

## ABOUT GRANULATING BUTTER.

National Live Stock Journal.

For more than half a score of years we have been writing articles every little while trying to impress the importance of gathering butter in pellets, or granules, instead of pounding the whole of a churning into one large lump, till we began to fear our effusions might be a useless repetition of what everybody knew and was practising—at least everybody who reads the *Journal*—but we give it up. Enough has not yet been said. A recent sojourn in a dairying neighborhood gave occasion for visiting a number of dairy farms, on which it was a matter of no little surprise to find, after all our writing, that three out of every five who were making butter, with small dairies, were churning with the old dash churn, and gathering butter in one solid mass, filled with buttermilk from centre to surface, and one of the parties, it is regretful to say, was a recipient of the *Journal*. It was a curious incident that the dash churn, and gathering in a lump, twin relics of the unfortunate past—one of needless hard labor, and the other of needless poor butter—were found associated, but, after all, not very strange, because both alike indicate journeying in a rut, with a lack of energy and enterprise sufficient to lift the traveller out.

Of course, the occasion was taken to make elaborate explanations of the importance of granulating butter in the churn; and how, by stopping the churning just before the butter would gather, at the opportune moment, which always occurs before gathering, when the butter has come enough to rise readily and so completely to the top of the buttermilk that the latter can be drawn off without waste of butter; that if cold water is then put into the churn in the place of buttermilk, a little gentle churning, while the butter is chilled by the added water, will cause the butter to form into granules of solid butter, large or small, according to the chilling, and be entirely free from buttermilk, except as it touches the surface of the pellets, making it an easy matter to free the whole churning from buttermilk by simply rinsing it with water till it would run off clear, and this without any working at all, except what was necessary to work in the salt and for compressing the granules in a compact condition for packing or use. This tenor of remark was followed up by painting in strong contrast the difference between the greasy, dull-looking, low-flavored, and short-lived butter of the old process, and the bright-looking, high-flavored, and long-keeping butter of the new process, till it became evident that at least some of our listeners saw butter-making in a new light. This evidence of success was gratifying and flattering, and inspired feelings akin to those a zealous missionary must feel, who, after hanging round a lot of stupid heathens for a number of years, finally sees his labor rewarded with a conversion; but the conclusion still remains inevitable that it requires a great deal of time and tuition to educate everybody, even in the plainest and most simple matter, he has so many peculiarities and blind sides, making it necessary to go all round him, and approach him from every direction, to make sure of touching a spot susceptible of impression; so we have returned to our sanctum with the settled resolution to continue writing occasional articles on granulating butter in the churn, hoping our readers who are not in need of advice on that subject will learn with us when they remember that there are many others who are in need of it, and are likely to be for years to come.

## ADULTERATED MILK IN NEW YORK.

Dairy World.

An interesting decision has just been rendered in a case of alleged adulteration of milk in New York. The 13th section of the New York "Act to prevent deception in sales of dairy products," says

that "if the milk be shown to contain more than 88 per cent. of water or fluids, or less than 12 per cent. of milk solids, which shall contain not less than three per cent. of fat, it shall be declared adulterated."

A milkman was, a few months since, arrested, and upon examination it was found that the so-called milk offered for sale by him was over eighty-eight per cent. water, and less than three per cent. of fat. The defendant offered to prove that the milk had not been adulterated or diluted, but was just as it came from the cow. This evidence was excluded, and judgment given against him. He appealed to the Supreme Court, which has declared the law unconstitutional, and sets aside the conviction. The opinion of the court is as follows:—

"The defendant was charged with selling 'impure, unhealthy, adulterated and unwholesome milk.' On that charge he was entitled to a fair trial according to 'due process of law.' Due process of law gave to the defendant the right to contest the allegation that the milk was adulterated or impure or unwholesome. The thirteenth section of the Act, which requires that milk shall be declared adulterated if it does not contain the percentage of ingredients specified in the Statute, is beyond Legislative power, because it deprives the defendant of his liberty and property without due process of law, in that it deprives him of the right to have the issue determined according to the evidence of the fact, and compels him to submit to the statutory declaration thereof, without having the truth ascertained."

Probably the case will now be carried to the Court of Appeals for final decision. This court, it will be remembered, has already decided on that portion of the law relating to oleomargarine, declaring the law unconstitutional.

[Better indict the milkman for keeping poor cows.—Ed. BREEDER.]

