that I fed 30 animals chiefly on ensilage for five months. Each of these animals would have consumed 20 lbs. of hay daily had that been their only fodder, while they had but 5 lbs. of hay daily, the rest of their fodder being ensilage. Now, the saving of 15 lbs. of hay daily per head on 30 head of cattle, amounts (in rough figures) to 6¾ tons a month, and in the five months to 33¾ tons. The average price of hay this winter was $13 per ton, or the 33¾ tons would have cost me a little over $438.

Now as to cost of ensilage:

Rent of 10 acres of land	$30
Plowing, harrowing and planting	15
25 bushels of seed corn at 85 cents per bushel	21 (1)
Cultivating	15
Cutting and tying by contract	30
Drawing in and putting in silo	20
Total	$131
Cost of equivalent in hay	438
Saving through ensilage	$307

I have made no estimate of gain through increased yield of milk and butter, although that would form quite a large item, while, as to the condition of my cattle, visitors to my herd and purchasers from it can testify. In estimating cost of plowing, cultivating, &c., I did not have to hire extra help at $3 a day; I put it down at what my own farmer and team cost me, which is fair, as they did all the labor. I should not forget to add that we had only half a crop or less, owing to the worst corn season we ever had, and unsuitable land. This year, off the same quantity of land, I expect to get nearly double the crop, and at no greater expense. E. M. JONES.

Brockville, Ont., May 31.

PREMATURE CALVING

A correspondent who had charge of a large Jersey herd sends us the following notes:—As to premature calving, I will give you a little information which may throw a little light on the cause. I believe it was in the autumn of 1885, at———, the proprietor, who was most particular about the butter, wished me to alter the feeding of the cows, as the butter was so hard that it could not be spread on the bread.

The cows had been getting decorticated cotton-cake with chaffed hay and roots. I withheld the decorticated cotton-cake, and gave them meal and bran. This was mixed in small quantity of water at first, and afterwards given dry on the chaff. The butter was much softer and sweeter. Everything went well for a short time, but one morning the cowman informed me that one of cows had slipped her calf. I looked up my servicebook, and found she was fully half-way gone. She was removed from the others, and the stall where stood was washed with lime. A short time after another cow went wrong. She was also isolated. One morning I was told two had slipped during the night. Those which slipped were low in condition, and giving much milk. I then took off the meal feeding and went back to the cake; and after doing so there were no more that slipped. It appears the meal feeding went entirely to milk and cream, and there was not sufficient to support the fœtus. Meal is cheap, and good many manufacturers puff it up for milk and cream, but depend upon it the feeding has much to do with these premature births. I know there are some cowmen who are not fit to look after these gentle and docile little creatures.

I have great faith in the homœopathic medicine for milk fever. I only lost two in the fourteen years I was at——— from the above complaint; aconite cools down the system. I always kept little bottle of it and also bella-donna. I used the aconite for a few days before and after calving, but I always took the cow off succulent food about a fortnight before she was due to calve, and gave her an opening drink immediately after calving.

(1) What! 2½ bushels to the acre? A. R. J. F.

Mr. Martin John Sutton's Grass Experiments

On Thursday last a number of agriculturists from various districts accepted the invitation of Mr. Martin John Sutton to inspect his experiments in the manuring of grass land at Dyson's Wood, near Reading. It was a year within a day of the first public inspection of these interesting experiments, which were started in 1886, and those who were present on the former occasion had opportunities of comparing the results of the two seasons in more respects than one. In the first place, as they journeyed by rail and road, they could compare the crops of this year with those of last. Those who have good memories could not fail to observe that, late as the spring corn was last year, it is far later this year. As to wheat, the crops near Reading were just out in ear (some of them fully) last year on the 22nd of June; while this year, on the 21st, not an ear could be descried. With respect to the grass crops, there is more growth on the old pasture at Dyson's Wood this year than there was last, though the crop is a light one, and on the meadows in the district generally the crop is decidedly heavier. Not so, however, in the grass field in which Experiment B is being carried on. Whether because it has been laid down one extra year—now five years from the sowing—or because of the coldness of the season, the crop is nothing like as good as it was last year.

Four sets of experiments were inspected, all being identical as to manures and numbering of plots. We may, therefore, state the quantities and cost once for all, as this will save many repetitions:—

Plot	Manure per Acre. Quantity	Cost. £ s. d.
1.	None.	—
2.	1 cwt. Sulphate of Ammonia	0 14 0
3.	1¼ cwt. Nitrate of Soda	0 16 3
4.	3 cwt. Superphosphate of Lime 2 cwt. Kainit	0 15 9
5.	1 cwt. Sulphate of Ammonia 2 cwt. Kainit	1 0 0
6.	3 cwt. Superphosphate of Lime 1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda 2 cwt. Kainit	1 8 9
7.	4 cwt. Basic Cinder 1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda 2 cwt. Kainit	1 1 3
8.	10 tons Farmyard Manure	3 0 0
9.	5 cwt. Decorticated Cotton Cake	1 15 0
10.	3 cwt. Peruvian Guano	1 1 9
11.	None	—
12.	4 cwt. Basic Cinder 2 cwt. Kainit	0 10 6
13.	4 cwt. Ground Coprolites 2 cwt. Kainit	0 16 6
14	10 cwt. Gypsum	0 15 0
15.	1 cwt. Nitrate of Soda ¾ cwt. Muriate of Potash	0 17 6
16.	3 cwt. Dissolved Bones	0 18 0
17.	3 cwt. Boiled Bones	0 18 0
18.	3 cwt. Raw Bone Meal	0 17 3

Plots 1 to 6 were all that were included in the first year's