

gether. This was not the case. His motion did interfere at all with the liberty of the subject. Owners might dock their horses as much as they pleased."

Personally, we agree entirely with Sir Nigel Kingscote's views, but as regards his statement that, "in Canada, docking is not tolerated," we must be allowed to contradict it positively. In 1896 (?) we read an article from the pen of, if we remember, Dr. Fleming, a leading veterinary surgeon of London, containing the same statement. We sallied at once into Sherbrooke street, in this city, at about the favourite hour for driving, and, counting the carriage-horses carefully, we found that, out twenty-two pairs and five singles, there was only one horse that had not been docked! Equally, on the receipt of the last Gloucestershire Chronicle, we took the census of the horses in the same parade—November 29th—and, except one pair that were evidently from the country, every horse was docked!

One of our greatest friends, a breeder of many colts, docks all his foals at an early age, and how they stand the flies in summer on his sandy land we never could understand. Docking is bad enough, in its æsthetic effects, but plucking the hair from the stump afterwards is absolutely deforming to the horse, and this is too common a practice here in Montreal.

Cost of a loaf of bread.—Some years ago, we published in this journal a calculation of the cost of making a barrel of flour into bread. The bakers were not pleased with us, and one of them, if we remember, called us names the reverse of complimentary. However, we did not care much, and now we have the pleasure of placing before our readers a fuller calculation, made by a baker in full practice, that comes out, within a couple of pounds in perfect correspondence with our own figures.

THE DAY'S WORK.

WHAT IT COSTS TO MAKE A LOAF OF BREAD.

Facts and figures of great interest to householders.

It is always interesting and instructive to learn the prime cost of things in general use, and to no single article of consumption does this apply so much as to the cost of bread; yet, strange to say, even bakers themselves have hitherto been very doubtful upon this subject, and it was almost

impossible to find two opinions which approached each other in important particulars. This uncertainty, however, has now been removed by the "Canadian Baker and Confectioner," by the process of a prize competition among the bakers, and the results are published in the October number. The questions which the competitors were required to answer were as follows:

1. What can you produce one thousand two pound single loaves of bread for, ready to deliver? Give the items that go to make up the actual cost in detail, under the heads of material, labor, and general expenses. Flour, \$5.00 per barrel.

2. What will the distribution of the thousand loaves cost at retail, in labor, plant, collecting, etc., on the average of a loaf to a house.

Thirteen bakers competed, from the following different localities:—Toronto, three; Ottawa, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Mount Forest, Hagersville, Peterboro, Carberry, Man.; Tilsonburg, Morrisburg and Richmond Hill. It is worthy of note that ten out of the thirteen estimates were within four dollars of each other, varying from \$42.35 to \$46.87—only two going below \$40.00, and two being above the \$50.00 mark for manufacturing. In the matter of delivery, there was greater diversity than in the estimates for the manufacture of the bread. One was as low as \$3.80, and one was as high as \$16.60. In deciding the competitions along this line, after a careful perusal of the whole of them, the judges, who were some of the best men that could be found for the purpose, decided that under the half-cent a loaf and over the one cent a loaf would be counted out, as unwarranted by the general evidence before them as to cost in this department.

All the estimates but two were for hand work, and it is a remarkable fact that the two which were put in by large establishments using machinery were much in excess of the others, both as to production and delivery. In fact, in regard to manufacture, they averaged \$8.02 more than the others, and in delivery, \$7.72, or over double the average cost of delivery by the other eleven competitors. It may be said, in passing, that as this result is the reverse of that arrived at in all other lines of manufacture, it is worthy of some further economic study.

The average cost of the thousand loaves, taking all the competitions into consideration, is \$44.88, and the delivery \$8.50, or a total cost of \$53.38. The eleven papers representing ordinary baking