

factories were put in operation; in 1861, 18; in 1862, 25; in 1863, 111; in 1864, 210; and at the end of 1866, we had more than 500 factories in successful operation in New York alone.

Meanwhile, the last four years have seen the system carried largely into the Eastern, Western, and Middle States, and into these Provinces. I can not give you with accuracy the number of new factories that have been erected during the past year, but we have track now of a thousand.

From this it will be seen that the dairy business is largely on the increase in America; but it must not be supposed that these 1000 new factories represent new districts. A considerable proportion has been erected in old districts, and has not increased the annual quantity of cheese, only diverted it from family to factory manufacture. We are told by the speculators that immense quantities of cheese are being made, and that we are producing in such quantities as to flood all the markets of the world. These statements are mere matters of guess-work, to frighten farmers, and get cheese forward at low figures. They have been successful in this operation, and the farmers of New York are actually selling their cheese at a less price than the cost of producing, and many will come out in debt at the end of the season.

We live under disadvantages which do not reach you here. Our taxation is high; labor of all kinds is expensive. The success of the last few years has led many to invest in lands, at 150 to 200 dollars per acre, and in cows at eighty to one hundred dollars per head. Our dairymen had looked for an average of 15c to 16c net on their cheese; but instead of that, family dairies have been selling at the Little Falls market at from 8c to 10c in our paper currency, and factories in various parts of the State at from 10c to 13½c.

We are all in the dark as to the quantity of cheese being produced, and both dealer and manufacturer are, I fear, led astray on this point. I hope one of the first things your association does, will be to inaugurate a plan for obtaining the weekly production, and amount of cheese on hand in the Province. Let the figures be sent to the Secretary, so that every factory in Canada may have the means of knowing what the quantity is on hand, and you will not be at the mercy of speculators, or of vague reports, unauthorized by any actual knowledge.

We have been shipping very largely abroad, and hurrying forward immature cheese, which has lowered the market on the other side, while shippers have taken advantage of the times, and made large sums from the trade. Some arrangement should be made by factories for shipping direct to Europe, and it would pay them to unite in sending one of their number, or some person, abroad, to look after the condition of cheese as it arrives, and the sales, even when consigned to European houses.

CLEANLINESS: TIN PAILS FOR MILK, ETC.

In new sections where the dairy is being established, it is important to start with correct principles. The old districts have much to unlearn; and unless they speedily change some of their practices, they will be outdone by the new districts, which are making greater exertions for success. The old wooden pail as a milk pail is a nuisance, and its use entails thousands of