

aside thousands of workingmen, must have had some effect in decreasing the demands for cheese. (1)

At any rate, the decrease of consumption is clearly seen by the fact that, on August 31st last, in spite of the comparative deficit of last year, the principal British markets: Liverpool, London, Glasgow, and Bristol held a greater stock of cheese than they held on August 31st 1897. Liverpool alone had 33,685 boxes more at the end of August 1898, than on August 31st 1897.

And we must not leave out of our calculation that, at that date, the imports from Montreal and New-York had been less than in last year by 450,000 boxes.

So, it is clear, the state of the English market is not, at present, very encouraging as regards our dairymen.

Let us now see if, as to its future demand, the English market is certain to have all the cheese it needs.

We must confess we have been foiled in our attempt to find out, with any degree of exactness, the quantity of cheese there is in cold storage. Still, if we cannot give the exact figures, we feel authorized to believe that they are at least equal, if not superior, to those of last year, at the same date. Besides, the quantity will be increased by the addition of the September-make, since it is not to be doubted that the increased prices of to-day will tend to increase the quantity made.

It is supposed that at least 25% of the cheeseries have this year been converted into creameries; hence, much less cheese will be made. An authority in the matter tells us that it is calculated that, taking Canada and the States together, there will be turned out 500,000 boxes fewer than last year, and that the production will still be too great by 300,000 boxes.

To close this examination, we cannot do better than give the opinion of Messrs. A. A. Ayer & Co., with which we, in great part, agree:

"The decrease of exports from Canada as well as from the States, is chiefly due to a slack de-

mand, and to the unprecedented fact that plenty of 1897 cheese is still on offer in the English market.

Besides, cheese was too high in price in 1897, and too much was made for English consumers to make away with. On account of the price, many consumers turned their attention to other foods, and the cheese-trade suffered. This year again, the price, through speculation, has not come down enough to give a fair margin of profit to the grocer who must sell at 5 pence a pound (9½ cents). So the English grocer is disgusted with this branch of trade and has not pushed the article.

"If he could make a profit on cheese, he would be interested in it, and any improvement that would raise the retail price to 6 pence, would give us a better margin here.

"The consumption of cheese in England has certainly not increased, even if it has not fallen off, which is probable enough. The only thing we see for the Canadian farmer to do, is to turn his attention more to butter-making; for we can safely say, that if every cheesery in Canada took to butter-making, we do not believe that the price of butter on the English market would be lowered by half a cent a pound; while, if the reverse were to take place, the price of cheese might very likely fall to 5 cents.

"We think, then, that after the first of October, no more cheese should be made."

(*Le Prix Courant.*)

(*From the French.*)

PRIVATE DAIRYING

It goes without saying that all who keep cows for the purpose of making butter are desirous of producing an article that will bring the best price possible, and of making the greatest amount of butter possible out of the milk produced. When the milk is taken to a creamery it is usually manufactured by those who are well up in the art of butter making, and the result is that, as a rule, a fairly good article is made.

Besides this, the creamery is equipped with appliances which enable its butter maker to obtain very nearly all the butter contained in the milk; and by his knowledge of what the general butter-market demands, he is able to produce an article which is readily sold. But the case is different

(1) There is no doubt that the consumption of second-class cheese was very much checked in Britain by the long continued strike of the Welsh coal-miners. The Gloucestershire tenants of our family, all of whom are largely interested in the manufacture of this comestible, have been complaining greatly of the almost entire cessation of the demand of the miners and iron-workers at Merthyr Tydvil, Cyfarthfa, etc., who are, usually, their chief customers. The strike ended in early October, and since the above was written we hear from our friends that the prospect of the payments of rent by the farmers is very much improved. Cheese went up in price like a shot.—Ed.