

CHEESE.—What a price Canadian Cheddar cheese is fetching! Fifty-five shillings a cwt. (112 lbs.) in Liverpool, when the very finest quality of English Cheddar is only worth 72sh. a cwt. Our makers deserve the greatest possible credit, and if they deserve credit, what do their teachers the Tachés, Robertsons, Côtés, Archambaults, &c., deserve? The whole body of the Dairymen's Association, in fact, have done, under very difficult conditions, work that entitles that body to the gratitude of every farmer of the province.

FOOD AND MILK.—The question of whether or not the quality of a cow's milk can be increased by feeding, is not yet settled. We had a talk with Dr Edwards, the Public Analyst, on the subject a few days ago, but as the "City-passenger-electric-car" in which we were at the time was even more noisy and more abrupt at the curves than usual, we arrived at no conclusion on the subject. In our opinion, the authority of the practical man on this question is of very great value, and as at least one of the leading theorists of the States answers the question above mentioned in the affirmative, it may be concluded that no great ridicule attaches to one who holds that, as we said in the words of the London dairyman in our last: give us plenty of mangels, straw, and brewers' grains, and we don't want no pump.

Prof. Cooke, of the Vermont Station, states that by a change of food, the percentage of fat in the milk of certain cows was raised from 4.41 to 7.20 (Hoard's Dairyman.)

Prof. Fleury, of Wisconsin, tells us that the percentage of fat in milk cannot be changed by any manner of feeding.

Mr W. D. Baker, of New-Hampshire, being evidently an admirer of the Verulamian philosophy, deals experimentally with the matter. He sends the following test of two cows to "Hoard's Dairyman."

DOES FEED MATERIALLY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF MILK?

So much has already been written pro and con upon this subject that it almost seems like "sending coals to Newcastle" to add to the discussion, but perhaps the following test may be of interest.

Two cows, grade Durhams, were selected, both farrow, having calved in April, and after coming to the barn in the fall were fed on good hay, all they would eat up clean, and four quarts corn and cob meal and four quarts shorts, daily. Nov. 25th their milk was analysed as follows:

Fat.....	3.040
Sugar.....	4.456
Casein and albumen..	4.448
Salts.....	.614

Total solids... 12.558
Quantity of milk 43.2 pounds.

November 22th the silo was opened and the cows fed ensilage morning and night and hay at noon, with the same grain ration as before. December 3d the milk analysed as follows:

Fat.....	4.06
Solids not Fat.....	8.50
Ash.....	.64

Total..... 13.20
Quantity of milk 47.5 pounds.

December 5th the feed was changed again. The shorts were dropped and

one quart of corn and cob meal and one quart of cotton seed meal fed with the ensilage night and morning and the same quantity of hay at noon. December 14th the milk analysed as follows:

Fat.....	4.236
Sugar.....	4.270
Casein and albumen..	4.525
Salts.....	.66

Total solids... 13.691
Quantity of milk 51.8 pounds.

Then, one-half pint of cheap West India molasses was added to their feed, fed with the ensilage, and after the cows were well established on this feed the milk showed:

Fat.....	4.703
Sugar.....	4.786
Casein and albumen .	3.946
Ash.....	.601

Total solids..... 14.036

These analyses were verified step by step as it was not deemed advisable to depend upon one analysis, or an analysis of one sample.

W. D. BAKER.

Elmwood Dairy, N. H.

The effect of the half pint of W. India molasses is very striking; though not great, it is of consequence as showing that sugar and other carbohydrates have more to do than to afford force and heat to the animal-economy. At all events, we find here the fact clearly shown that, in this experiment at least, the solids of the milk were raised from 12.558 oyo to 14.036 oyo, of which the fat was increased from 3.040 oyo to 4.703; i. e. from pretty poor into very rich stuff.

CROSSES OF COGNATE STOCK.—Monsieur Rolland, who is now farming the estate of his late grandfather, the well-known judge, at Ste. Marie de Monnoir, consulted us the other day on the subject of the best cross for increasing the size of his Jersey-Canadians. He himself seemed to be inclined to try the Ayrshires, but, after some argument, we succeeded, we hope, in persuading him to get a young Guernsey bull. This cross will give size to the frame of the progeny, tendency to fatten, and the colour of the butter from the heifers will have that orange-tinge that seems so fashionable on this continent.

As for the increased size, richer milk, and tendency to fatten conferred by the Guernsey cross, we have only to look at the herd of Mr. Sidney Fisher, of Knowlton, to be convinced of it. In his grade and registered Guernsey cows, the lowest percentage of fat is 5.20, while the average is 6.0. The milk is very highly coloured, even in winter.

Vanessa, from Sir John Abbott's herd, gave 6,000 lbs. of milk in 320 days, 18 lbs. of which made a pound of butter. A bull, when dressed, weighed 1,542 pounds, which, as he weighed alive 2,050, represents 75%. With such stock as this, we cannot understand why the owner of the best herd of Guernseys in the province should have reason to complain of the difficulty he has in selling his bull-calves. Mr. Fisher reports a steady demand for stock, and if he can sell his young bulls readily why should others find it hard to even give away theirs?

