

impossible for the frost to penetrate, especially if the fodder has been properly out and packed so as to exclude the air. The whole cost of such a silo is about \$46, and every farmer who has built one has found it so profitable that he has added more afterwards. No man of any intelligence would deny that the silo is about the most profitable investment a farmer can make, but at the present time, when it is just being introduced, it is essential that it should be in every respect completely successful. A silo with a wall of a single plank may not produce all the results a farmer expects, and others may be deterred by his experience from adopting the system."

It was remarked, the other day, that it was a hard task to get our farmers to grow roots, and that it was for the purpose of persuading them to do so that a grant was made to them of 50 cents a ton for all beets delivered at the factory. It is much less troublesome to persuade them to grow maize for ensilage, thereby furnishing themselves with the means of drawing a very satisfactory revenue from their farms either by using the silage to fatten beasts or by giving it to their dairy cows.

The farmer who has a field of corn can not only fill his silo with it as a provision for the winter, but use some of it in summer. When the burning rays of the sun shall have scorched up the pastures, so that the cows begin to dry up, he can mow some of this succulent fodder and give it to his cattle, either on the pastures or in the cow-house.

People complain, and with reason, that emigration is decimating us; those on the opposite benches throw it in our teeth. We are all anxious to abolish it. Were the system of ensilage diffused over the whole country, farming would be attractive because it would be remunerative. The silo is the savings-bank of the farmer, which will always afford him abundant supplies for the whole of his establishment. Winter and summer, summer and winter, at all seasons, his cattle will be always full fed, their number, through its aid, will be constantly on the increase, and, at the same time, his stock of manure will be multiplied indefinitely.

The scarcity of manure—there's another thing that needs a remedy. If we would reflect a little on the way in which we have farmed our land, we might say, as Mr. Ayer said the other day, that, without exaggeration, the soil of the Province of Quebec possesses an extraordinary stock of fertility. For, in truth, for years and years we have worked the land; we have extracted from it vast stores of wealth; we have never made it any return, and, even now, it is not worn out.

By breeding and rearing cattle we shall increase our stock of manure, to use in the interim while we are learning how to add to it superphosphates and other artificial manures.

Here is our mistake: we persist in following the old system of farming, which may have been good enough on the confines of the bush, when the soil was virgin, but which, after at least half a century of spoliation, is now no longer good. We close our eyes to the fact that, in the cultivation of grain, we have now a rival with whom we cannot strive successfully—the West, the great West, where this cultivation is carried out on an immense scale that defies competition.

This is a fact that the people in the Eastern States, and especially in the State of New-York, are beginning to feel that they will have to reckon with.

On this point, allow me to read the following extract from a speech recently made by the Governor of the State of New-York:

(*The Cultivator and Country Gentleman*, 19th May, 1892.)

"My own observation and experience have convinced me that the most practicable kind of relief which can be offered to the agricultural communities of the State, is that which, recognising the changed conditions prevailing now and created

by the opening up of an immense farming territory in the west, endeavors to discourage our farmers from the vain attempt to compete with their western rivals in the production of wheat, corn, and other cereals, and stimulates them to new lines of agricultural effort more suited to existing conditions and to present demands. The rapid increase of population in the towns and cities of the State is of direct benefit to our farmers if they would take advantage of it, by offering a greater market than that possessed by the farmers of any other State for the sale of the so called "small crops," vegetables, fruits, etc., of dairy products, fine butter and cheese, of poultry and other products, the demand for which is constantly increasing, and in the sale of which there cannot be dangerous competition from the farmers of neighbouring States."

VARIOUS KINDS OF CHEESE.

At the dairy school, the mode of making several kinds of cheese, not yet manufactured in this province, will also be taught. These novel kinds will not return smaller profits to the maker even if they were put on our markets instead of cheese we now import. I am speaking of the Gruyère and other kinds.

Nowadays, our business lacks variety. We walk all in the same path, we are all pursuing the same game, we are all making the same kind of cheese, the so-called "American." If we do not wish to see before long the market overcrowded with unsaleable goods, it is important, it is necessary, to vary our products, to open new roads. Let those who are actuated by the spirit of innovation set the example. Let us beware of a possible overcrowding of the market.

The popular saying advises us "not to put all our eggs into one basket." In my turn, I say: do not all make the same thing, but prepare new markets for yourselves by manufacturing goods of a novel description.

I spoke of the school at St. Hyacinthe. Many districts, no doubt, will try to get this school established in their locality, but I think it fair to place it where was the cradle and where is still the centre of the dairy-industry of the province of Quebec. This spot set the example, and it has produced the men who have displayed the most enterprising spirit as regards the dairy-industry. While I applaud their labors, I desire also to give them the encouragement they have earned. We have there already an experimental farm and an analytical station, with an agricultural-chemical laboratory. The new school will be the complement of these establishments.

To diffuse knowledge of agricultural science, is the sincere desire of the Government, and I may tell the cheese-makers, in particular, that we intend to neglect no means of initiating them into all the mysteries of their art.

While we are exporting to Europe an enormous quantity of so-called American cheese, made in our province, we are, at the same time, importing a considerable quantity of other cheese. I know that more than one of my hearers is not satisfied with Canadian cheese, but orders, from Europe, Gruyère and Roquefort for the delectation of his palate.

Well, we are going to try—and I do not see why we should not succeed—to make goods such as these.

WINTER BUTTER-MAKING.

That is not all. The making of butter in winter has just been successfully started, and this onward step in the road of progress must be introduced into our province. Thenceforward, the cheese factory will no longer have to close its doors in winter, but by making butter will continue its operations, and become an establishment remunerative to its patrons.

And, in combination with the silo, this is simple enough: