

case of the disorder had yet made its appearance in Canada; but he considered it necessary that our authorities should take measures to guard against its introduction from the adjacent States.

At the conclusion of the lecture, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Professor Smith and Professor Buckland for their valuable addresses.

#### FLY AND HOOF DISEASES.

Some discussion ensued in reference chiefly to the fly disease and hoof ailment, which had been so prevalent during the fall. Among others, Mr. Moulton who had resided many years in Cheshire, England, stated that he had been quite familiar with the forms of foot disease in the old country, including the contagious epizootic apthæ; that he had seen over three hundred cases of hoof disorder in the county of Oxford during the past year, and was perfectly satisfied that the complaint was altogether distinct from foot and mouth disease, not one case of which, he was convinced, had occurred in the Province.

The meeting adjourned soon after twelve, to meet again at half-past 1 o'clock.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

In the afternoon, the first business was the reception of the report of the committee on nomination of officers. The following were nominated:—

President—James Noxon, Ingersoll; 1st Vice-President—W. Yates, Belleville; 2nd Vice-President—T. Ballantyne, Perth; Sec.-Treasurer—R. Jones, Ingersoll.

The report was adopted.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT.

The report of the Finance Committee was read, and showed a balance in the Treasurer's hands of \$128.

#### TAINTED MILK.

The discussion of the causes of tainted milk and the remedy was then brought up.

Mr. FARRINGTON opened the question. The general causes, he considered, were heat and rennet; and the unusual prevalence of this failing during the past year he attributed to the peculiar moist and sultry season, which had affected the cattle themselves, as well as rendered the milk more ready to decompose and taint. The condition of the atmosphere also affected the herbage, and rendered it less sweet and wholesome for cattle. In regard to remedy, he recommended cooling the milk as quickly as possible, and the observance of the strictest cleanliness throughout. As a cure for taint, he advised the use of the curd mill, so that the salt might more quickly penetrate the particles.

Mr. BALLANTYNE thought that the chief, if not the only, origin of the tainted milk, of which the cheese of the past season had shown such evidence, was simply want of cleanliness. He had found that the cause of defect in his own factory was traceable to a very few patrons, and the course he adopted was to refuse to take milk from patrons who were not strictly observant of perfect cleanliness.

Mr. MANNING employed a simple apparatus for cooling the milk immediately after it was drawn from the cow. It consisted of two tin pails, one within the other, leaving a narrow space between. The inner pail was filled with iced water, and the outer one immersed in a trough of the same. The milk to be cooled passed by means of a tube through the inner pail into the narrow space between the two, and flowed out into a suitable receptacle, thus being subjected

in a very thin stratum to the action of two bodies of ice cold water. He had found the contrivance very efficacious. It would be introduced to the public in the coming spring. With six or eight pails of water, and about 50 lbs of ice, he could, with the aid of this apparatus, cool quickly 500 lbs of milk.

#### MODEL FARM

At this stage of the proceedings Mr CHADWICK proposed, and Mr BALLANTYNE seconded, the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—"That in view of the establishment of a Model Farm by the Legislature of Ontario, the President and Secretary of the Association be empowered to memorialise the Government of Ontario urging the establishment of the same; and that in connection therewith due provision be made for giving proper instruction in dairy matters, whereby this very important and rapidly growing branch of Canadian agriculture may receive that attention its importance demands."

#### FLOATING CURDS.

The question of floating curds, cause and remedy, was then brought up. Again, want of cleanliness was acknowledged as the chief cause of the fault. The treatment recommended was to use additional acid, grind the curd, and salt more heavily than usual.

#### GRINDING CURDS

The next question on the programme was to what extent has the system of grinding curds, and making cheese once a day, been practised the past year? and the result.

Mr. WILMOT, of Milton, said he had carried out both practices for four years and found them work satisfactorily. He thought there was great waste of labour to all parties in making twice a day. The patrons found no difficulty in keeping their milk cool, mostly by keeping it in cans let down, immediately after milking, into a well.

Mr. J. A. JAMES, of Culloden, had also practiced grinding curds. He ground twice, and pressed for 38 hours.

Mr James' cheese, it was stated by Mr CASWELL, had obtained a prize for the best make at Belleville, and had secured a first-class reputation in the English market.

#### CHEESE FACTORIES.

The proper construction of cheese factories was the next topic discussed.

Mr. GEORGE HAMILTON, of Cromarty, gave a brief and practical account of the principles to be kept in view regarding site, supply of water, facilities for draining, and provision for constant and thorough cleanliness. He recommended the curing house to be a separate building, if possible, and advised the planting of shade trees around factories.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The closing hour of the convention was occupied, after the disposal of the questions on the programme, by a few miscellaneous topics.

Mr FARRINGTON said the best width of cotton for bandages was 39 inches, which was well adapted to a cheese made with 16-inch hoop, and from 9 to 10 inches thick.

The Liverpool factory filled salt, manufactured for dairy purposes, was recommended as the best.

Attention was also directed to the importance of not crowding factories too closely in any locality.

A few other miscellaneous topics were briefly discussed, and shortly before 5 o'clock the convention adjourned, after a very well-attended and interesting session.

#### American Dairymen's Association.

The American Dairymen's Association held their sixth annual meeting in Utica, N.Y., on the 10th of January and two following days. The attendance was large and the proceedings were, as usual, of a highly interesting and instructive character. A very full report of the meeting is furnished by the *Utica Herald*, from which we cull our information. Many of the papers read were elaborate essays, full of practical instruction. Our space will not allow of the reproduction of these entire, or even of large extracts, in one issue; we can only give a general account of the proceedings, and reserve some of the more valuable addresses for future issues. The instruction will not be less timely or valuable at a later date.

#### FIRST DAY'S SESSION.

The chair was occupied by the President, Hon. Horatio Seymour, and the forenoon of the first day's session was occupied with the work of organization, the formation of committees, &c., &c. In the afternoon the order of business was reported, and the first subject brought forward was introduced by A. Holdridge, of Oswego county, namely:—

*Would the consumption of cheese be promoted by the more general manufacture of small cheeses?*

Mr. Holdridge very strongly advocated the adoption to a large extent of small sizes, weighing from ten to twenty pounds. The result of partial experiments on this continent, and the general practice in Europe, favour the change. The principal objection is the increased expense, which has to be met by a higher price on all the cheeses; but the cheeses are worth more to the consumer, and some improvements may yet be made in the process of pressing and packing which will diminish the cost of manufacture. The proportion of shrinkage compared with the larger cheeses is a fraction larger for the first thirty days, and afterwards is about 50 per cent. less.

Mr. Burnham said that during the past season he manufactured sixty tons of small cheeses, weighing from seven to nine pounds each. They were all round in shape, and sold easily. He could press from nine to eighteen at a time. It cost him about one-half cent. per pound more to manufacture small cheese, this covering all expenses of boxing, bandage, shrinking, &c. He could realize from 1½ to 2 cents per pound more on the sale of the small cheese. He manufactured the small and large cheese precisely alike.

The next subject discussed was that of *Soiling Dairy Cows*, which was introduced by Hon. H. Lewis, of Herkimer, in a very interesting paper. He considered that in this climate, so subject to severe and protracted droughts, soiling cattle was absolutely indispensable to economical and profitable dairy husbandry. To remedy the