

exist, but thousands of them could be found after selection which, with a few months of intelligent, economic feeding could be pitted against an equal number of registered animals of noted dairy breeds, and prove their excellent quality, with this advantage, over all others, of less expenditure in cost of producing butter fats or milk.

This I state advisedly. It is only a very few days ago when professor Robertson, Canadian dairy Commissioner, and Mr J. C. Chapais, his French Canadian assistant, stated in our presence that a herd of pure French Canadian cattle, without any admixture of Jersey or other foreign blood,—had been purchased some months ago for the Dominion Experimental Farm at Ottawa. This herd came direct from the *habitants*, and was in a miserably poor condition last fall when it reached Ottawa. It was cared for in the same manner as for the various fashionable dairy breeds collected there for experimental purposes, with this result: All these French Canadian cows without exception, gave milk nearly up to the period of calving and gave more butter fat and normal milk for a given quantity of food than any of the others, which comprise the best Jersey blood—the best Holstein, Devons, milking Shorthorns, Ayrshires, &c.—that careful selection and abundance of capital could secure.

To make matters still plainer it should be stated here that the French Canadian cattle resemble in their general aspect the unimproved Jerseys and, sometimes, to a remarkable extent. This resemblance accounts for the name of Quebec Jerseys given to the breed by strangers to the province who have had occasion to see them here. This however is a misnomer which must lead to confusion and should be dropped by those who have a knowledge of a question.

Now for the history of the new breed which is also registered officially here in our Provincial herd book under the title of

THE JERSEY-CANADIAN CATTLE.

Starting in 1878 with a few carefully selected specimens of the French Canadian cows above described, all of which had proved excellent and persevering milkers, for 11 months out of 12 in the year, on common but well prepared appetizing food, the writer, in order to propagate with certainty the milking qualities he had secured, would not trust to such bulls of the breed as he might have selected from. He feared that from want of careful selection in the bulls, from generation to generation and exchange from a milking stand point, the milking qualities of the cows could not be reproduced with certainty. On the other hand, he could secure a *Dauncey* Jersey bull of the best milk producing blood and possessing all the important points which he wished to reproduce. The similitude in both the appearance and the exceptional dairy qualities of these two distinct families, was explained in a previous article where it was shown that the Jersey and Brittany stock of olden times were of one origin, being born and bred, even to the present day, within a few miles only of each other.

Thus the nick was made of the *Dauncey* family and of the French Canadian stock with the remarkable results lately shown, of a larger quantity of rich milk per annum, and it may be added, on a smaller food ration than was ever known to have been produced before.

The results obtained were constantly kept before the eyes of the readers of our provincial Journal of agriculture, the best Jersey bulls of the St. Lambert type were used in many parts of the province on the French Canadian cows, with equally favourable results, until the Legislature by an enactment opened to this family also the honors of Provincial Registration.

These facts are of considerable importance. They deserve to be carefully elucidated, and the writer is pleased to find that such men as Ex-Governor Hoard, of the *Dairyman*, professors Saunders and Robertson of the Dominion Experimental Farm at Ottawa, and we hope, the high dairy authority, L. S. Hardin, of the *New Dairy* will soon make it their pleasure to elucidate in a thorough manner the full facts of the case.

Respecting the weight of these animals, the figures published were taken in 1888 when the herd was mostly all young. Still the average of the *Jersey Canadians*, a king in the three years old, should not exceed 750 to 800 lbs., whilst the pure French Canadian cows, in the same stable, and giving about 7000 lbs. of milk in the year, would not reach 700 lbs. live weight.

This question of weight will be thoroughly elucidated presently, as well as that of the current richness of the milk, for which a Babcock tester has been secured. As to the extreme economy of feeding, this subject might later on necessitate a distinct article, in which the results obtained, from waste materials near cities, might prove interesting to many similarly situated.

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Garden of the Farm.

KITCHEN GARDEN —A correspondent in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* (Mr. George Taber), writing of peas fifty years ago, says:—"I gathered early peas in the last week in May from seed sown in the end of January or early in February. (1) I attribute part of my success to making the bed for the seed solid instead of merely drawing a drill with a hoe. I make a trench by treating the ground deep enough to sow, and, having sown the seed, I again tread the soil, pressing the peas into the solid earth, and to prevent mice taking them I make a mixture of soot and sulphur, and sprinkle it thinly over the peas, and then covered them up in the usual manner. The early sorts then in cultivation were Early May, Early Warwick, Prince Albert, and Nimble Tailor. Early May produced the finest pods. After fifty years' experience, I find that land otherwise well prepared is not as a rule made solid enough for a bed for the seed." I can thoroughly endorse the above remarks, for I am sure this important point, the making of ground firm and solid before sowing the seed, is often overlooked, and is often the cause of the seeds not growing. The seed is often pronounced bad, when it is the fault of the sower, not of the seed. I have before called attention to this matter, and in a dry season like the present it is well worth bearing in mind; when the soil is dry it should always be made firm before sowing seed. The onion crop is often a failure through not making the ground firm, more especially on light soils. Strawberry beds should now be gone over, and all the dead leaves removed from the plants, and a good dressing of rotten dung placed all over the bed right up to the collars of the plants, and pressed firm down. Where young plantations were made last autumn the frost will, in many cases, have loosened the soil round the young plants; they should now be made firm, and where any of the plants are dead fill up with young plants from the reserve beds. Raspberries: the ground around these should never be dug with

(1) Of course the months must be altered here. A. H. J. F.