

The Pork Packers' Want.

You are aware that the bacon made from Canadian pea-fed hogs ranks very high in England as to the quality of the meat, i. e., the firmness of texture as compared with the corn-fed hogs of the Western States; but we lack one thing yet in order to attain perfection, as the following letter will show. This has just been received by us from our London agents, entirely unsolicited by us. It speaks for itself, and we hope Canadian farmers will lay it to heart. Should anyone suppose that the style of hogs described are suited only for the English market, we would assure them that the tastes of consumers in Canada are precisely in accord with John Bull's:—

"Wiltshire Bacon Curing Co.,
"Plymouth, Stone House and Davenport, Eng.
"Messrs. J. Wheeler, Bennett & Co., London:
"GENTLEMEN,—In reply to yours of the 29th please forward two boxes pea-fed sides, averaging 42 to 44. We tried the pea-fed some time since, fatness being the only fault. Your people on the other side ought to use the long Yorkshire White amongst the herds they have at present. We would then get the shaped side we want, instead of the short, fat things we are getting now.
"Yours truly,
"Per Wiltshire Bacon Curing Co.,
"N. BRENDON."

We again express our satisfaction with the marked improvement in the above regard this season, and we confidently hope for continued progress.
Thanking you for facilities furnished toward this end, we are,
Yours truly,
WM. DAVIES & CO.

The Wonderful Record of the Famous Jersey Cow Masena.

Mrs. E. M. Jones, Brockville, Ont., who is the most widely known breeder of Jersey cattle in America, kindly sent us the following record of her famous cow Masena, which is now in her 16th year! and after nearly 1,000 miles by rail, the grand cow Masena has, I think, made the largest test of any cow living of same advanced age, and has demonstrated her ability, not only to "get there," but to "stay there."

- 1. She dropped her calf first week in March, just after journey. Began test March 12th.
- 2. She had been three months in quarantine on lowest possible feed, and latterly no grain whatever.
- 3. All through the test reported she has not averaged over 17 lbs. feed daily, one-fifth of that being wheat bran.

Under these circumstances here is her two months' test:—

In 61 consecutive days Masena yielded 1,822½ lbs. milk, which made 145 lbs. 8½ oz. butter of unrivalled firmness, color and quality. For 9 consecutive weeks the old cow has averaged 16 lbs. 10 1-12 oz. butter a week. Also, for same time, 30 lbs. milk daily. It is possible that other cows have done as well in their 16th year, but, if so, I have not heard of them, either among Jerseys or any other breed.

Masena is, at present date, a perfect picture of splendid health and condition. She is the ideal dairy cow in form, being a perfect wedge shape, with immense udder and milk veins. She is broken color, has a capacious body, on short, fine legs, a gentle, placid temper, an insatiable appetite, and a skin as yellow as gold. Her four-year-old son, Masena's Son, now in my herd, is, as far as my opinion goes, the most valuable bull

living, in this or any other country, especially as he is sired by a pure St. Lambert bull, thus uniting these two famous strains. Individually he is perfect.

Below is given a detailed statement of test:

	LBS. MILK.			BUTTER.	
	A. M.	P. M.	TOTAL.	lbs.	oz.
March 12	18	14	30	4	4
" 13	18	14½	32½	4	9
" 14	18	14	32	4	11
" 15	18	15	33	5	2
" 16	18½	14½	33½	5	2½
" 17	18½	15	33½	5	4
" 18	19	15	34	5	2½
" 19	18½	15	33½	5	2½
" 20	18½	15	33½	5	2½
" 21	18	14½	32½	5	4
" 22	18	15	33	5	2½
" 23	18	14½	32½	5	2½
" 24	17	14½	31½	5	2½
" 25	18½	15	33½	5	0
" 26	18½	15½	34	5	2½
" 27	18	15	33	5	1½
" 28	18½	14½	33½	5	1½
" 29	18	15	33	5	1½
" 30	18	14½	32½	5	1
" 31	11½	15	26½	5	1½
April 1	18	15	33	5	0
" 2	17	14	31	5	2
" 3	16½	14	30½	4	11
" 4	17	15	32	4	15
" 5	17½	15	32½	4	14
" 6	18	14½	32½	4	15
" 7	17	14	31	4	12
" 8	17	14	31	4	8
" 9	16½	14½	31½	4	7
" 10	15½	14	29½	4	8½
" 11	15	14	29	4	9½
" 12	14½	13	27½	4	8½
" 13	15	13	28	4	3½
" 14	15	14	29	4	3½
" 15	15½	14	29½	4	3½
" 16	16	14	30	4	3½
" 17	15½	13½	29½	4	3½
" 18	15½	13½	29½	4	3½
" 19	15½	14	29½	4	3½
" 20	15½	14	29½	4	3½
" 21	15½	14½	30	4	3½
" 22	15	14	29	4	3½
" 23	14½	13½	28	4	3½
" 24	13½	10	23½	4	3½
" 25	12	10	22	4	3½
" 26	10½	10	20½	4	3½
" 27	12	10	22	4	3½
" 28	14	12	26	4	3½
" 29	14½	12	26½	4	3½
" 30	14	12½	26½	4	3½
May 1	14½	11½	26	4	3½
" 2	14	12½	26½	4	3½
" 3	14½	12	26½	4	3½
" 4	14	11½	25½	4	3½
" 5	14½	14	28½	4	3½
" 6	16	13½	29½	4	3½
" 7	15½	14	29½	4	3½
" 8	16	14½	30½	4	3½
" 9	16½	14½	31	4	3½
" 10	16	14½	30½	4	3½
" 11	16½	14	30½	4	3½
Total for 61 days	1822½			145	8½

