

suddenly falls into the back ground. Dealers say "he is off the track," and patrons complain that the cheese-maker is getting careless and negligent. Ah! my friends, this cheese-making business is a serious thing at times, I can assure you, and especially so when one "gets off the track" without knowing where the trouble lies, and lays awake at night and does all in his power to get back again. And then to hear disparaging remarks, and the grumbling of patrons about being beaten in sales by a neighbouring factory. I have seen such things a great many times and I have felt a sympathy for these men in their troubles, because I have known that often they are not to blame. No. When an experienced cheese-maker is attentive to his business, and "gets off the track," his trouble generally comes from imperfect milk, unsuspected at the time of its delivery at the factory. I do not mean imperfect milk resulting from want of cleanliness and the general care of milk after it is drawn from the cow; that matter has been discussed from time to time at our dairy conventions, and farmers ought to be pretty well informed upon the evils coming from such filthy practices. Dairymen, it is true, are not generally up to the mark in this respect, for there are vast quantities of cheese every year injured on this account. But you will understand that among the "gilt edged factories," this matter of cleanliness is becoming more and more rigidly enforced among patrons. Now, the question upon which I desire to call your attention, is concerning those causes of bad milk lying back of these common and flagrant ones. The dairyman may be one of those fastidiously neat men, who takes pride in having everything neat and clean about the dairy buildings in respect to his milk. Now it is difficult to convince such a man that he is delivering bad milk; and the cheese-maker at the time of receiving it at the factory may not even be able to detect, or even have cause to suspect its being bad, but nevertheless it is bad, and becomes the means of getting the cheese-maker off the track.

Perhaps the most prolific cause of bad milk in such instances, results from the cows drinking the water of stagnant pools, tramping through swails of mud which are alive with filthy organisms of