

ANNUAL ADDRESS

DELIVERED BEFORE THE CANADIAN DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION, AT
INGERSOLL, CANADA, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1870, BY

X. A. WILLARD, A.M.,

OF LITTLE FALLS, HERKIMER COUNTY, N.Y.

Mr. President and Members of the Canadian Dairymen's Association :

Ladies and Gentlemen :

I have no fitting words to express the pleasure of meeting with you in Convention, and of being called upon to address you again on the great interest which this Association represents.

I esteem it a high honour to have the privilege of numbering Canadians among my friends, and it would be a source of profound regret should I fail at any time to retain your kindly feelings. I hope I represent, in some degree, a large class of American citizens, who are not warped and cramped by narrow sectional views; but who can rejoice in the prosperity of a sister nation, which comes from a stock common to us both,—that Anglo-Saxon race which maintains its individuality with such tremendous tenacity—which electrifies all with which it comes in contact—which overcomes all difficulties—which unites continents—and has risen higher in the cycle of civilization and progress than that of all the other nations combined. Climate, soil, circumstances, may modify and change somewhat the exterior of the race, but when you probe down to the heart you find it of that wonderfully large British pattern that it cannot well be mistaken.

I think if you had seen the honest welcome of your President at the immense gathering of American Dairymen at Utica, and had heard the hearty applause that greeted his appearance on the stage, you could not have mistaken the kindly feeling of our people for Canadians.

The natural home of the milk-producer is in a belt between the 40th and 45th parallels of latitude.

It stretches from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and possibly to the Pacific. Within its limits are New England, New York, Pennsylvania, the northern parts of Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, the greater portion of Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa, and a part of the Canadas. Of all this belt, probably not more than a third of the land is adapted to dairying. The dairy lands are quite irregular in outline, lying not