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The Feeding of Cows for the Production of Butter.

In the last year's *Scottish Journal of Agriculture* appeared a very interesting and suggestive article on the dairy, giving a minute account of Mr. Horsfall's practice in the feeding and management of cows for the production of butter. That gentleman is regarded as a high authority at home in these matters, and his serious experiments, conducted with much care and care, together with a long and extensive practice, give to his conclusions great weight.

The production of butter, both as to quantity and quality, depends in some degree on the age and natural constitution of the cow, as well as on the system of feeding and general management. And in Canada, as everywhere else, there will be found considerable diversity of opinion on these points. Among all the principal breeds good milkers no doubt are to be found; but the Ayreshire and selected crosses of our native cattle are regarded by us as the most profitable dairy stock, adapted to the wants and climate of this country. Whatever breed or varieties of breeds may be selected, for laying the foundation of a dairy, the system must mainly depend on a liberal system of feeding, cleanliness, warmth, ventilation; conditions too often but very imperfectly understood or observed by those who have an interest it is to be strictly guided by

them. Dairy, like all agricultural practices, have to be modified to suit the varying conditions of climate, seasons, markets, &c., and the discriminating farmer will never fail to find in any well established system of management, something that will be suggestive of improvement in his own. It is by thus comparing the practice of others, and adopting such points as appear adapted to special local conditions, that improvement can be with certainty promoted. With this view the reader's attention is called to the following condensed account of Mr. Horsfall's mode of management, in reference to feeding:

In May his cows are turned out on rich pasture near the homestead; towards evening they are housed for the night, when they are supplied with a mess of steamed mixture, to be afterwards described, and a little hay each morning and evening. During June more grass is given to them instead of hay, and they are also allowed two feeds of steamed mixture. This treatment is continued till October, when they are again wholly housed. After this they receive steamed food *ad libitum* three times a day. After each meal cabbages are given, from October till December, kohlrabi till February, and mangels till grass time; the supply of each of these varieties of green food being limited to 30 or 35 lbs. per day for each cow; 4 lbs. of hay are also allowed after each meal, or 12 lbs. per day for each cow, and water is placed before them thrice a day, of which they partake,