

GOOD MILK.

ITS IMPORTANCE, AND HOW TO SECURE IT.

A PAPER READ BY REV. W. F. CLARKE, AT THE DAIRYMEN'S
ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN ONTARIO, AT LONDON,
FEBRUARY 18TH, 1880.

By "good milk" is meant milk which is both rich and pure; good in quality, and good in condition. Not dairymen merely, but all housekeepers who have had any experience in keeping a cow, know very well that there is a vast difference in the quality of milk. To the uninitiated, any white fluid, though largely composed of chalk and water, is milk; and I have heard of a city lady, who had become so accustomed to the chalky solution, on top of which not a particle of cream would rise, that, on getting a new milkman, she objected to the article he supplied, because it had a thick, greasy scum on it after standing over night! The ignorant clodhopper makes no discrimination as to floral beauty—

"Yon primrose by the river's brim,
A yellow primrose is to him,
And it was nothing more."

In like manner the novice in dairying supposes that milk is milk; but it does not take

very long to convince him that there is milk and milk. The disparity is very great between milk so rich that 12 pounds of it will yield a pound of butter; and milk so poor that it requires 44 pounds of it to make a pound of butter. Yet all this disparity has been found to exist in a single herd. The variations in quantity are just as great. Indeed, my subject, fully stated, should be, "Good Milk in Large Quantity; Its Importance, and How to Obtain it." The profits of dairying are made out of cows that give large yields of rich milk. Of these, there are a certain proportion in every dairy herd, but there are too many of the other class; and I think it is no slander or libel to affirm that not more than 50 per cent. of the cows in the dairy herds of Ontario pay a profit to their owners. Cows that give only a small quantity of poor milk are worse than useless for dairy purposes. They not only yield no profit themselves, consuming a large