*Feed raised to 18 lbs. +21 lbs. †Reduced to 15 lbs.

Cattle Values.

From the great cattle producing plains of the west, and all through the cultivated lands in the east comes word that cattle are in short supply. All those who are intimately connected with handling cattle, whether for feeding or shipping, find them scarcer than a year ago. Particularly is this the case with those who are on the lookout for choice cattle for grazing. This will, sooner or later, effect the value of pure-bred cattle, on which depends the improvement and quick production of cattle suitable for the export trade. Already there has been a satisfactory demand for young Shorthorn bulls, and although the prices have not been so high as in former years, there is a steady awakening to the fact that the best beef bulls must be used, or the highest prices cannot be expected for steers, whether they are intended for feeding or slaughter. With the low prices for beef cattle, and the lessening demand that consequently attended the sales of feeders and stockers, farmers were careless in breeding and rearing calves, therefore pure-bred bulls stood wanting buyers, and prices lowered below the actual cost of production. This has had the effect of driving a very large percentage of the pure-bred herds to

the shambles, for which end they sold for more money than they would bring for breeding purposes. If this had caused a steady culling out of the worst cattle, which is as needful among pedigreed herds as anywhere else, the result would have been most advantageous to the breeding interests of the country at large. Unfortunately this was not the case. Shrinking values are universally followed by careless management, and numbers of those, among whom were new beginners, as well as old stock breeders, had become discouraged by the slow demand and low prices, and consequently neglected their herds. When prospects are bright, and sales come quickly breeders are ready to expend large sums for bulls to head their herds, which of necessity brings into demand superior cows and heifers, and slack sales of bulls are just as certain to have a contrary effect on the enquiry for females, hence the indifference found in keeping up the standard of the pure-bred herds throughout the country. It is in those close periods that the breeding of many a choicely bred herd is injured by the use of a bull that is not only defective in individual quality, but is sadly deficient in breeding, circumstances appearing to warrant a false economy through a temporary stagnation in trade. A careful scanning of the situation shows the necessity of breeders being more careful during seasons when the demand is slack. Just now due care should be given in order to replace those herds that have been weakened. We are confident that it will take several years of careful breeding to place our cattle breeding on as good a footing, as regards quality, as it was five years since. Through the last two or three years there has been too great a disposition to sell everything that was fit for slaughter, therefore the wholesale marketing of numbers of cows and heifers that should have been held for breeding.

Cattle Improvement.

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It seems among some to be thought that pure-breds must naturally be poor milkers; such is hardly true. Did our beef breeds get the same treatment as, for instance, the Jersey or Ayrshire, they would no doubt develop like milking qualities; but the object of breeders of any class is to obtain perfection in the animals they raise, whether beef or milk. I might mention an instance of what can be done with careful training. The dam of a Durham bull in my possession made, without forcing, 18½ lbs. of butter in 7 days. She stood challenged to beat any butter record in Manitoba, and I need hardly add the offer was never accepted. Still this cow raised a bull that will compare with any beeper.

Every stockman should know exactly what he is going to do with his calf from the time it is born, and be governed, as to the method of raising it, by the object in view. Nothing less should satisfy us than a steer at two years to weigh from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds.

I anticipate some objections, the principal one being the supply of hay. Well, I think I am safe in saying that there is enough straw wasted in Manitoba to feed double the quantity of cattle at present in the province, assuming that it is chaffed and fed in conjunction with bran, shorts and crushed grain. A little long hay once a day with the above ration would keep our cattle growing all the time, other conditions being equal. There are gentlemen here who have