

Hints to Dairymen.*Written for the Farmer's Advocate.*

In looking back over the past season, we find that it has been a very unsatisfactory one, both to the producer, the shipper, and the dealer in cheese. A season in which, even at the low prices which have been realized, and at which the dairymen are complaining the dealers have lost heavily. This unsatisfactory state of things is attributable to the very bad state of trade in England, and, in fact, all over Europe and America. The make has been very large the past season all over the country. Home consumption is not what it should be, owing to the scarceness of money, and the large numbers out of employment. Consumption has been checked from the same causes in England, there being thousands there out of employment, and thousands more working on half time and reduced wages. English letters from men in the trade which we have seen, described the trade as "wretched" and that "they never saw it worse." Another says "he can give cheese away but cannot sell it." What the dealers there call "good, useful cheese," and which would embrace a large number of our Canadian factories, has been selling at from 30 to 45 per hundred. Large quantities have been sent to the auction rooms and fairly slaughtered. The only enquiry is for fine September and October cheese. Summer cheese can hardly be sold at any price.

Bearing in mind the very large make all over the country the past season, and taking into consideration the various causes which have checked consumption, we can easily see why cheese has been so dull, and the only wonder is that it has not been worse. Dark as the outlook may seem, there is this consolation, and this fact to be borne in mind, that cheese is not like many other articles of consumption, it cannot be carried over into another season, but must be cleared out before the new comes on the market, even if it has to be given away or sold at 15c. to 20c., which is sometimes the case. Bearing this in mind, we look for a quiet, steady trade the coming season, at good fair paying prices to the dairymen. There is another thing which will have a tendency to help next year's business and keep things from dragging along as they have done the past season, and that is that factory men will be disposed to sell their goods when they have a good fair price offered them, and not be holding for high and fancy prices. Had they taken the market price when their goods were fit to move and let them have gone forward, it would have helped the trade this winter very much by having the market cleared of poor and summer cheese. We would strongly urge upon all factorymen to take the market price for their goods when they are fit to ship. No matter what the price may be, it keeps the trade steady and quiet, which is much better for all parties; besides your cheese is out of the way, you have your money, no further risk to run, and your mind is relieved, for the present, of any further anxiety about it. If you do not feel disposed to sell a month's, make sell two week's, and keep it moving; this is particularly applicable to the first three or four months of the season.

To the factoryman as well as the dairyman we would say—as you have leisure during the winter months and long evenings, get some good works on the subject and read and study them up, and make yourselves masters of your business. The man who thinks he knows enough and that he can get along well enough, is just the very one who will fall behind in the race, and who will come to the conclusion that farming and dairying, and perhaps both, do not pay. This is an age of progress and advancement in every department and business of life, and he only will succeed and be well repaid for his labor who strives to excel in his business or

profession, and he who does excel will have to read, study, plan and work with his head as well as with his hands. To the dairyman the cow is nothing more than a machine for making butter and cheese, and it should be his aim and study to keep that machine in good working order; to furnish it with the best material for the manufacture of milk. He should also make himself master of the various departments of that machine, so that if the machine is not a good one or not in working order, he may be able to know the cause and apply the remedy. It is an old saying and a very true one—"What is worth doing is worth doing well." If it pays to keep cows, it will pay to keep them well. It takes no longer to milk a good cow than a poor one; it takes no longer to feed good cows than poor ones, and it takes no longer to feed them well, regularly and with good feed than in a slovenly way, irregularly and with inferior feed. The average yield per cow throughout the country is about 300 lbs. of cheese, and yet there are numbers of good dairymen who get as high as 500, and in some instances 600 lbs. per cow. There is where the profit is; if by good care and management and good cows you can realize 500 instead of 300 lbs., you thereby nearly double your receipts, and your investment, labor and expenses are about the same.

We would strongly impress it upon dairymen the importance of taking good care of their stock during the winter season. Depend upon it that all you feed a cow in the winter in the shape of bran, meal, roots, etc., she will pay you back the following summer in the shape of milk, and that good, healthy, rich milk. Another important thing is good, warm, comfortable stables; if a cow is exposed to the cold, bleak winds and storms, it takes all she can eat to keep up the animal heat in her system, whereas she should be laying up a store of fat and flesh to fall back upon during the heavy flow of milk, as well as recruiting her system. Treat her gently and kindly, and do not allow the milk stools and fork handles to be used for any other purpose than for which they were intended. She is naturally a gentle animal, and her temper and nerves should in no way be disturbed or excited. Make her comfortable and contented, and she will then look upon you as her friend and protector, and will truly "chew the cud of contentment."

