

disasters, when we were dreading the same fate for ourselves? Diving with scrutinising eyes into the prospects of the future, reckoning up the forces of the country, you assured us that we were able to meet the storm. What a splendid eulogium did you then pronounce on our material resources! Abroad, everything was crumbling to ruin; at home, everything remained firm and intact. "The dairy business", said Sir Donald Smith, the president of our leading bank, "was distributing money throughout the country at a most timely epoch. The invigorating influence of ready money, originating in the humble abode of the farmer, spread gradually, forcibly, surely, through the whole system of trade, raising the spirits of all, and giving confidence in the affairs of the country to every one of us. And, then, in your speeches and reports, paying homage to the truth, you, one after another, declared that

As fast as his operations become more and more profitable, the farmer pushes on his improvements. Everywhere, the old bond of servitude to routine is rapidly cast to the winds (*livré de la routine est vite jetée aux orties*). The farmer calls meetings to discuss the last methods of cultivation, and to gather knowledge. Figures, again, Messrs. Bankers, for that is what you want. Let it be proved to you that, in this province, a real stride forward has been taken in the path of progress; that the motive power is at work; that all are exerting themselves. Public men, Bishops, curés, the inhabitants of the cities even, all are taking part in the movement. Four years ago, we had 73 agricultural societies and farmers' club: now, we have 600. The *Journals of Agriculture* had 7,000 subscribers: now, the number exceeds 50,000. There were at most 20 pupils in the agricultural schools: there are more

ment regarded as hopeless by more than one sceptic. Here is the result of the three last years, during which the legislature gave a premium to this article:

1893, butter made, 141,251 lbs = \$31,527.  
1894, butter made, 255,868 lbs = \$60,094.  
1895, butter made, 562,158 lbs = \$115,011.

Increase of value of the year 1895 over 1893 = \$83,474.

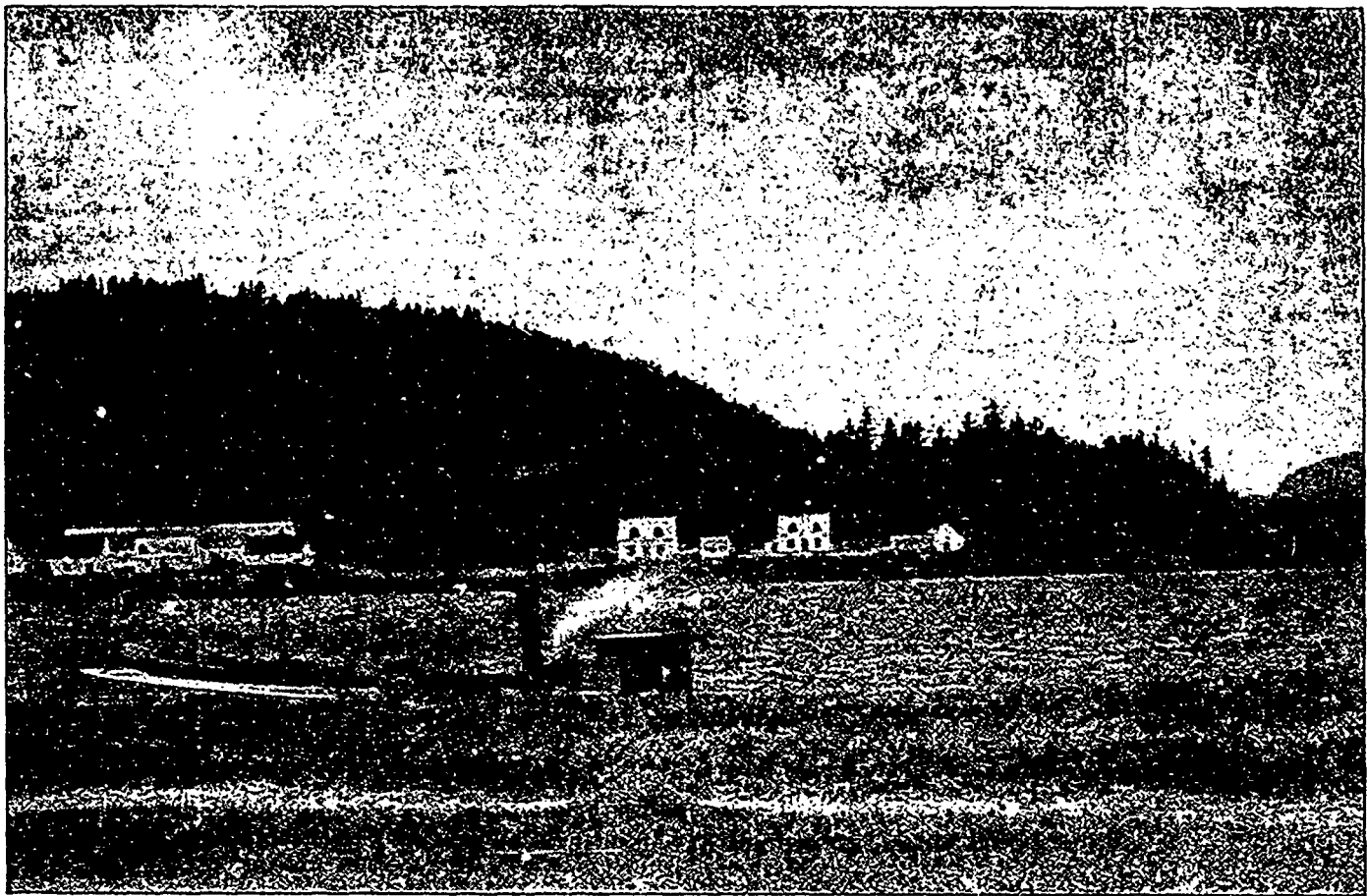
Amount of premium paid last winter, \$9,205.

