

## THE DAIRY.

## THE A B C OF DAIRYING.

The Editor of this journal gave an address on the above subject, before the Dairymen's Associations of Western and Eastern Ontario, at their recent annual meetings, the main points in which are summarized in the following verses:—

There once was a dairyman whom I know well,  
And some of his history now I will tell:  
He started a dairy with much show of glee,  
But neglected to study his A B C.

His cows were poor milkers, and didn't repay  
The cost of their keeping, in pasture and hay;  
He got little manure, and threw it out-doors,  
Where the sun and the rain stole half of its stores.

His pastures were bare, and his cattle were lean,—  
That he was not thriving was plain to be seen;  
So he got a few pigs, and was heard to say,  
"I'll make me some money by feeding them whoy."

His pigs didn't thrive any more than his cows,  
And he found himself poor as any church-mouse,  
Till, thinking, at last he came plainly to see,  
He was wrong in not learning his A B C.

Then he made up his mind, and to himself said,  
"I'll harbour no cow that eats off her head;"

## BUILDING UP DAIRY HERDS.

FROM AN ADDRESS BY THE EDITOR OF THE RURAL CANADIAN TO THE DAIRYMEN OF ONTARIO.

The first letter in the dairy alphabet is C, which stands for cow. When I had the honour of addressing you two years ago, I ventured the opinion that not more than fifty per cent. of the cows composing the dairy herds of Ontario yielded a profit to their owners, and the great burden of my song was, "WEED OUT THE POOR COWS." Gentlemen, has this been done? Have you learnt this first letter of the dairy alphabet? Who among you dare bring his worst cow and exhibit her at this convention? Wouldn't you rather shoot her than show her here? Well, any man who keeps a cow that he is, or ought to be ashamed of, has yet to learn the first letter of the dairy alphabet. The dictionary definition of the word "cow," is, "a female of the bovine race, a quadruped with cloven hoofs, whose milk furnishes an

what was once known in the State of Massachusetts as the "Cream-pot" breed of cows, and could not help thinking how practicable it would be to have such a breed in every rural neighbourhood. It was originated by Colonel Samuel Jacques, of "Ten Hills Farm," in Somerville, Mass. Having observed that one cow in a herd might produce three pounds of butter a week, and another nine pounds on the same food, Col. Jacques thought he would try to effect an improvement in the way of securing a strain of cows that would give the largest possible quantity of rich milk. He is said to have found a "native" cow, raised in the town of Groton, giving milk so rich that it was often converted into butter by the simple motion of carrying. Shorthorn blood was the means chosen of fixing permanently this heavy milking tendency. The bull Calebs, imported in 1818, was used, and a course of in-and-in breeding pursued for four generations, and yet, instead of injuring the milk secretion, the experimenter was at length able to boast that he



HOLSTEIN COW, "NETHERLAND QUEEN"—OWNED BY SMITHS AND POWELL, SYRACUSE, N.Y.

So he beefed his poor milkers, and got in their place  
A few first-class cows, of a milk-giving race.

He stabled them warmly,—housed all the manure,  
And spread it abroad on his land that was poor;  
A pit for the urine, a tub, and a pump,  
Gave his meadows a dressing that made the grass jump.

His fortunes began to go up with a bound;  
His wallet got plump, and his face became round;  
He paid off the mortgage that covered his land,  
And, no longer in debt, bought with cash in his hand.

His home very soon quite improved in its looks,  
He took the best papers, and bought some choice books,  
Increased the subscription he gave to his church,  
And left poverty far behind in the lurch.

His sons became eager to get some knowledge,  
And went to the Agricultural College,  
Became well-to-do farmers, Reeves, M.P.'s,  
And his daughters got husbands who "had the cheese!"

And, now he is old, he sits calm in his chair,  
With plenty of time, and some money to spare;  
A prosperous dairyman he came to be,  
Just by thoroughly learning his A B C.

abundance of food and profit to the farmer." But you can't always trust even the dictionary. A cow is often "a quadruped with cloven hoofs," that, like a certain biped with cloven hoofs, is better at promising than performing, and the less we have to do with such animals, whether quadruped or biped, the better. Both make fools of us. The one holds out the lure of gain to land us in loss, and the other holds out the bait of pleasure to plunge us in pain; so that without the slightest irreverence or profanity, it may be said of many a female bovine, "She's a devil of a cow," even though she hasn't a bad temper and isn't a kicker.

It is so easy, comparatively speaking, to learn the letter C, that the wonder is so many stick at it as they do. I was reading only the other day, a most interesting account of

had a cow whose milk produced *nine pounds of butter in three days*. Though the "Cream-pots" were long famous, a permanent breed was not established, but an example was set which only needs to be followed, to fill the land with "Cream-pots," instead of skim-milk jars. "What man has done, man can do." There is no district of our country where there are not more or less of "native" cows that have earned the renown of being extraordinary milkers. You can buy one of these natural "Cream-pots" for far less money than a thoroughbred cow of any breed will cost, and for dairy purposes she is just as valuable. In every such district, a good Shorthorn bull can be found, so widely is this valuable breed now diffused. Here then is the foundation for a dairy herd, ready to hand. Why do not our dairymen build on it?