## BRAHMAS VS. LEGHORNS.

The following was written by Professor Cook of the Michigan Agricultural College:—

For three years I kept the brown Leghorn and Light Brahma. I paid a good price for my eggs in the endeavor to get the best strains of these two breeds. I gave to both kinds the same treatment, which was that recommended as best by the leading poultry books and journals. This included great cleanliness, a warm house in winter, with much sunshine and light, ample ventilation in summer, warm food at least once daily in cold weather, as much variety as was possible to their food at all seasons, and fresh water always before them.

I found that the Brahmas were much superior to the Leghorns as winter layers. Their eggs are scarcer, and always command a high price. If we take the whole number of eggs in a year, the Leghorns might excel by a little, but a very little. If we count by weight, then the Brahmas are ahead. If we judge by value of eggs when laid, then the Brahmas are decidedly ahead.

When we consider the eating qualities there is no comparison. The Leghorns are small and their flesh insipid. We cared nothing for them for the table. The Brahmas, on the other hand, weigh eight pounds, and though there is hardly enough white meat, their flesh is of excellent flavor. The Leghorns are wild and intractable, and the cockerels at three months from hatching must be taken away from the hens. The hens are non-sitters, which to my mind is an objection, though some think this is a very valuable characteristic.

The Brahmas are quiet and very pleasant to manage. The cockerels are quiet until they are seven or eight months old, and can run with the hens. The hens are good sitters, but are very easily dissuaded from sitting if only kept over one winter,

and it is never profitable to keep any fowl beyond two years.

It will be readily understood, then, why I sold off all my Leghorns at a nominal sum after a three years' trial. One year ago I got some Plymouth Rocks. Of course one year's trial is hardly sufficient, but unless they do better for the next two years I shall have some cheap Plymouth Rocks for sale. These are good for table use, but are smaller than the Brahma and no better. They are far inferior as winter layers, and their eggs are smaller. At our house we have a decided bias in favor of the large, richly-colored Brahma eggs.

After several years' experience I have only one point on which to discount the Light Brahma. There is not quite enough white meat.

Brahmas should be hatched in March and April; then we shall have abundant eggs during the succeeding winter.

Let no one who keeps light Brahmas forego the important suggestion to devote all their fowls to table use before they pass the second birthday.

## REDUCING EXPENSES.

Texas Siftings.

"Well, gentlemen," said the president to the board of directors, "something must be done at once, prices are very low, and the strictest economy is needed. Expenses must be cut down."

"Suppose," remarked Mr. Blunder, "that we make a general reduction in salaries, commencing with ourselves."

"Well, that may do in a general way," said the president, a little stiffly, "but as for me, I cannot consent to any reduction. I find it difficult to exist on the meagre salary I now receive, as it is. You know I only get \$10,000 a year from this corporation, and it requires nearly half my time. Of course, if you desire it, my resignation is at your service."

"Oh, I beg pardon. I'm sure we couldn't think of such a thing," said Mr. Blunder; "but perhaps the rest—"

"Stuff and nonsense, Blunder," spoke up Mr. Blunt. "You know that we only get \$5,000 apiece besides our dividends, and how are we to get along on any less? Mr. Secretary, how many men are on the pay roll?"

"Fifteen hundred, sir."

"What do they average a day?"

"About two dollars, sir."

"How much will we be short of a dividend next June if we go on at the present rate and prices don't advance?"

"About \$10,000, sir."

"Hum! 1,500 men at two dollars a day; \$3,000, or \$18,000 a week; ten per cent. off is \$1,800, in round numbers about \$7,200 a month. I move, Mr. President, that we order a general reduction of ten per cent. in the wages of the men."

"I second the motion," said Mr. Snap. "Trade is dull, but there is a prospect of a business revival, and I guess with proper economy we can pull through."

"But suppose the men strike?" said Mr. Blunder.

"Ah, well," said the president, "if the men are unreasonable and strike, we will be compelled to get along until business revives. We have enough stock on hand to meet the demand for several months, and if the men won't work they won't have to be paid. Of course, if prices go up, we can compromise on five per cent. Gentlemen, if there is no further objection, we will consider the motion carried. Mr. Blunt, let me congratulate you on being a financier. Mr. Secretary, order a general reduction of ten per cent. in wages. By saving \$1,800 a week, it looks as if we could pull through."