At the pace things are going, I shall soon have to ask from our Treasurer, the Prime Minister of the province, at least \$30,000, for the premiums to be paid next winter.

And in this proceeding we are imitating the Danes, a great many of whom will not send their butter to London in the height of summer when

milk all through the cold weather to Baie du Febvre, a distance of 9 miles! The result was, as related by the MM. Houle, to the club: The former system, as practised the previous year, brought them in \$250; the new plan, in spite of the 18 miles to be traversed daily, brought in just double, \$500! Another result followed: The parish of Nicolet will, this coming winter, imitate the parish of Baie du Febvre, and keep its creamery at work all the winter. And you may be sure that this will become general, to the great benefit of our agricultural exploitation.

Our resources as furnished by the land are illimitable. Let me describe to my Montreal friends, here present, the beautiful, fertile, extensive country that lies at their very door, at the terminus of that venturesome railroad of the Chute aux Iroquois, which revealed to astonished eyes a Canadian Switzerland in our own province. Enchanting Lakes! there is one



FARM OF Mr. JOHN BAPTIST, AT RIVIERE-AUX-RATS, ON THE ST-MAURICE.

our fifteen hundred creameries and cheeseeries had saved the situation: and it was true.

I should not express myself as I do, at this moment, were it not that I have the opinions of others to back me. We indeed have in our dairy-industry an immense fund of power, a marvellous material resource.

And how it increases, how it keeps on growing all the time! Four years ago, in 1891, we had 722 creameries and cheeseeries; now we have 1453: the number doubled in four years!

This year, we shall sell a million dollars' worth of dairy-goods more than last year.

Production of butter and cheese in 1890 and 1894:

1890, cheese made, 23,626,950 lbs = \$2,362,595.  
1890, butter made, 2,779,668 lbs = \$555,932.  
1894, cheese made, 55,180,696 lbs = \$5,518,069.  
1894, butter made, 7,704,172 lbs = \$1,540,834.

Showing an increase in value of \$4,140,376 in the production of these goods in 1894.

than 100, now. The clergy have taken it upon themselves to find pupils; and they are at work for the purpose. Already, two large meetings, presided over by the Lt Governor and the Bishop of Three-River, have been held, to advise the farmers to send their sons to the farm-schools. Everywhere this appeal is listened to. Agricultural instruction is the fashion to-day, thank God! There is no overcrowding in the grand profession of the farmer; there is always the generous soil open to our youth; a future for ever and a day, an assured future, spent tranquilly and happily on the soil of our country. No more exile, no more emigration but the whole strength of the nation retained in her bosom.

The export of butter freshly churned is an other resource that we are about to inaugurate. The official returns will not reach me till the fall, but I can announce to you that already, thanks to this system, our exports this year are six times greater than they were at the same date last year.

Again, there is the novel expedient of making butter in winter, an experi-

the price is at its lowest. They get more milk in January than in July, and obtain the highest price for their butter made in winter.

In order to fix this system in the habits of the province, I sent two officials of my department to Denmark, and never has the journey of two men promised to be more profitable to our farmers.

See how rapidly the system takes root and flourishes. We have now at least fifteen creameries that work bravely through the winter, and excellent are the results.

Allow me to relate to you a fact: last summer, at Nicolet, at a meeting of the club where I was present, I met two farmers who, by reading the *Journal d'Agriculture*, had become acquainted with the Danish practice. The names of these two farmers I will give, for they deserve credit for their spirit of initiative: the two MM. Houle. These husbandmen agreed between themselves to try winter-butter making. They made some change in their herds.

Having no creamery at work in winter at Nicolet, they carried their

apiece for every Montrealer: let every one hasten to take his share of this lovely country. Our English friends do not want much pressing to do so, and they are already converting the pretty little village of Ste-Agathe into an English town; there, where we in our youthful wanderings: a long time ago, alas! found for our sole lodging the hospitable roof of the first settler.

And what a grand country is that watered by these lakes: the valley of La Rouge, la Mocassa and Lac Chaud, of the Maskinongé, the Kiamicka, and the Lièvre where wheat does well, and where settlers are now arriving in crowds. In all these valleys we have a soil free from stones, level, and copiously watered.

While, in June and July, our Montreal pastures are burnt up by the sun, from each of these fine lakes: the jewels of this lovely district: rise nightly heavy mists which, in the morning, spread benevolently over the whole country. The dews are so copious, that one might think it had rained! And the slopes of the hills will be perennially green, however fierce