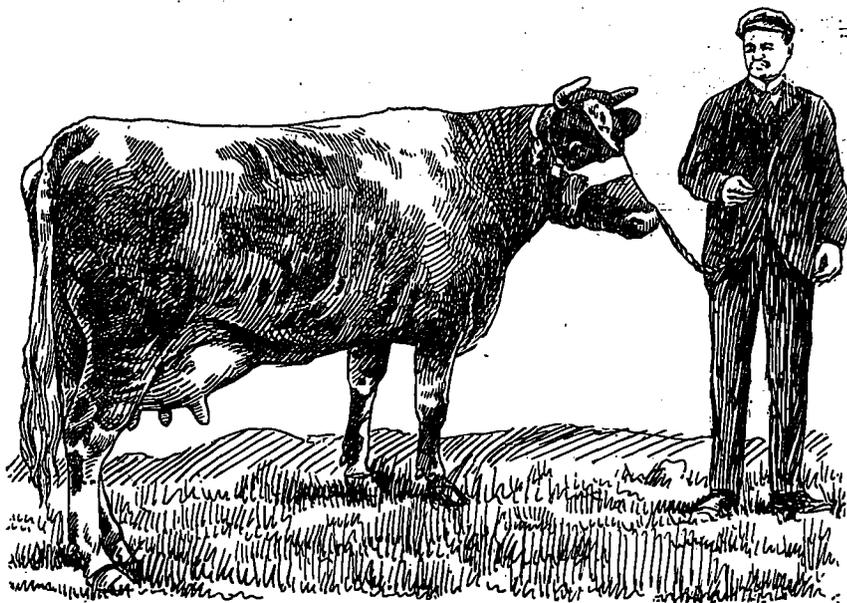


He then went on to say that they had finished harrowing a field the previous night (Saturday), intending to sow on Monday. "Ah!" said we, "a cold wind and rain on that harrowed field left unsown would do you much more damage than if it had been sown." "Well," replied our young friend, "we should have to plough it again, I suppose." "And that would be no trifling cause of delay in your spring work, would it?" There was no reply.

We remember M. J. Breux, of Chambly sowing pease on 1st of May morning. He got in about 2 acres, before breakfast; at 9 o'clock heavy rain set in, and not another bushel of grain or pulse was sown on that nasty blue clay at the Bassin de Chambly till the 10th June! The experiments tried at the Ottawa Farm should convince any one who is open to conviction that, take one year with another, early sowing is the safest and best plan to go upon. We have been nearly forty years in the country, and we have invariably observed that, as in England so here, the best and most successful farmers sowed their grain and pulse — especially pease — as soon as the land was fitted for the reception of the seed.



Shorthorn Cow Gaiety: First and Champion London Dairy-Show, 1897.<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately, this practice of waiting for certain dates before sowing has, particularly in some districts, led to the too late sowing of some of the crops. How often do we see, in the more backward parts, oats sown between the 10th and 20th of June, and, which is worse, a stingy quantity of seed used even at that late period? Some of the experimenters return such small seedings that their trouble is quite thrown away. If 3 bushels of oats is enough for an imperial acre of land, in good heart, on the 1st of May, 4 bushels should be sown on the 1st of June, and even more if the land is in poor condition; though, in our opinion, at so late season, the piece should not be in oats or other grain, but in *mastin* of pease, oats, and tares to be cut green for the stock.

In support of what we have said, we quote the following, from Mr. Sanders Spencer, the celebrated breeder of Berkshires, promising that barley is about as delicate a grain, when just "braided," as can be found:

"Hunts (St. Ives District): March 31.—The weather during last week was of a

(2) Hunts, ie short for Huntingdon-Shire.