

green state it contains a large quantity of water, and is of a very nutritious quality ; cows will consume a large quantity of good nutritious grass, which, with a plentiful supply of pure water, will conduce to the most profitable results in the dairy. This requisite, so far as grass is concerned, is very apt to be infringed upon by over-stocking. My observation is that no more stock should be kept than can be well kept, and well cared for ; fifteen cows well kept are better than twenty poorly kept. The great diversity of opinion that exists as to the best breed of cows makes this a delicate subject to advance any opinion upon, yet I believe it is generally considered in Britain that the Ayrshire is the most valuable for general dairy purposes. What effect the difference in climate between there and here may have upon this stock I cannot say, but my own impression is that a good native cow, selected for her milking qualities, crossed with the Ayrshire from a good milking family, will produce the best dairy stock obtainable. I saw some exceedingly fine Ayrshire cows in the County of Ayrshire during my last visit to Great Britain—cows that if owned by any farmer in this county would be the envy of the dairymen generally. The amount of capital now invested in the dairy business of our country will, in the aggregate, reach a very large sum ; it is difficult getting at statistics to ascertain anything like an approximate of what it must be ; but suppose we estimate the number of cows in our county at 15,000, a number, I think, considerably below what it actually is : and say that these cows are worth an average of thirty dollars apiece, which is also a very moderate estimate, then this department alone represents a capital of \$450,000 ; say each one of these cows gives 1,500 quarts of milk in the season ; this, I have reason to believe, is up to the full average yield at present produced ; this would amount to 22,500,000 quarts. Now, no dairyman should be satisfied with less than an average of 2,000 quarts per cow from his whole herd, a quantity that can easily be obtained and even exceeded.

Here is a direct gain of 7,500,000 quarts in the 15,000 cows we have said to be in the County of Oxford. This should represent 1,875,000 pounds of cheese, which, at ten cents per pound, gives the sum of \$187,500 as the actual gain from the present receipts. Apply the same calculations to the whole dairy region of Canada, and it is applicable, you will see what a large margin of profit is lost from this cause alone. These comparisons should strike the dairyman very forcibly ; and in this age of keen competition and small profits he need not be surprised that his expenses appear to eat up so large a portion of his earnings. I have said that one cow would take up in the average as much food, care and attention as another, but one cow in her milking qualities will far excel another ; this is the cow to keep, and her progeny are the ones from which you should replenish your herd, taking care that the sire is descended from a good milking family.

Using these precautions with proper care and feed, there is hardly a limit to the result, and, this, gentlemen, would be doing business on business principles.

There is a large portion of this Western Peninsula adapted to dairy purposes. The nutritious grasses and sweet waters flowing through the many streams that traverse it, will enable the dairymen, to produce cheese or butter equal to any that can be found in the markets of the world. It is a specialty to which this region may ever be devoted, and may form an inheritance that may be left to posterity, and that cannot be destroyed save by some unlooked for convulsion of nature, and the ability of the dairyman to produce an article which is at once a luxury and a necessity of life constitutes its wealth. The annual increase in the demand for our butter and cheese for our increasing population, in addition to the foreign demand, must be met by keeping better cows, higher skill, and a more generous culture of the old fields. Our dairymen must learn to economise in the keeping of cows. I learned in