

THE COW AND THE GRASS.

A PAPER BY C. E. CHADWICK, ESQ., OF INGERSOLL, READ
BEFORE THE DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN
ONTARIO, AT LONDON, FEB. 18TH, 1880.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,—In the presence of so many intelligent Dairymen who have made this subject their study and pursuit, and also in the presence of those scientific gentlemen whose investigations as to cause and effect have been put so fully before you on many occasions, I feel very sensibly that any attempt I may make to give you such practical and entertaining instruction as may be profitable to you will come far short in comparison with what you have so often heard from this platform. The question may very naturally arise in your minds, why are other than practical Dairymen or agriculturists called upon to deliver addresses before organizations of this character, for while a lawyer might hesitate to lecture on medicine, or a physician might decline to deliver an address on municipal law, or even a politician might shrink from endeavoring to enlighten his fellow citizens on some abstruse question in theology, we all of us seem to consider ourselves somewhat qualified to discuss the subject of Agriculture. This may arise from the fact that agriculture is the foundation and beginning of all other pursuits. It lies back of all trades and professions. Its prosecution is necessary for our existence as individuals, and our prosperity as a nation. It is the one indispensable pursuit, for a man may struggle through a fever without the aid of a physician but he must have his gruel, he may get along without a first-class residence but he must have his corn and potatoes, costly raiment are of little amount without bread and butter, and no profession can be followed or pleasure pursued unless the farmer furnishes the staff of life, and among its ranks in all ages have been found the wisest, most illustrious and most refined of mankind. The shepherd kings of Israel who sat under their own vine and fig tree have been the theme of elevated song and enchanting story, and during the Augustan age of Roman power and greatness the poet Virgil celebrated the pleasures of pastoral life in poems which for more than 1,800 years have been regarded as the most delightful picture of the pleasures of agriculture, while some of the most eminent and distinguished of British statesmen and oth-