

were, the first in the French country having only been started in the year 1772. The trouble was no mainly doubt due to the ignorance of the makers, and the consequent bad quality of the cheese turned out.

No one can doubt the public utility of the enterprise; but the difficulties were very great. One of them was, to find an capable instructor in every branch of the business. Another was to start the affair so as to ensure to the farmers a regular and paying price for their milk, and to the shareholders a proper interest for their investments.

Such being the case, the Director of Agriculture, who carried the weight of a great responsibility on his shoulders, after having attended for four consecutive years all the annual meetings of the two dairymen's associations of Ontario, addressed himself for information and advice to the best authorities of the sister province. After mature consideration, he determined to follow the advice of Mr. Derbyshire, then, as now, president of the dairymen's association of Eastern Ontario, as well as the representative of one of the principal cheese and butter firms of Montreal.

The advice given by Mr. Derbyshire was, that we should adopt the *combination system*, a system by which the course of the markets could be followed, and the products of the factory suited to the demand; whether for whole-milk cheese, for butter alone, or for butter and cheese from partially skimmed milk.

Mr. Derbyshire himself selected for us a man who, in his opinion, was the best maker and teacher he had met with. No one could be a better judge of the qualifications required than Mr. Derbyshire; from his position, he knew all the most noted makers in the States, as the dairymen in their conventions were always on the look out for the best men to give good and sound advice to Canadian factory men. The choice of Mr. Derbyshire fell on Mr. Jocelyn, an American dairyman, whom he recommended most strongly as maker and instructor.

Return we now to M. Barré, our apprentice of 1879, who had solicited and obtained a slight aid to enable him to pass some months in Denmark, and thereby to become capable of rendering service to the country as a maker of butter. Before leaving Canada, the government had paid him in full the sum he had asked for his trip, M. Barré engaging to pay out of his own pocket the balance of his expenses, seeing that he would be the first to profit by any knowledge he might acquire during his journey.

Hardly two months had elapsed since M. Barré's departure, when he drew at sight upon me personally, not upon the Director of Agriculture, if you please: the draft was not for a trifling sum, either! This was done without the slightest authority from me, and without any intimation of his intention. I paid the amount of the draft, but I told him at once that he must not do it again. He sent me heaps of excuses: he was, he said, penniless, in a foreign country; and moreover, he must, anyhow, have more assistance.

In this embarrassing situation, the unfortunate Director renewed his application to government in behalf of M. Barré. After many essays, he succeeded in getting him appointed as assistant to Mr. Jocelyn, as the latter did not know a word of French, and technical questions were being received from all quarters at the factory. An advance was made to help M. Barré to return home. I, personally, related all that had passed in connection with Mr. Jocelyn & Co. to M. Barré, and informed him of my success in getting him appointed as assistant. His reply is typical. It should be framed and glazed! Here is part of it, the faults in spelling corrected.

*Translation.* My Dear Sir,—To-day I received your letter of the 9th March. I thank you for what you have done for me. I am satisfied with my position, though the salary is only

moderate; everything must have a beginning, but the government must raise my pay next year, if it is desired that I should continue to work for my country; for, in addition to butter-making, questions are continually arising in connection with it, such as the keeping, raising, and improvement of our milch-cows, and all these I am studying intently. The Danes have given me a nick-name: *The American Demon*; not a very poetical epithet, but one must put up with it. I can now translate Danish pretty well, and as to the literature of the country, none of it is beyond me. Your Mr. Jocelyn had better take care. I am sorely afraid he will find his assistant on his shoulders before long. (1) I am at present making cheese from milk skimmed for 24 hours down to the lowest point, and this cheese will take the shine out of much of the full-milk cheese in the province of Quebec. I am strongly inclined to think that I can make better butter than Jocelyn. I shall always have the advantage over him in these points: I know English as well as he does; I know French; and when I leave Copenhagen, I shall know enough Danish to enable me to follow the progress of the dairy-industry in Denmark.

But there is one thing of paramount importance just now: the question of money. I am at the end of mine, and if you have not sent me any by the time you receive this letter, see to it at once. Send by telegraph, not by letter, as that would take up too much time. Telegraph, or make your banker telegraph, to the *Private Banken* of Copenhagen to pay me the money you are to send me, for you must know that my work is, to-day, at a perfect stand-still. I have learned all that there is to be learned here, and I cannot stir for want of means. I am in debt, too: a serious matter when my time is so precious. I should be ready to leave Denmark in ten days if I had enough money to continue the researches that remain for me to make, and I must think of returning home. I should like to be there by the first of June, but I must pass through France and England. I am in an awkward position, and had I known the affair would have taken so long I could have had money from my family. Well, I reckon on your making as much haste as possible; there is no use in waiting for government funds, for in that case I should have to stay till dooms-day. *They are too slow for me.*

S. M. BARRÉ.

We remark here, among other startling things, that before M. Barré had been in Denmark more than a few weeks, "*none of the literature of the country was beyond him*;" that when he arrived, he did not even know the Danish alphabet; that his education had not at all been what is called *classical*; and that, until that time, he had never in all his life heard of Mr. Jocelyn! Nevertheless, he already felt himself Mr. Jocelyn's superior in butter and cheese-making!! And above all *after six weeks apprenticeship*, he was making, with thoroughly skimmed milk, better cheese than much of the whole-milk cheese made in the province.

The St. Denis factory opened in June 1881. M. Barré arrived from Europe just in time to see it start, under circumstances of extreme difficulty. As is always the case, especially in the best undertakings, the first steps are expensive; the capitalists and these interested are timid; and, in fact, the difficulties are innumerable. M. Barré profited by such a favourable opportunity of trying to "*mount on Mr. Jocelyn's shoulders*," and if he did not succeed, at all events he threw the whole affair into confusion: the proprietors were set against the foreign cheese-maker, against his method, and against the *Director of Agriculture*, who had arranged everything; the pupils were set against the proprie-

(1) i. e. will surpass him in his own trade. Translator.