

hind one with the left forward, changing teats often enough to relieve the pressure in the different parts of the udder about equally. Hold the left arm firmly toward the right leg of the cow so as to be able to press it back and protect the pail with the least disturbance, if she should kick or step forward.

The milker should be careful to avoid every occasion of discomfort to the cow. He should keep her teats sound and healthy by oiling them if they are inclined to chap or crack; he should also be careful to take hold so as not to pinch a part of them between the ends of his fingers and his hand; and he should see that his finger-nails do not, like hawks' claws, do violence to the teats when pressing them. If any thing occurs to disturb the cow, or make her start or kick, treat her kindly and soothe her with caressing tones, and abate the disturbance as much as possible. Use no harsh language or violence. All severity is sure to make a cow keep back all the milk she can. It not only fails to effect any improvement in the habits of the animal, but does positive injury, and makes matters worse by cultivating a fractious disposition in both cow and milker. The man who cannot govern his temper had better let milking alone.

If a cow kicks or is uneasy it must not be inferred that she is malicious. It is very likely because she is hurt, or in some way made uncomfortable, and the cause of discomfort should be found and removed. When milking is comfortably and properly performed the cow evidently enjoys the operation. She manifests her pleasure by her quietness and a placid demeanor, and often by putting herself in a way to be milked, and showing impatience if it is not done when she expects it. Kindness is by far the best agent for regulating the habits of the dairy. All unusual noises and loud talking and singing should be avoided because they excite the attention and prevent relaxation in their udders. A strange dog passing through the yard or farm, has made many a cow hold back a pint of her best milk. Whistling, or low singing, may have no particular effect upon the cows, but they had better be omitted because they retard work. The singing milker is very sure to be behind hand. A slow, quarrelsome, or noisy milker, will waste more than his wages, and had better be kept away from the cows.

When a cow is nearly milked, the hand, as it grasps the teat, should reach up a little above the teat, so as to press the milk down through the valve or contraction at the upper end of it, and every time the milk is pressed out of the teat, the milker should pull down on it, not with a jerk, but gently. When the milk is nearly exhausted from the udder, this pulling down on the teat pulls open the contractions at the junctions of the tubes, and lets the milk run down, and is necessary to procure all the milk.

The omission of this operation, leaves a part of the milk in the tubes, and is what has made every milking machine a failure.

Condensed Milk.

An article in a recent number of "Nature" calls attention to the advantages of condensed milk as an article of diet particularly adapted for invalids and children. It is unnecessary to speak of the great importance of an abundance of pure unadulterated milk. Its value as an article of food for children depends upon the fact that it closely resembles the nourishment which nature has provided for them. Cow's milk merely differs from human milk in containing less sugar and less water, and hence it is usual to add to the milk given to infants a little sugar and water in order to make it as nearly identical with their natural food as possible.

Milk, however, is very liable to decomposition, particularly in hot weather, and the writer above quoted, thinks that much of the diarrhoea so common among children during the summer months is due to

the acidity of the milk that is given to them. The shaking that the milk undergoes which is brought by rail into cities no doubt accelerates this deleterious change in the milk. The adulteration of milk is a hackneyed subject of complaint, and is too frequently well grounded. It is not often that any injurious substance is added to the milk, but the addition of even so harmless an adulteration as pure well water diminishes the nutritive properties of the milk in exact proportion to the quantity added, and when we reflect that the most important use of milk is as an article of diet for those who stand most in need of nourishment—children and invalids—we see at once that this is a matter of grave importance.

All these disadvantages are obviated by the use of the condensed milk. It is portable and will keep for any length of time without decomposition, and it is prepared with a care and a scrupulous attention to cleanliness which warrants its purity. This care is essential to its manufacture, as the smallest particle of decomposing milk would ruin the whole mass.

Thousands of gallons are, according to the writer, used daily in Great Britain, and it is manufactured on a very large scale at Aylesbury, 200 persons being employed, and the milk of 1200 cows used every day. The process consists in driving off the water which the milk naturally contains, until it has reached the consistence of a syrup. Sugar is added to prevent decomposition, and the milk run into cans which are then hermetically sealed.

