

hence this locality is frequently termed the Kent of America. Wisconsin, next to this State, is the greatest hop region, but it is cultivated in other States also. Otsego county nearly matches Oneida county in the pounds and bales produced, and Cooperstown is to the first named county what Waterville is to the latter. Madison county ranks next, and then I believe Chenango—and Cortland raises some, but they are all right here together and adjoining. These counties constitute the principal hop belt and section of the country. Sixteen or twenty years ago ten acres would have been called quite a yard; not so now. William P. Locke, two miles south of here, cultivates a hundred and twenty acres; the large Marshall farm, about the same distance north, covers almost as many acres; and all around are yards of fifty down to thirty and twenty and ten and five. A man who has but two or three acres of land, all told, must have a hop yard too—an acre, or a half, or a patch. (1)

ENSILAGE—The national interest awakened by the recent exhibition of ensilage was such that Mr. H. Kains-Jackson is taking measures for the formation of an ensilage commission. It will meet early in the spring to take the voluntary evidence of exhibitors and others, and by the courtesy of the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council, will sit at 44 Parliament-street, in a room placed at the disposal of Mr. Kains-Jackson by Professor Brown. There is no doubt that this novel scheme will be watched with great interest, but it is to be hoped that the “commissioners” will not be entirely from those who are enthusiastic “silists.” There are still many farmers in the United Kingdom who are unprepared to accept all that has been claimed for ensilage, and much misconception requires to be cleared away. Mr. Kains-Jackson's scheme is novel, and it ought certainly to be useful.

CULTIVATION OF SUGAR BEET IN ENGLAND.—The enterprise of Messrs. Bolton and partners, in re-opening the sugar-beet factory at Lavenham, Suffolk, deserves success—greater success than it seems likely to attain. Professor Church has recently made his report of the first season's experience, and, although he describes it as encouraging, there is some reason to doubt whether either growers or manufacturers will so consider it. The yield of the beets on the sixty farms on which they were grown varied from five tons to 20 tons per acre, the average being ten tons. The average proportion of crystallisable sugar is 13 per cent., or about a ton to eight tons of roots. As the manufacturers pay £1 2s. per ton for roots that were kept in a clamp some time before being sent in, as the roots were this year, the prospect of paying for manufacture at the present price of sugar seems poor. As for the growers, those who did not grow more than the average of ten tons per acre can scarcely be very well satisfied with the results, as they had to pay the carriage of the roots or to cart them by road, and the crop is an expensive one to grow. The dry season of 1884 was very unfavourable to the production of a bulky crop, however, and if the manufacturers have not had enough of their experiment, growers may be tempted to go on for another year in the hope of better results.

DAIRY FARMING IN NEW ZEALAND.—Dairy factories are increasing in New Zealand. Sir John Hall, while in England, visited the London markets, and came to the conclusion that

(1) In 1883 hops were worth 40c to 50c a pound. I warned my readers, see Journal March 1883 vol 4, p. 163, that “out of every hundred farmers who, tempted by the present abnormal prices, try their hand at this fascinating pursuit, seventy-five will have cause, before four years are over, to regret their temerity.” The price now is 8c to 10c a pound! A. R. J. F.

there was a good opening for Colonial butter and cheese, which he believes can be conveyed through the Tropics without injury. The butter sent from New Zealand about nine months ago arrived in such bad condition that it was almost unsaleable; but this appears to have been due to bad packing. New Zealand cheese commands a better price than American. Many farmers in the colony, who previously used their land chiefly for wheat growing, are now turning their attention to dairy-farming.

LOSSES ON IMPORTED FROZEN MUTTON.—In confirmation of the fear recently expressed, that the export of frozen mutton from Australia and New Zealand could not have paid at recent prices, I learn that the Australian Frozen Meat Export Company declared a loss of £6,000 for the half-year at their last half-yearly meeting. The business is to go on for the present, but it is not to be extended without the consent of the shareholders. The contract of the company with the Orient Steamship Company will not terminate till next October. A. R. J. F.

Experience in Calf Raising.

Following is a pretty full account of a discussion on this important topic, which took place at the recent meeting of the Dutch Friesian Association at Detroit:

Mr. Blessing—I had the pleasure, a short time ago, of visiting one of my neighbors who reared a calf as he said, on less than two pails of milk. For myself, I give my calves plenty of milk. I had plenty and was making butter, and we used quite a large quantity of milk for them during the whole season until the weather became cold. In fact, used it until winter; but this neighbor of mine had reared as fine a calf as I ever saw, and I was very much interested in hearing his report. He told me he began, the day the calf was born, to use wheat middlings. He first poured boiling water on them, and then used half milk and half water, and after the first day he gradually increased the quantity from a handful up to the tenth day, and at the end of the tenth day he had reduced the milk until there was scarcely any used, feeding nothing but water with the middlings, and a small piece of salt. The calf showed for itself. I was surprised to see the result.

Mr. Burchard—Last spring, Dr. Patterson was kind enough to sell me a bull calf, and I thought I would try and take good care of it, because I appreciated the kindness. I fed the calf about 20 pounds of new milk a day until he came into the barn, and then I took the new milk off and fed him skim milk from that time until last Saturday, and at the age of 11 months and 25 days he weighed 1,080 pounds.

Dr. Patterson—I have been in the habit of taking my calf from the cow, if everything was all right, and the calf was in a healthy condition, at the age of three days. I like to let the calf suck the cow until the milk becomes pure and sweet for use, then I take the calf away and feed it. (1) I generally give them a good quantity of milk. That is the way I treated the calf that went to Mr. Burchard. I suppose I gave it about three gallons of milk a day up to the time I sent it away. I feed a calf until it is about eight weeks old on that sort of food. I do not think it is economy to sell your milk and starve your calf. It is money in your pocket to put it in the calf. When I get them to take mill feed or meal of any description, I have in the last few years, given it to them dry. A calf's stomach is not in the same condition as that of a grown animal. The saliva is much more extensively

(1) The calf should be taken away at once, unless the owner likes to bear the cow b'aring away for three or four days after weaning. A. R. J. F.