

about England; I think it not at all improbable that it has come of eating 'nice bits' of American cheese. (1)

"You can make what use you please of this letter; I should not be sorry to see it published.

"Yours always,

"(Signed) GEORGE ANTHONY DENISON.

"To Robert H. Symes, Esq., Bristol.

"N. B.—I wish not to be understood as being against Free Trade in articles of food save and except such articles as England can produce and every other country cannot, but only poor and unsound counter-feits of them, with ruinous results to us."

CREAM CHEESE.—"Dairyman" says: I have failed to note in any report of the late Dairy Show the process of cream cheese making. Will you obligingly give the most approved method or recipe adopted thereat?

The following is a recipe of proved merit:—Take a quart of cream, or, if not desired very rich, add thereto one pint of new milk, warm it in hot water till it is about the heat of milk from the cow, add rennet (a table-spoonful), let it stand till thick, then break it slightly with a spoon, and place it in the frame in which you have previously put a fine canvas cloth, press it slightly with a weight, let it stand a few hours, then put a finer cloth in the frame, a little powdered salt may be put over the cloth. It will be fit for use in a day or two.

WIRE-WORMS AND RAPE CAKE.—"A Correspondent" says:—With reference to your article in a recent number on wire-worms, please inform me of the quantity of rape-cake you recommend per acre.

We have to thank Miss Ormerod for the following reply to this question:—Relatively to the effect of rape-cake in lessening damage from wire-worm attack, it appears to me, after looking over notes contributed for my reports by agriculturists in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, that the cake acts in two ways: it strengthens the plant, whereby it is helped to grow past such amount of attack as merely injures without at once killing it; and likewise the cake is such a favourite food to the wire-worm that it attracts the pest away, and thus (temporarily at least) allows the plant respite. Information on this point is given, with the names of the observers attached, in my Report on Wire-worm printed in the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society*, 1883, Part I., pp. 127—130; also in my own Report on Injurious Insects for 1882, published 1883. Notes are there given both of the good effects of rape-cake as a dressing; and likewise of rape-dust mixed with turnip manure and drilled with the seeds; likewise of drilling oats and rape meal together. In regard to the quantity to be used, I should not like to express a definite opinion, for the amount may differ much with circumstances. I see Professors Johnston and Cameron state that, "drilled in with the winter or spring wheat, or scattered as a top dressing in spring at the rate of five cwt. an acre, it gives a largely increased and remunerative return." Further on the same writers state, relatively to the practice in some places of using it alone for the raising of turnips or potatoes, that this practice is undesirable as encouraging too much leafage, and that "generally it may be substituted at the rate of about 1 cwt. of rape-dust for each ton of farm-yard manure." I quote the above as confirming the views of the fertilising properties of the application; for, in a large amount of wire-worm attacks, the plant is not killed outright, but is so injured by being partly bitten through that its

growth is retarded, consequently any application which will supply available food at once, will help it greatly over the temporary pinch. In regard to the popular idea that wire-worms are killed by eating rape-cake to such an extent that they burst, I can only say that I have made long and careful experiment, by feeding them on this, and nothing else, and I never found such results happen. They appeared in every way comfortable and thriving; and likewise, as we have no knowledge of any peculiarity in the structure of the wire-worm which could prevent it discharging its contents in the way customary to most larvæ, there does not appear any reason for supposing that we can benefit by their enormous voracity in this way. They are easily broken when full of food, and then look very much as if they had burst, from the whitish contents coming out. There is some difference in the action of different kinds of so-called rape-cake on wire-worm. What is sold under the name of Indian, or Kurruckee, cake, which is really mustard cake, when first moistened repels the wire-worm, that is to say, when the cake is placed by itself and moistened, I have found the wire-worms would not enter it until the pungency of the freshly-mixed mustard was gone off, and (through the commencement of putrescence setting in) the mass was turned into food, for which they left the morsel of turf in which they had sheltered. In an urgent case, where dressing is being resorted to, to check attack at once, it might possibly, therefore, be best to use the ordinary rape-cake, but otherwise the effect of either is highly desirable.

HOW TO TEACH.—The *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* of Saturday reports the following capital example of what may be called clinical agricultural instruction:—The following is an abstract of a demonstration upon Hampshire sheep made in the Downton College of Agricultural lecture room on Tuesday. A ram lamb, the animal which received a prize at the Salisbury Fair, was introduced into the lecture room, and its various points were discussed before the students present; the ram meanwhile standing upon a table in the centre. After speaking of the various points of Hampshire sheep, Professor Wrightson instanced the following cases in order to show the wonderfully early maturity of the Hampshire breed. Seven lambs were taken promiscuously from among the ram lamb section of the flock and weighed, with the general result that they averaged 142½ lbs. each. Professor Wrightson pointed out that it might fairly be considered that 54 per cent. of this live weight was marketable meat, or dead weight; and upon that assumption the seven sheep in question would weigh, upon an average, 19 lb. per quarter. Taking the heaviest lamb, he pointed out that its live weight was 169 lb., and applying the same rule as above mentioned, this lamb might be taken as being 22½ lb. per quarter. This lamb had been born about January 15th, and probably then weighed 18 lbs. Deducting those 18 lbs. from the present live weight of the lamb, the increase from January 15th to July 19th, or for 185 days, would be seen to have been 151 lb., or at the rate of 26 lb., considerably over ¾ lb. per diem. This fact indicated the early maturity of Hampshire Down sheep, and as it could scarcely be expected that the same increase would take place during the first weeks of the lamb's life it must have made an increase of over 1 lb. per day during the later weeks. This early maturity of the breed was further shown by the fact that on August 1st, 1884, the average weight of twenty five ram lambs sent to the Cirencester ram fair was 150 lb. (1)

(1) Mr. Wm. Hale writes me word, that the Sherbrooke "old agricultural society" is about purchasing three lamb-rams: a Leicester, a Shropshire down, and a Hampshire down. I have no objection to offer against the Shropshire downs, though, from an intimate acquaintance with the Hampshire downs, I prefer them. But what on earth do the Townships people with their grand hills for sheep-grazing want with Leicesters.

(1) Please observe that the Archdeacon is good enough not to abuse *Canadian Cheddar*. I am afraid, though, the omission is only accidental.