Maritime Markets

Halifax, N.S., Jan. 23, 1906.

The markets still remain firm. The local demand for butter is very quiet, which prevents any immediate advance. The cheese situation is remarkably strong. The English market is steadily advancing, the last cable showing a rise of two shillings. The egg market remains unchanged. Receipts are small but quite ample for the demand, fresh being quoted at 24 and Limes 23 cents per dozen.

The market appears to be well stocked with meats. There is not much demand for poultry, in which, however, prices keep high. Moose meat is no longer in the market, as the close of the season began on Jan. 1st. Pork still continues to be below the demand and sells readily at 8½ to 9½c. per lb. There are very few hogs coming from P. E. Island, the shortage being estimated at 50 per cent.

The closing of Island navigation has been followed by a slightly firmer market for vegetables. Potatoes have advanced to 40 cents.

There has been no actual change in the market for mill feeds, which remain very strong. Some dealers have advanced the price of bran $1.00 per ton. In fact it is now very difficult to get Ontario bran. There is a good demand for middlings at unchanged prices. Oats are on the advance. The hay market is unchanged. Farmers are not disposed to sell as they anticipate higher prices in the spring.

Old Indian Fashions

The American Indians used to grind their corn by pounding it between two stones. This work fell to the women. An up-to-date farmer would laugh at such an old-fashioned mill—would not have such primitive methods on his farm. Indians had no way of skimming their milk except to let it stand in something until what cream would rise came to the top. The women did the skimming as well as the milking. Of course, they lost sometimes as much as half the cream by such an unscientific method.

Some of the very farmers and dairymen who would laugh at an Indian mill are skimming their milk—and losing half their cream—just as the Indians did. Modern methods of skimming are as far ahead of the old method as modern mills are ahead of Indian grinding stones. The Up-to-date skimming machine is the Sharples Tubular Cream Separator. It often doubles your dairy profits—skims the milk as soon as drawn from the cow—leaves fresh warm skim milk for young stock—requires that only the cream be put away. In use from Maine to California—and far ahead of pans or cans. Ask the Sharples Separator Co. for their plainly written, fully illustrated catalogue No. —. Address them at West Chester, Pa., or Chicago, Ill., or Toronto, Can. They have large offices at each place.

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The Badger and His Work

Deep down in his burrow on our western plains and prairies the badger sleeps during the daytime, but with the first twilight shadows he goes forth on his night's foraging. He is a dreaded enemy of the prairie dog and the ground squirrel, and when he begins to excavate for one nothing but solid rock or death can stop him. With the long, blunt claws of his forefeet he loosens up the dirt. Dig! Dig! Dig! He works as though his life depended on it, now scratching out the sides of the hole, then turning on his back to [illegible] head.

At first he throws the dirt out between his hind legs, but soon he is too far down for that, so he banks it up back of him, then turns about and using his chest and forward parts as a pusher, shoves it out before him. He works with such rapidity that it would be somewhat difficult for a man to overtake him with a spade.

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