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Bogus Butter Again—The Scheme Once More Exposed.

In the Dairy Department of our issue of Sept. 1st, we exposed another of those questionable projects by which farmers and others interested may easily be defrauded.

In reply to this we received a letter from the solicitor acting for Thurston & Ralston, 172 Yonge St., Toronto, in which we were given five days to decide whether we would apologize for what we had said in the article, if not they would immediately commence an action for libel, in which heavy damages would be claimed. We took no notice of this threat. We were then served with a legal notice as provided by law notifying us that we would have to defend ourselves in an action for damages brought by the above firm. This threat was also ignored by us, but we are glad to find the article is bearing fruit, as the subjoined letter implies:—

Peterborough, Nov. 18th, 1893.

To the Editor of FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

DEAR SIR:—At Toronto Police Court, Nov. 10th, I learned from Crown Attorney Curry you have warned the people through your valuable paper to have nothing to do with Thurston & Ralston, Butter Fakirs. I wished I had seen it in time, as they have defrauded me out of \$73 cash and put me to great expense in buying machinery to test their Butter Process, in all about \$175. I tested 700 lbs. good, pure milk, and put into it 53 lbs. of good butter, worked ten days, two men, preparing milk and churning, to get out 74 lbs. of inferior butter. I went to Toronto and had them both arrested and committed for trial at coming assizes.

Very truly yours,

KEARNS BROS.

We at present have no means of finding out how many parties these gentlemen have already entrapped, but that there are numbers of others we do know, as we have letters in which other victims give statements equally strong, and all are ready to give evidence against the scheme, which is being worked only too successfully.

It is only a repetition of what has occurred time and again. Accompanying the letter sent us by Messrs. Kearns was a business card, by which we learn how the device is being worked. The card reads as follows:—

"THURSTON'S NEW BUTTER PROCESS

will make two or three times the amount of butter that can be made by any other method yet invented. No chemicals or extra machinery required.

TO THE BUTTER PRODUCER.

It will make you one dollar per bushel for your corn. We consume \$10 worth of butter for \$4 worth of flour. We respectfully invite the examination of our new process for making butter, by which an increase of from two to three times the amount can be made from the same quantity of milk as by the old method. The old method produces four pounds of butter per hundred pounds of milk.

"Milk weighs ten pounds a gallon. One cow gives two gallons of milk a day, in one year will average about 550 gallons, weighing 5,500 pounds, and by the old method produces 220 pounds of butter.

"By the new process, eight pounds per hundred pounds of milk, 440 pounds of butter produced in one year. Again, by the use of the new process, over and above the old method of 220 pounds at 15 cents per pound, brings \$33 per year, or an average monthly increase of \$2.75 over the old method.

"A small factory churning 100 gallons of milk per day, counting 306 working days in the year, will churn 30,600 gallons, weighing 306,000 pounds, and by the old method produces 12,240 pounds of butter.

"By the new process of eight pounds per hundred pounds of milk, 24,480 pounds of butter are produced in one year, a gain by the use of the new process over and above the old method of 12,240 pounds at 15 cents a pound, brings \$1,836 per year."

We are also in receipt of their formula, which gives the instructions for manufacturing by their process, which it is not necessary for us to comment upon here.

We lay no claim of having tested their plan of buttermaking, nor do we intend to become enlightened in a system which condemns itself.

But this we do know that good milk contains four per cent. butterfat, and there should be eighty-five per cent. butterfat in good butter, the balance being water, salt, and a slight showing of casein—the less of the latter the better. Herein lies the difference between good and bad butter, as the more casein the quicker decay is hastened. England has considered the adulteration of butter of such importance that an act has recently been passed by which it is made criminal for any dealer to sell butter that contains more than fifteen per cent. water. Of what is the compound composed

which this firm pretends to produce? Certainly not pure butter, but an ingredient is incorporated that would be much more detrimental than water.

The Ontario Legislature is yearly expending large sums of money in dairy education, viz., by giving a substantial grant to the Creamery Association, by establishing and maintaining a Travelling Dairy, in order that a better system of butter-making may be taught and establishing expensive dairy schools at Guelph. The Ottawa authorities have established a number of creameries to teach patrons how to manufacture a better article for export, that the name of Canadian butter may obtain a higher standard, when along there comes a concern like this, striving to upset the good work already accomplished.

This is a subject in which vital interests are at stake, and for which special punishment should be provided. In our opinion legislation is required similar to that referred to as having been passed in England for the purpose of protecting the good name of this branch of our dairy interests, which is liable to be ruined by adulterations or any other means that reduces in an article sold as butter the percentage of butterfat. It should be made a criminal offence to manufacture and expose any such bogus goods for sale.

We will gladly receive communications from those who have been entrapped by this or any other scheme. It is our aim to aid in putting down any design that is being worked to the damage of the farming community.

STOCK.

Is Feeding Cattle Likely To Be Profitable?

As the season has now arrived when Canadian farmers who usually winter-feed cattle must decide what number they will place in the stables for this winter, as well as the most economical and advantageous manner of keeping them, it will be expedient, before entering fully into it, to ascertain what probability there is this season of realizing a remunerative profit.

In order to judge of the resources of this and other countries who are competitors in supplying the British markets, it is as well to look fairly at the situation. In the first place England herself has experienced a year of most excessively dry weather, and forage crops of every description have yielded very light returns, and it is a question if more than half the average weight per acre has been produced. Again, their stock of all kinds are remarkably lean and in many cases are in no condition to place in the feeding stalls, which will have the effect of making the English beef much later in finishing than usual. In addition to this English farmers are in no mood to purchase feed liberally. Stall feeding or any other manner of beef production has not paid them for several years, even when they had to have resort to this method of utilizing the bulky part of their crops. This season it is all the other way; in many cases a quantity of hay will have to be purchased to feed the different classes of stock they of necessity have to keep, while on the other hand they have shown an unusually strong disposition to get rid of surplus cattle and sheep at any price, and therefore an unusual quantity of unfinished cattle have been slaughtered. Scotland has fared better, the crops of that country being all that could be desired. But still, taking everything in consideration, there will be a very small output of finished cattle and sheep by English feeders next spring.

