If we are to make progress—advanced ideas—progressive thought must be wrought out and truths eliminated, by the means of which we may step higher and higher in our scale of practice.

If we can advance but one single step upward, from year to year, it is a matter of vast import to you and to me, and to the dairy interest of the world; but to remain stationary—to get no further onward in knowledge or practice, from one year to another—is most unsatisfactory to, and must be damaging in, its influence on the future of these conventions. It is not the will of Providence that man should reach perfection at one bound, but by little steps onward and onward. If I can impress upon you but one progressive idea—but one suggestion—which is a step higher up for progress and improvement than was realized at your last convention, I shall feel that something has been done to forward the great work which God designs shall be accomplished, and that my mission here has been for some good.

FACTS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN DAIRY PRACTICE.

Some important changes are gradually taking place in the great central dairy region of New York which are likely to have an important bearing upon the dairy interest of the State, and must affect, in some degree, other dairy districts of the continent.

The power which New York wields in the commerce of the dairy is very great, and will be better appreciated, perhaps, when her dairy products that annually go into market are considered, to say nothing of the numerous private or farm dairies scattered over the State. New York had, in 1870, about a thousand factories in operation. If we take 400 cows as the average to a factory, and 400 pounds of cheese to a cow, the result will be 160,000,000 pounds as her annual product. In 1864 the census gave upwards of 72,000,000 pounds of cheese and 84,000,000 pounds of butter as the amount sold. I estimate the present annual product of New York at over 100,000,000 pounds of cheese and 100,000,000 pounds of butter. Nearly all the cheese that goes abroad comes from New York and Canada. New York alone ships annually not far from 60,000,000 pounds. As the price of cheese exported governs to a great extent that of the whole product made, we can see how any considerable decline of production in New York must affect this interest.

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