By the addition of water to this condensed milk, an article can be produced at pleasure which has all the appearance, flavor and properties of fresh milk with the addition of a little sugar. For children this is rather an advantage than otherwise, and for many other purposes it is no drawback. Of the palatableness and wholesomeness of the condensed milk when taken like cream, with tea and coffee, we can speak from personal experience during a considerable time. We commend the subject to the consideration of our readers.

Cheese is popularly supposed to be constipating in its effects. This is true as regards green cheese, and untrue if the cheese has been allowed to ripen. If it is kept until it softens down, somewhat like butter, it is then ripe, and as easily digested as tender beef.

BEETS ON A DAIRY FARM.—Mr. Harris Lewis, near Little Falls, N. Y. states that the cost of raising beets on his farm last season—including cost of all labor, cost of seed, &c., as \$16.50 per acre. The yield was 900 bushels, bringing the cost per bushel to about 5½ cents. Two cents per bushel should be added if the cost of the manure is taken into account.

FEED FOR PRODUCING MILK. The *Practical Farmer* says: "It is well settled in the opinion of all our best dairymen, that bran greatly promotes the milk secretions in cows, and is fed almost universally. About equally mixed with corn meal is the usual proportions. This mixture seems to promote both quantity and quality of milk."

For many years butter has been sent from Copenhagen to Europe in hermetically sealed tin cans. Although the business was commenced originally as an experiment, it has expanded to such a degree that, during the last two years, it has occupied several of the largest butter dealers of Copenhagen. The object of packing the butter in this manner is to protect it against the action of air and heat, and this is so completely attained that butter has been sent from Copenhagen to China and back again, without the smallest detriment to its edible qualities. The principal places of demand are China, Brazil, Java, Spain and other countries, generally through London or Liverpool houses. The packages vary in size up to twenty-eight pounds, although those of four pounds are generally preferred. The cans are lined inside with wood, saturated with salt pickle, and when filled, are soldered up. This treatment is enough to exert a very important influence in the preservation of the butter.—*Ex.*

A farmer can do more work with a good thinking apparatus than with the best span of horses ever hitched to a wagon.

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The Canada Farmer.

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The Weather and Crops.

From the general tenor of the reports given by our exchanges in various parts of the country, we are warranted in believing that the anticipations of a bountiful harvest to which expression was given in our issue of May 31st, are destined to be fully realized. In some localities, drought prevailed to a rather alarming extent early in the season, but timely and copious rains dispelled the gloomy apprehensions that had been excited. Even the hay crop which threatened, in many sections to be short, will we believe, be quite up to the average everywhere, and in some favored neighborhoods, more than usually heavy. The fall wheat, though in many instances, badly winter-killed, is likely to be on the whole, a fair crop. Spring grain promises remarkably well. Potatoes, though passing through a severe ordeal in western and middle Ontario, owing to the ravages of the Colorado bug, will not materially suffer as to yield of tubers, the vines being uncommonly luxuriant, so much so, that a portion of them can be spared for the marauder. Turnips were badly hurt by the fly at first, necessitating, in some cases, a fresh plant, and in more a diligent filling up of gaps, but the weather has been favorable, and we do not doubt that when pulling time comes, there will be a good supply to gather in. An abundant fruit yield may now be considered certain. The small early fruits have produced well, strawberries being diminished somewhat in productiveness by dry weather, but cherries, currants, gooseberries, and raspberries were perhaps never better both in quantity and quality. Apples will be plentiful. Pears, and plums, bid fair to be at least a medium crop. The honey harvest is a good one, but the honey gatherers, owing to the great mortality among bees last winter, are not so numerous as usual, and therefore this product will hardly be in the market very abundantly.

As to crop prospects elsewhere, we believe, they are very similar to our own throughout the Northern States. As to the South, we have seen only an occasional local report, which has been, however, encouraging. The *Quebec Chronicle* predicts a deficient harvest for the lower provinces, a prediction which the *St. John's Telegraph* endorses. A very competent judge says of crop prospects abroad:—The crop pros-