to them the wonders of the Yellowstone Park, accompanying his thrilling description with magnificent magic lantern views. The first scene presented to us was a representation of the "Liberty Cup," an immense pillar of limestone, standing near the entrance to the Park, then in rapid succession we were shown all the most striking features of the Park, geysers, lakes, canyons and hot springs being reproduced with most striking fidelity and clearness on the screen.

The magic lantern, a new one recently obtained by Prof. Panton, is one of exceptional power and brilliancy, the slides being also the best that could be obtained. Professor Panton was cordially thanked at the close of the entertainment, the students giving him three hearty cheers and a tiger. The Prof. hopes soon to be able to use an oxy-hydrogen light in his lantern in place of the paraffine he now uses, when he will be able to produce a much brighter light.

We append a few verses, which were composed during a lecture on Shorthorns. We ask that their many literary defects may be excused, as naturally they were written in a great hurry, in order to keep up with the lecturer, and are still in their rough, unfinished form:

Oh Thomas Bates! I would thy memory ever
Would live enshrined in each student's breast,
With Thomas Shaw their names be classed
together,

When that great man shall have been laid
to rest.

None, none, can well depict thy points, Oh
Duchess!

For ne'er bovine, say I, was ere so fair,
Except those on this farm, for such is
The Shorthorn bull, within the bull shed
here.

Thy dainty feet, thy skin so soft to handle,
Thy milking powers and that small, well
shaped head,

Degenerate moderns, none can hold a
candle,

To that fair image that we mourn for dead,
Some breeders sought a stronger constitution
And some that there should be a lengthy
rump,

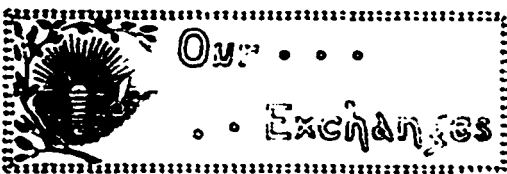
Some tried to get an even distribution
Of meat, instead of one unsightly lump.

The loins, by some, received great attention,
And some looked to the placing of the tail,
And some regard with serious apprehension
The small heart room in which some cattle
fail.

To you be glory, scientific breeders,
To you the glory and immortal praise,
Nor less to you, O ye judicious feeders
Who deftly mix the cut feed, oats and maize.

A most enjoyable meeting of the Literary Society was held in the classroom on Dec. 15th. This meeting differed from the ordi-

nary run of meetings, inasmuch as the programme was entirely managed by the outside boarders, and, it must be said, to their credit, that the evening was fully as enjoyable a one as any that we have had this term. Amongst those who contributed to the evening's entertainment Mr. Markham and Mr. T. B. Willans deserve special praise. Mr. Price was to have opened the programme with a song, but unfortunately the piano was locked up and some time elapsed before the key could be found. In the meantime Mr. Grey read before us a most interesting essay on "The Manners and Customs of India." This was followed by a reading from Mr. Stewart, and then came the hit of the evening, a comic recitation by Mr. Markham. We must congratulate this gentleman on his costume, which was perfect. The debate, the subject of which was "Boarding in the College, vs. Boarding out," was received with great interest. The advantages of the College board were ably brought forward by Messrs. Willans and Holliday, and those of outside boarding by Messrs. Newcomen and Linfield. Then followed Mr. Grey's song, which was heartily encored. Mr. Willans' essay on "Love" was loudly applauded, and was listened to with much attention, especially as Mr. Willans is such a well known authority on the subject. Mr. Heward's flute solo was a treat, such as we do not often enjoy, and was most enthusiastically encored. The programme was closed by an exhibition of cavalry sword exercise by Mr. Markham.



The odes of Horace have been set to music by Prof. F. D. Allen, of Harvard

The *Student Life* from St. Louis, Missouri, is a new paper on our table. It is well edited and we hope that it may continue to make our acquaintance.

One of our new exchanges is the *High School Herald*, from Westfield, Mass. It is not a very large sheet, but some of its paragraphs are really good. Not many high schools have pluck enough to edit a paper, and this fact makes the *Herald* doubly welcome.

An examination in gymnastics is now required of John Hopkins undergraduates before a degree is conferred.

A western man who runs an "Oration Factory" is said to have done a \$1,000 business last year with Cornell alone.

The oldest college in the world is the Mahommedan, at Cairo, Egypt, 1,800 years old when Oxford University was established.

1,200 cigarettes are sold every month by one New Haven firm to Yale students. To show the evils of this no smoker for the past fifty years has graduated with first honors from Harvard.

The welcome appearance of the Upper Canada College *Times* brings up to our minds a train of thoughts, which it is to be hoped will be forgiven by our contemporary in journalistic enterprise. We think that a College so long established as Upper Canada could boast of a larger paper, not so much given up to fun, but having in its composition articles of a higher and more literary character. A great improvement, also, would be a cover having a cut of the new college buildings, whose magnificent proportions and graceful outline would be a fitting frontispiece for any college paper.

The October number of the *A* has some very able articles, one of these is "One Phase of the Educational Problem," another "The Influence of Haid on Art," and a third on "Reading," from which we clip the following: "Setting aside observation and experience, reading is the medium through which we must obtain nearly all the knowledge that we acquire on this side of the grave. It is from reading that we derive our best thoughts and our noblest aspirations. This it is that inspires the lawyer with legitimate ambition, the physician with a lofty sense of his responsibility, or the minister with purity of intention and holy zeal. The student who does not acquire a taste for reading during his collegiate course will probably never acquire it. Though he succeed in his examinations he will not be well read, and we venture to say will never rise higher than the routine work of his calling in after life. On the other hand the indiscriminate reader will find it extremely difficult to study anything seriously, thus losing the two most important results of a course of studies the training of the intellect and the exercise of the will."