

The Dairy.

Standard Butter and Cheese.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I send you the following extract from an English newspaper, and it would be well for our farmers to bear in mind that similar cases are not rare.

"FANCY BREAD AND NASTY BUTTER.—At the Sheffield Town Hall recently, a provision dealer named Charles Fielding, was summoned under a borough by-law, for being in possession of about 350 pounds of butter, which was in a nearly putrid state, the smell being worse than that of manure. The defendant, who does a very large business, did not deny that the butter was bad, but said that he generally sold it to confectioners, who made fancy bread, etc., with it. He denied that he retailed it in the shop, and said that he had for seventeen years sold it to confectioners at about nine pence per pound. It was Canadian butter, and he had sometimes about 200 firkins (nearly 17,000 pounds) of it on his premises. The Bench commented on the case, and ultimately ordered the butter to be destroyed, and inflicted a fine of twenty shillings, the extreme penalty under the by-law."

It is incredible that all the bad butter this dealer sold was Canadian; in fact he could not have obtained it for seventeen years; yet such a statement leads many to infer that Canada really sends an immense quantity of this sort of stuff to the British market.

What are the facts? Of late years a large quantity of butter has been exported, and this has been of quite a mixed quality and value. Some has been good butter put in bad packages, which have either spoiled its keeping, or imparted bad flavours; some has been bad at first, and although put in proper wood, its value could not be increased. Some has been injured by too large a proportion of salt. But the larger part of the bad butter has never been thoroughly or properly worked; such may be said never to arrive at its destination in a wholesome condition.

It is certain a large quantity of this kind of produce is passed off as coming from wrong localities, and Canada is often made the scape-goat for bad butter, cheese, etc., that never even crossed the Atlantic. Let our farmers unite, in different localities, and what they have to spare of these articles make well, handle and pack carefully, and mark with distinctive brands—raise the standard, and in a short time their produce would be in request at greatly advanced rates. R.

A case of hydrophobia in a cow is reported in the *Farmer* (Scottish) of February 2nd. During the past few months, it is stated, many cases of the kind have occurred in the same neighbourhood (Alcomden, near Hedden Bridge) among pigs, cows, and horses, as well as among dogs and cats, and several instances of the disease in the human subject are also reported.

Feeding Dairy Cows.

At some of the Dairymen's Conventions that have been recently held in various places this matter has been discussed by different parties, and all seem to be impressed with the idea, as brought out by the relation of several actual experiences, that in order to obtain the largest amount of actual profit from cows kept for the sake of their product, in the form of butter and cheese, it is necessary to give them some extra feeding in the summer beyond what they obtain from the pastures. One told of expending \$25 per head on his cows from March to November, over and above the value of their pasturage. During April and May he gave each cow a mixture composed of four quarts of corn and oatmeal, one quart oil meal, and eight quarts bran per day, in addition to hay. After they went to grass the meal and hay was left off, and twelve quarts of bran per day given. As soon as sowed corn was fit to cut for fodder, and the pastures began to dry up, he gave them cut fodder in addition. His cows gave an extra yield under this treatment of 200 pounds of cheese each over cows on pasture alone, and were besides quite fat at the end of the season, and so worth at least \$10 per head over what they would have brought if in ordinary condition. So that for an investment of \$25 each he realized \$35 each, or \$10 profit per head over what he would have had on pasture alone. Besides this, the extra feeding enabled him to keep forty cows on pasturage that without it could have kept but thirty-two, and this added to the profit made on the feed, gave him an extra profit of \$755 over and above what he would have had without using the extra feeding. This matter of extra feeding of cows when at grass ought to obtain place with our best dairymen, and the actual results of even soiling the cows with corn fodder while at grass, would, no doubt, show largely in favour of the practice.

It was resolved at a meeting in Derby, England, February 18, convened by the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, to establish three cheese factories in the county on the American principle.

At a meeting of the Little Falls Farmers' Club, Mr Willard said his observation led him to believe that it was better to have one large pasture than to alternate from one to another. The feed was more uniform and the result more satisfactory. It was thought that it would take in Herkimer county from one and a half to two acres of pasturage to keep one cow. In some very fine pasturage, an acre would suffice.

The cheese factory at the front of Sidney was built in 1866, and cost, including all apparatus, double sets of cans for each shareholder, and six spring wagons, the sum of \$6,318. In 1866 the cows numbered 250, which increased in 1869 to 750. In 1866 the gross receipts were \$9,950.04, and in 1869 they amounted to \$23,422.34. The total amount of all the expenses is about two cents per pound of cheese. All the trouble the stockholders have in connection with the matter is to deliver the milk at the cow stables, and draw a check for their money at the close of the season.

Poultry Yard.

Golden Pheasants.

It is a commonly prevailing opinion that the Golden Pheasant is not a hardy bird—a mistaken idea. When I resided in Woodstock, Ct., I tested that thoroughly. All that is needed for their protection in winter is to have some clumps of evergreens in the lawn, say eight or ten feet in diameter. Under such cover my pheasants have remained all winter, being in perfect health. Towards morning, you will hear the Golden Pheasant cock begin to crow lustily, with a sharp loud crow, as much as to say, "We are all well." The latter end of April or beginning of May the female bird begins to lay. She will select her nest in some easy place, and lay from 14 to 19 eggs. She ought not to be disturbed or frightened off her nest; if so, she will drop her eggs anywhere about the enclosure. When she began to sit, I used to take the eggs and put them under a small bantam. They are twenty-four days coming off. When hatched out, take them with the bantam mother and put them in a square box; four boards nailed together, about four feet long and twelve inches high, will answer; let them fit close to the ground. Give them no food for twenty-four hours, then give them hard boiled egg, with lettuce chopped fine, varying the food: sometimes a little curd, breadcrumbs wet with a little sweet milk. The more varied their food and the more frequently renewed, the better. At two or three months old, feed them on barley, oat grits, etc.

I have often thought—think so now—that a gentleman's lawn is not complete without these harmless pets. A neat wire fence, five feet high, is all that is required to keep them. Then they can have these beautiful birds in all their gorgeous colours.—*Cor. in Western Rural.*

Turkey Raising.

With many farmers, the raising of turkeys is a precarious business, owing to the tenderness of the young during the first month, or two months after they are hatched. Success in the management will depend much on the situation of a farm. A warm southern exposure for the farm buildings, and ample grounds for the young to exercise, without strolling too much in the wet grass, and warm places to retreat into in cold and wet stormy weather, are the chief requisites to succeed in raising a flock of turkeys. They will subsist on any of the different kinds of grain raised on the farm; it is only the manner of feeding which is important. They require to be fed little and often, and if the women folks will take an interest, there will seldom be a failure. Vermin should be carefully guarded against; by coming in contact with other poultry and having access to their houses, the young turkeys may become infested with