In this contingency the United States and Canada will have to supply certainly more than for several years past, and how the feeders are prepared to meet the demands will depend upon the quantity fed. Chicago cattle have been selling high all the season, and although for a couple of weeks the prices were naturally reduced through a heavier run than usual, yet for all at present the outlook is for better prices, both for finished cattle and Stockers.

Again, towards the end of the season most of the cattle-producing districts of Canada and United States have suffered largely from dry weather, and cattle are thinner than they have been known to be for years. This will have the effect of causing many of the best of feeding cattle to be slaughtered for home consumption, and will leave a correspondingly less number for feeding for export.

Prices for feeding stuffs are very low in Canada. A large quantity of hay has been sold at \$6 and \$7 per ton, while all kinds of grain are ridiculously low. It is impossible to conjecture what six months may bring about, but it looks just now as though the prospects for feeding extensively were never brighter than at present. Cattle can be bought cheaper than for years, while if they are no higher next spring, on this account they will make more money; but with every prospect for a substantial advance toward the end of winter, it will be strange indeed if feeders do not realize more for their labor and food expended than they have for many years. There is one point, however, that is already assured, and that whatever is worth doing in this line is worth doing well. And now this is more expedient than ever. Our cattle have to be slaughtered at the point of debarkation, and have no time to recruit after their voyage across. If they are to bring good prices they must be landed in prime condition. For this reason they must be pushed forward as fast as possible, that any rise in the next spring's markets may be taken advantage of.

Ninth Annual New York Horse Show, at Madison Square Gardens.

This, the *ne plus ultra* of all horse shows, commenced on Monday, November 13th, 1893, and lasted all the week. To show Canadians what a grand affair it was, it is only necessary to inform them that, in this panic year, the boxes alone sold for \$20,000. With single admittance at \$1.00 each and seats 50c. extra, the building was crowded all through the week, especially through the afternoons and evenings, with elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen. In the evenings nearly all appeared in full dress, thus making a magnificent display of the beauty and fashion of New York such as can be seen nowhere else.

The feature of the show, from a horseman's standpoint, was the display of standard-bred trotters, Kentucky saddle horses, Hackneys, imported, home-bred and half-bred, Russian Orloff trotters, Thoroughbred and Coach horses. Still, the largest class of entries was in high-stepping harness horses and in hunters, while there were great numbers of park hacks and hurdle horses. The Hackney world was quite astir in this show; and, as an instance of the great importance paid to this department of breeding, the following renowned stallions were brought out, such as Matchless of Londesborough, for which Dr. Webb gave \$15,000; Cadet, who cost about \$16,000 in England last year; Rufus, a three-year-old, imported by Geo. Green last year; Ottawa, the first prize horse at the World's Fair this year, and champion in the late Industrial, Prince Victor 2nd and The General 2nd. These all appeared in the ring together, although it was hardly fair for Ottawa and Rufus to show with finished horses which are veterans in the show ring, these two being only three-year-olds.

The show of mares in the Hackney class was also very superior, and here our Canadian friends who competed had no easy task, but they did manage to carry away a number of the honors, and by the voice of the spectators should have been further ahead in two or three of the classes.

As heavy horses were not on the list this year, the exhibit from Canada was not as large as last year. R. Beith, M. P., from Bowmanville, Ont., took down two stallions and two mares. His mares, Winnifred and Lady Aberdeen, took third and fourth respectively, and should at least, according to general opinion, have gained second and third, while his yearling colt took second in a large class; this is a very promising youngster who will be heard from again. But strange to say, the gay and brilliant Ottawa, that charmed the Chicago people, was hardly noticed by the imported Yorkshire judge. Such is life.

The Hillhurst Farm, owned by Hon. M. H. Cochran & Son, had forward a string of six Hackneys, including the one-year stallion, Royal Dane, and five magnificent mares. The invincible imported Yorkshire mare, Princess Dagmar, by Danegelt 174, was the fortunate first prize winner in a class of sixteen, and later on in the show won the championship prize for the best Hackney mare, all classes competing. This stable was also fortunate enough to gain second prize on the imported five-year-old mare, Vina, by Wildfire, while Miss Baker, the mare that cause such a sensation at Toronto in the harness class, was shown in the same class with Princess Dagmar. She and Lady Lind, by Greatshot, were not so successful, but the yearling filly, Cameo, by Danegelt, took second place. On the whole, a good share of Hackney money went to the Hillhurst stables.

In the Coaching stallion class, Mr. Thomas Irving, of Winchester, Ont., gained second with his fine horse, Prince Arthur, the Yorkshire Coacher which gained fourth place in Chicago. He is a magnificent horse, and had Mr. Irving himself led him in the ring he would have showed himself to better advantage.

On the whole, Canada kept her end up, as a great many of the high-stepping harness and saddle horses came from here, and for this reason we may be proud of what Canadians are doing in producing horses, which is not surprising when we remember the number who are engaged in importing and breeding in this country.

At Grand's official sale at Madison Square Gardens, on the Monday, long prices were obtained for Canadian high-steppers.

After visiting the show, we came back to Canada firmly impressed with the idea that, if a suitable building was provided in the city of Toronto, we would be able to hold a very successful show on the same lines as that at New York; while we would not expect as much style, a good, solid, four days horse show that would interest all could be held, which would advertise Canada in the best possible manner.

HENRY WADE.