

its mission, and dies. If you have not got a piece of clover, try something else, the best substitute that I know of, is: oats and vetches, a patch the same size as the clover one, an acre for 10 cows, if the plot you select is not very fertile, use a little manure, and put it into good heart. If you have a large dairy, I should recommend you to divide it into 3 portions, sow one third as soon as possible in the spring, using plenty of seed about half oats and the other half vetches (the dark kind preferred) say at the rate of 3 bushels *per arpent*. After about two weeks time the second plot can be sown, and a fortnight later the last plot. Should you have only a small dairy, you could make only 2 sowings suffice, say at an interval of 3 weeks apart.

During June, there is usually an abundance of grass, during which months your early sown patch is getting under way, by the time it is a foot high it is ready to cut. It is preferable to cut your green fodder 12 hours before you want to use it, that is the evening meal you cut it in the morning, and the morning meal you cut the evening previous, some think this is a lot of trouble, but it is no more trouble than cutting it when you want it, and the cows eat it with a greater relish than when cut fresh. (1) Why this is so, I cannot say, but this I do know if you should cut an ordinary Canada thistle, a cow would almost starve before she would eat a fresh cut one, while after it is wilted with the sun for a short time they eat it with a relish.

Some few people, not many, provide a large quantity of pasture for their cows, and say: My cows are in pasture up to their eyes, I do this in preference to your plan. I admit the fact, but they make a great mistake. In June, the cattle do not eat half of the pasture, and the consequence is parts of it will go to seed, very shortly the cattle will not eat it as it is ripe. I have seen pastures that you could cut almost a ton per acre of hay from them. I would advise cutting early and saving it, and have fresh after growth for the cows, they like it better.

We will suppose, for the sake of argument, that you may not need all your green fodder that you have provided. Should you have some over, cut it for hay before it gets ripe, and those portions you commenced cutting early in the season will be ready to cut a second time. If you will put this plan into operation every year, you

will be surprised at the good results from your cows. You cannot hope to get high prices all the time for your butter and cheese. So by a large flow of milk you will reduce the cost of production at home, this you will be able to control, much easier than you can control the other end of the business, the price your produce sells for. Give your cows a chance to see what they can do, and by kindness and good treatment they will not prove false to you. Some farmers object to call the cow a machine, well we call her a factory. If you give her enough to sustain life she lives, if you give her a trifle more she turns the balance into milk, and the more you give her the better she pays as she is turning raw material into something, which you again by sending it to the creamery or cheese-factory, turn into butter or cheese, as the case may be, and thereby make money.

But she, the cow, must depend on your liberality, before she deals with you liberally; so, treat your cows fairly well, and they, if they are the right sort, will not disappoint you at the end of the season.

Some farmers do provide their cows with green food during the summer, and feed grain the greater part of the season, too, and find it pays and pays handsomely. But the great majority never take any trouble about how the cow gets her living when she is on the pasture. I would say that when grain is at a moderate price say not over a cent a pound, and either cheese or butter at a fair price, it will pay to feed a moderate amount of grain.

Farmers, give your cows a chance, feed them liberally, and they will pay you; on the other hand, put them on poor pasture and I can assure you, you never said anything truer than that "dairying don't pay."

Yours truly,

PETER MACFARLANE.

March 24th, 1900.

NOTE.—We prefer a mixture of oats, 2 parts, pease, 1 part, and vetches, 1 part. If cut too green, cows sometimes suffer from diarrhoea, particularly in a dripping time, so we always found it best to let the blossoms of the pulse appear before cutting. Ed.

INFLUENCES OF WIND UPON THE FARM.

It can hardly be gainsaid that much has been done for agriculture by irrigation, much by drainage; or that the limits within which water is beneficial, and the lives beyond which it becomes

(1) To say nothing as to the danger of *blaat*. Ed.