The Corn Crop of '75 not Profitable

Our neighbors south of the Line are complaining of the corn crop of '75. Very heavy crops do not pay when the quality is very low. An early frost with a cold, damp summer and autumn has caused the grain to be soft, and not well ripened—a large proportion of it only fit for stock feeding. It is doubtful if corn grown to such an extent as it is can be a paying crop, especially when far from market, as in the far West. If fed to good stock on the premises, it may pay expenses and leave a little profit, but otherwise the charges for transportation and marketing swallow up the profits.

The importation of the Canada horses purchased by J. A. Moore, Esq., at the Government sale for the North Sydney and Boulardarie Societies will be a great benefit to the Societies, as well as the country at large, as there is great room for improvement in our stock of horses; and as the directors are authorized to dispose of the funds of the Society in the incorporation of improved breeds, seeds, &c., they will continue to do so from time to time as opportunity may offer.

In reference to the crops the past season, there is much room for gratitude. Hay has been an average crop. Wheat, where cultivated, a good crop. Oats, a good crop, both in straw and grain. Barley, we regret to report, is not sown to any great extent. Potatoes, below average, but turnips and all other root crops are good.

Correspondence.**Free Grant Lands—Letter No. 2.**

SIR,—As I am frequently getting letters from parties who read the *ADVOCATE*, asking particulars about incidental affairs in connection with the real question as to the advantages of settlement in the above territory, I deem it advisable to inform the public, through the medium of your widely circulated paper, of some of those minor items of interest. I consider that stock can be raised and kept the year round cheaper there than here in Markham. The land does not cost anything, in the first place, consequently there is no interest on capital invested; and the summer feed does not cost anything, and is abundant, and those cheap lands produce extremely good crops for winter feeding. And cattle winter much easier there where there is a uniformity of weather; while, on the other hand, in this section of country the land is high, and the summer feeding is expensive as well as the winter, as our pasture land is worth from four to five dollars per acre rent. In reference to the home market there for meat, it far surpasses any place I ever was in; as well as vegetables and hay, oats, &c. The most of the hay fed there is taken up on boats to Prince Arthur's Landing, which sells from fifty dollars down to twenty-eight dollars; oats, 75cts; potatoes, from \$1 to \$1.50. The market for the present has to be supplied from this side of the lakes, farming being in its infancy there yet, as the free grant land has only lately been surveyed. But parties spending a summer there, as I did, can judge of the productiveness of the soil by inspecting the proceeds of an old farm at Fort William, belonging to the Hudson Bay Company, which has been poorly worked for the last fifty years. The Township of Oliver being the nearest free grant township to the town of Prince Arthur's Landing, and having the advantage of the Dawson Gravel Road, and the Canada Pacific Railroad, will improve extremely fast, the land being good and so splendidly watered. A very novel thing to me in that country is to see the mountain ash growing abundantly through the woods. There is an extensive saw mill at Fort William, belonging to Adam Oliver & Co., where settlers can procure pine lumber at from \$9 to \$13 per 1,000 feet, and there has been a brick yard started there with success. I would like to get the opinion of some of your contributors as regards the advisability of farmers raising Hungarian grass as a means of new settlers getting the more early advantage of the high price of hay while their clearings are small. The quantity of hay used in that section is large, and it will take the settlers some years to get fairly started in raising Timothy hay, where, if Hungarian grass will yield productively on a clay loam soil, and in a somewhat cooler climate than this, it would be of great advantage to new settlers to raise it. As the land is so easily cleared, they could soon clear off a few acres in the spring, and sow the seed the latter part of June, so as to have a crop the first year. I would be thankful for some information on this subject, that I might advise many who are looking to me up there to send them all the interesting information I can for their benefit. I am willing at any time to correspond privately with any of the readers of the *ADVOCATE*, on any subject wherein I am conversant, relative to the prospects of the free grant territory. There are four lines of boats running regularly from Windsor, Collingwood, and all intermediate ports, to Prince Arthur's Landing in the summer season. The distance from Toronto to Prince Arthur's Landing is 750 miles, and the fare is \$20 from Toronto, going either route, and the time going is three days from Toronto, either route. The routes have run to Prince Arthur's Landing for the last four seasons as early as May 12 to 15, and as late as from 27 to 30 November. The trip is delightful, and Prince Arthur's Landing is becoming a place of note as a summer resort. The accommodation in hotels there is pretty good, and the charges also, as will be expected in so new and rising a place. Mr. Editor, hoping I am not trespassing on too wide a space in your paper, and with the compliments of the season, I beg to remain yours respectfully,
L. JONES.
Markham, Jan. 11th.

Seed Report.

We have from every point of the compass reports of the produce of seeds issued in 1875, and we hold them over till next month—a more suitable season for their publication.

SIR,—I wish to see it stands our view Where can the tion respecting

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