

Canada and Great Britain, and Canada and the United States. As regards the former, the railway companies have, it is true, just made considerable concessions, but even now the rates are too high. As regards the quarantine question between Canada and the United States, we are, as we have stated before, in favor of its abrogation if both countries will consent to so doing, as we see no benefit to either country in continuing them when both countries can show such a clean bill of health.

These are the questions to be discussed, and it is hoped that all interested, who can attend, will do so, and make their influence felt on these points, which are so vital to the interests of all concerned in live stock.

Our Butter Trade.

In conversation, the other day, with the Hon. Thomas Ballantyne, the well-known cheese and butter exporter, he stated that the best market his firm had found for their butter this winter had been in England, and, in confirmation of this statement, he showed us a letter from the dealer in Manchester who handles their butter, which, by permission, we give here for our readers' benefit:

Messrs. Thomas Ballantyne & Son, Stratford, Ont.

DEAR SIRS,—We have received delivery of 45 packages ex *Mongolian*. AC 58 is correct in both color and saltiness, and has been sold at 106 shillings. AC 14 and 15 are not quite such fine butter, and both lots have been cleared at 104 shillings, as per our cable to you to-night.

Choice Australian is selling at 100 shillings, London. As we pointed out before, we can make more for your butter than for it; the only fault is you don't ship enough.

In reply to yours of February 5th and 6th, we may say, with regard to the lot referred to, that it was both too salty and too high-colored, and we got into trouble about it. The correct amount of salt to use is 3 per cent., which is practically five-eighths ounce to the pound. If you add coloring, you take 4s. per cwt. off the price. You cannot do better than go on as you are doing; don't alter it in the least. . . .

Yours, etc.,

ANDREW CLEMENT & SON,
4 Greenwood street,
Manchester.

February 19th, 1896.

The prices quoted are, of course, per 112 pounds; 106s., in Manchester, being equal, Mr. Ballantyne informs us, to 21½ cents net in Toronto, while some sales were made as high as

112s., and none were lower than 102s. As regards the color, the popular demand varies according to the district, Manchester calling for a natural, or uncolored, butter; while London needs about the same amount of color as Toronto. It is worth noticing that the finest Australian only brought 100s., as against 106s. for the best of the Canadian lot. This is enough to show that it only requires an effort on our part to obtain as high a position for our butter as we have for our cheese in England.

Prince Edward Island Correspondence.

(From an Occasional Correspondent)

The winter has so far been mild, and the ground, since the New Year, well covered with snow. Should this state of things continue until the latter part of March, we shall be pretty sure of good grass next season.

Fodder is somewhat scarce, as last summer was too dry for either hay or grain to do its best. Silos are scarce yet, but they are growing in favor. A few more dry seasons will convince most farmers of their necessity.

Pasturage has not been as good of late years as formerly, neither does hay turn off to the acre nearly as much as it used to. Farmers are finding out that they have been selling off too much of the fertility of their farms in exporting grain and potatoes so largely.

The low price now obtainable for oats and potatoes is not an unmixed evil, as it is fast hastening that change which it is imperative that our farmers should and must make in order that agriculture may be lifted out of the old ruts and placed on a sound scientific basis. Professor Robertson, Dominion Dairy Commissioner, acting under instructions from the Minister of Agriculture, has contributed largely towards such a change by inducing the farmers to engage in co-operative dairying.

Previous to 1892 a few cheese factories had been in operation on the island. They were owned and run by private enterprise. They were short-lived, for the reason that the farmers were suspicious that the owners were getting the best of it.

In 1892 dairying on the co-operative plan was introduced. In that year Professor Robertson started an experimental dairy station at New Perth, in King's county. The people of the locality formed a company, and put up a factory. The government put in the plant, and conducted cheesemaking at the station, charging therefor one and a quarter cents per pound of cheese.