

of this cheese which would be interesting to those who care to investigate this matter. A case appeared in Fairfield, Michigan, last May, the effects of which were more wide-spread and severe. I have no authentic account that any deaths occurred, but a large number of persons were made deathly sick. It was a very serious occurrence, and the most extensive of any that has come to my knowledge. All the cheese made in one of the three vats in a certain factory for three days, not always consecutive, proved to be poisonous. The cheese, when cured, was scattered about the State and out of the State, and spread the poison over a wide extent. Persons partaking of it were made sick in the same way as before described. The effects produced, as the proprietors of the factory related, were nausea, excessive and protracted vomiting, most excruciating pains in the stomach and bowels, followed generally by diarrhæa. And yet, they say, though so many people were made so terribly sick from using this cheese, others partook of it with no unusual effect. A sample of this cheese was sent to Cornell University for Professor Caldwell to analyze. By his kindness a piece of it was presented to me for inspection. It presented no very unusual appearance. It was salvy and rich, and apparently more thoroughly cured than usual for a cheese of its age, being about two months old when I saw it. Though it had ripened rapidly, there was no appearance of huffing, being pretty compact, and exhibiting a few gas holes which were pretty large. It had the same strong, sourish smell that has been said to belong to other poison cheese, but it did not appear to be stronger, I thought, than I had seen in cheese not poison. After inspecting, I ate a piece the size of a hickory nut. It was followed with a little pain in the stomach and feeling of heaviness, as is common in cases of indigestion, which soon passed away, followed by no other effect than offensive breath. The next day I ate more, with less effect; and in a few days, the cheese being exposed to the air all the time, I could partake of it as well as any other cheese, except the unpleasant breath that followed every trial of using. It was not used long enough to determine whether this particularity would also have died away or not.