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## OFFICIAL PART.

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### Cold Water for Cattle in Winter.

In January last, at the Meeting of the Dairy-men's Association, one of the lecturers expressed himself as being in favour of allowing animals to go out in winter, for the purpose of taking the air, and of being watered at the springs. We then understood M. Marsan, professor of agriculture at L'Assomption, who made the above statement, to recommend the practice of letting cattle out every day in fine weather, and in our report of the meeting, we made him say: *every day except during storms*. At the foot of the report we placed a note to the following purport:

"As the session was drawing to a close, it was impossible to discuss this most important question, against which we should most emphatically have given our decision."

To-day, we propose to return to the matter, and to express our ideas on the subject as we should have done at the meet-

ing, had there sufficient time. To do justice to M. Marsan, we will state, in the first place, that we have attributed too wide a sense to his words, *every day in fine weather*, by adding the words, of our fabrication, *except during storms*. We have received a letter from the lecturer, in which he explains his views clearly, and we will quote an extract from it in order to start the discussion free from any misunderstanding:

"I did, indeed, say that it was advantageous to the health of the stock to turn them out for a little while every day *in fine weather* to make them take some exercise. By fine weather-days, I do not mean days without storms, but only sunny days when the temperature is not low. Moreover, while they are out, the cattle must be kept moving, and not allowed to stand shivering about. For example: this winter, the stock were not allowed to go out during the whole month of January. It is after having observed the effects of constant confinement to the house, in winter, that I have adopted the practice of turning cattle out as often as possible, a practice which they (*elles*—feminine. Trans.) are all the better for, and in this I have been guided by the advice of many practical men."

"Mr. Lynch, in his *Dairy-Practice*, p. 4, recommends exercise for cattle when it is fine enough."

"Last week I heard at Montreal that a well known Eastern Townships' farmer kept a beaten road open all the winter, and made his stock take a turn on it every day for the very objects I have indicated."

"As to watering cattle in the open air, I did not give a decisive opinion on the merits or demerits of the practice. I only remarked incidentally, that many good Scotch farmers were in the habit of *turning out their cattle for exercise every day, and of watering them at springs or troughs*.