

ter, in the very front as Chadder cheese makers. It seems too absurd, however, in view of all that has come and gone, that the system under which cheese has been so much improved in former years, should be scouted by men professing to write in the dairy interest. The best makers have all, in one form or other, followed the American methods."

It is as plain as a pikestaff that the grocer who blamed the "Yankees" for knocking out the genuine old English Cheddar, did not know the improved article was made on that part of the American continent usually called Canada, and it is equally plain that the "editor, professor, expert," or whatever he is, who edits *Hoard*, is not yet aware that Canada is as much America as that part of the same continent where they produce wooden nutmegs, filled cheese and similar Yankee notions. So the "American" editor, not the English grocer, goes on complacently to remark:—"Here we have the candid confession that the best makers follow the American methods."

Of course they do, but the methods and the men are both Canadian, as every Scottish dairyman knows. You are right, Brother Hoard, in advising, as you do, the butter and cheese makers on your side the fence to send no more filled cheese or oleo butter to England. But it will take a few years of honest work before you can acquire a character for "American" cheese, which Canada by skill and honesty has already won for her "Cheddars."—*North-West Farmer*.

ENSILAGE.

During the last week we have heard a good deal of talk about resorting to the making of ensilage this year. The idea has no doubt been accentuated by a report in some of the London papers that as the present season ends a certain cycle of seasons it is sure to be a wet summer, as its corresponding predecessors have been. We have the utmost respect for those worthy and observant people who can see further into the future than anybody else, but we should be extremely sorry to allow their prognostications to influence us in the determination of any important point of farm practice. At the present juncture, however, the question is of some importance to farmers in the South of England who are just now on the eve of commencing the cutting of trifolium, and when

the climatic conditions are such as to render it utterly impossible to make good hay.

Fifteen years ago few people would have thought of attempting to preserve grass or fodder crops except in properly constructed silos with one or other of the various patented appliances for compression. During recent years, experience has taught us that various modifications of the process can be practised with advantage, and that a silo is by no means indispensable. Judged from a strictly economic standpoint there is no doubt that a cheaply-constructed silo is preferable, as the percentage of waste on the outside is so much smaller, and the regulating of the temperature more easily controlled. We have to bear in mind, however, that the result of experience in the use of ensilage with the ordinary farmer is that he will resort to this method of preserving his grass in cases of emergency only. In other words the ordinary farmer will only make ensilage if he cannot make hay. This we believe to be sound practice on all mixed farms. In the case of grass farms, where there are no roots, the practice of preserving a portion of the crop in a succulent state is no doubt an excellent one, being the cheapest possible substitute.

In another week the cutting of trifolium will be pretty general in the south, and those who are at present undecided as to hay or ensilage will soon have to make a final decision. In the majority of cases the weather will be the determining factor. If the present unsettled, rainy state continues a good many farmers will no doubt decide for ensilage.

In doing so it would be well to bear in mind that the clover should be cut directly it comes into bloom, and that good ensilage can never be obtained from partially dried grass or clover. The sooner it is carted to the rick after being cut the better. No amount of rain during the process of carting will in any way injure it. The size and position of the silo rick must be determined by circumstances. The wider and broader it is the better, the chief point being to reduce the outside surface to a minimum, and to compress the sides as much as possible by tucking or cutting after the first day's carting has been trodden or rolled down by men or horses. If the heap is a large one the carts may be drawn on to it in dry weather to unload. The more the sides are compressed the less will be the proportion of waste on the outsides.

The most difficult part to the inexperienced is