All the same, good as the Guernseys are, we want those dairy-shorthorns!

DAIRY SHORTHORNS.—Here is a specimen of what a phenomenal Dairy-shorthorn can do at a show, which is a very different kind of test to the yield of a cow in her own quiet stall at home:

At the milking trials of the Dairy-farmers' Exhibition, held in London, on the 9th October last, No. 60 gave an average of 77.20 lbs. of milk on the two days of the show, with a fat percentage of 3.74 and 4.77 respectively in the morning's and evening's milk—average per centage=4.25. She is a cross-bred shorthorn, by a cross bred sire out of a cross-bred dam. One day's milk the judges tested for butter, and the yield was 2 lbs. 10 oz., equal to about 12½ pounds a week.

But this is of course an exceptional case. Still the three first prizes of the Shorthorn class were awarded to by no means inferior dairy-cows. as the subjoined figure will show:

Name of Cow.	Exhibitor.	Age.	Date of Last Calf.	Days in Milk.	Milk Yield.	Butter.	Ratio.
Somolina.....	Salisbury Baxendale...	8 0	August 28th.....	43	58	1 12½	32.8
Lily 12th.....	James Errington.....	6 6	September 21st.....	29	60	2 1½	28.6
Drayton.....	B. Merry.....	6 0	September 16th.....	24	58	2 8¼	23.0

The first and champion prize was awarded to Drayton: 58 lbs. of milk a day, from which 2 lbs. 8¼ oz. of butter were made, is not bad! Rather better than the 29 lbs. a day of the specimen Shorthorns at Chicago.

The champ. Shorthorn's marks.	126.30
" " Jersey's "	105.74
" " Guernsey's "	103.00
" " Ayrshire's "	118.56
" " Kerrics' and Dexters' marks.....	83.55
" " Red-polled's marks..	116.40
" " Cross-bred's "	171.90

If there ever is another dairy-show so well managed in every respect as the one just concluded at Chicago, it is much to be hoped that the Shorthorn dairy-cows sent for exhibition will approach a little nearer to the type of the real Dairy-cow of England.

AYRSHIRES.—The Montreal Ayrshire men seem rather put out by the observations of some of the irresponsible reporters of the Chicago Fair. The only defect to be found in the Ayrshire cattle from Canada was that "some of them were nearly white." This reminds us of Mr. Cochrane having to sell his splendid Booth bull "Royal Commander," because, as he told us, the calves of his got had too much white about them. Queer people in the States, some of them! At all events, Canada won all four Ayrshire herd-prizes!

Mrs. Jones, too; her decisions on the quality of the butter were "made from a Canadian standpoint," whatever that may be. What do they say in Chicago to Mr. Long's opinion of the butter? It was to the effect that he never tasted butter in the States that, in England, would be considered good; and Professor Long is supposed to know what he is talking about when he meddles with dairy-matter.

ICEHOUSE.—A correspondent, whose letter we have mislaid unfortunately, wishes us to give plans and description of an icehouse. This request we have complied with at page 000 of this number.

MILK-TESTS.—Monsieur Taché, the late secretary of the Dairymen's Association, writes us word that, in the laboratory of Macpherson and Taché, there have been made more than 10,000 tests of milk: "Should you be surprised if I were to tell you that, as an average, it happened that at the beginning of the season we got less than 3.50% of fat with Babcock? At present, October 11th, we are getting an average of 4.50%. The question of skim-milk cheese is at rest at last: the law of last session has put an end to it."

SCOTCH CATTLE FEEDERS.—A special cable to one of the Montreal papers says:

"The Scotch markets are overstocked with Hereford, Devon, and Welsh cattle, partly owing to the exclusion of Canadian cattle." Not at all; but because, while the South and Midland counties of England are desperately hard up for winter food on account of the long, long drought, Scotland was highly favoured by the weather, and has the largest crop of hay and of sound roots she has grown for some years. Wherefore, a thing almost unknown before has happened this fall; English breeders of high-class cattle have sent their lean beasts to Scotland to be fattened by their more fortunate brethren in that country.

SIZE AND FOOD.—That cattle do not consume food in proportion to their weight has long been a familiar fact to practical men; and, now, Mr. Valancey Fuller comes forward with a statement that some of his lightest cows eat and digest more food than the heavier ones. He ought to know, if any one does.

QUEER FARMING.—In the Western States, it seems a man and four horses, on a sulky-plough can run over—we cannot say "plough"—5 or 6 acres a day, the furrows being 16½ inches wide! In Minnesota, broadcast seeders, 16 feet wide, with harrows behind, put in 18 acres of wheat a day. Well; 16 inch furrows and the seed only covered by one stroke of a harrow attached to a broadcast seeder may be cheap work,