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CHIGNECTO POST.

Deserve Success and you shall Command it.

VOL. 19.—NO. 37.

SACKVILLE, N. B. THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1889.

WHOLE NO. 975.

Among British Importers.

Butter Packages.

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LETTER NO. IX.

Our British importers, while agreed on most points, show some difference of opinion on the subject of butter packages. As many of my readers know, our export package is mainly what has been called the Welsh tub. It is wider at the top than at the bottom, with a somewhat loose fitting cover, usually fastened down by strips of tin. The sizes range from a 25 to 70 pound capacity. It is a simple tub. It is generally manufactured now by machinery, and may be procured at a low price at almost any country store. Within a year or two there has been placed on the market, and used in export trade, a tub of the above description, provided with an inside lining of tin, the whole called a "tin-lined tub." The Danish package is a cask or barrel, with both ends headed in the usual manner. It is also made by machinery, is light and clean-looking, and will hold about 100 pounds.

Several of the importers in Bristol considered

OUR BUTTER PACKAGE FAULTY.

Mr. Clark said: "The present tubs are simply ridiculous. The joints open, staves get loose, the tins break off, and the cover is poor. These packages are faulty generally. The butter oozes out, and around the edge, or where it touches the wood, it gets 'widgy,' or strong tasting." Mr. Clark also said that butter suffered from "contact with the wood." Mr. Clark spoke of the tin boxes which came into the market, and said they were a favorite package; but the objection to them was their expense, and the fact that the butter could not easily be taken out of "tin" tubs. He would prefer the tin-lined tub. These allow the butter to come out easily, to be "tared" or "stripped," and he thought their cost was an objection. If they were to be used at all, he would like to have them used altogether. He thought it a mistake to have various sorts of packages in the market containing one brand of butter. When he offered butter in both packages, the argument which justified the use of one in tin-lined tubs, and the other in wooden tubs, was that the tin-lined tub was better adapted to the use of the wooden tub without the lining. As a dealer, he had actually experienced this difficulty of satisfying buyers that either or both packages were good! Here, certainly, is another argument for uniformity all through in dairy matters. I may say here that what little experience I have had with the tin-lined package goes in its favor. While cheapness will be an essential in the package of the future, I would advise the dairyman not to allow a little extra cost to stand in the way of his buying the best package in the market. Mr. Clark advocated the adoption of the Danish package, the cask or barrel, but of somewhat smaller size, say holding 70 to 80 lbs., instead of 100 lbs. I am glad, however, to quote Mr. Price, who had

A GOOD WORD FOR CANADIAN TUBS.

He was much pleased with them. They could not be rolled like the Danish casks, and it was difficult to lift. This fact saved the outside, in some measures, from contact with dirt. His experience led him to believe that these packages had been received by importers from England, fairly clean on the outside. He believed that the dirt appeared due to the effect of long storage. He claimed that Danish casks had never been tested by storage and believed if they were they would show a much dirtier appearance than the Canadian tubs do. There is much force in this statement, and it is worth noting that the outside of the tin-lined tub should not be lost sight of. In making a comparison between Danish and Canadian packages, we must remember the different conditions under which they have been tested. The Danish butter transportation is of comparatively short distance, and its continuous movement, shipments being made almost daily. The handlers engaged in this trade are completely familiarized with its needs. Again, it may be that brine is used in one, and not in the other. The brine, which may serve to protect the butter, soaks into the wooden package, and through to the outside, giving the latter, after some weeks of storage, a dirty appearance. All this goes to prove our package ONE CAUSE OF FAILURE.

Our competitors have adapted a package which, though it may not be intrinsically a better one than our own, is better suited to the conditions of the trade that is ours to the conditions of the trade.

Some suggestions were offered by these experienced dealers. Mr. Clark suggested the use of cloth to surround the butter in the package. Cloth would be a great protection and it was not expensive—much less than tin. Cloth always had a certain value to the buyer, either grocer or consumer. I may add that I found the use of cloth for protecting butter, in connection with different styles of packaging, growing in favor everywhere, and may be strongly recommended. Mr. Clark thought, too, that there would be an advantage in keeping a little pickle around the butter. "It will help to destroy the rancid flavor of butter kept so long in transit."

Children Cry for

HOLD OUT ITS WEIGHT.

In his experience some tubs are over weight and some under weight. Even though a shipment may contain the aggregate, the full weight of the invoice, the importer may suffer loss when he disposes of the butter in divided lots. He cannot charge the average weight to his customers, for those who get the excess weight say nothing, while those who are short weight insist on the loss being made good. He also advised, for butter packages, STANDARD NET WEIGHTS.

THE SORT OF PACKAGE NEEDED.

For our butter trade is a most important consideration. The choice probably lies between our present package and the Danish cask. If it were settled that our present package cannot, or will not, be improved in its construction, one would be almost tempted to decide, offhand, upon the adoption of the Danish package. But were our own package to be improved in every respect wherein it is now defective, there is no doubt that it should be retained.

WOMEN'S COLUMN.

Conducted by Members of Sackville W. C. T. U.

The New Year.

CONCLUDED.

The home has ever been the centre of our organization; each year, work for it is being more effectively, because more intelligently, done. Instinct leads the brave mother to protect her young by the sacrifice of her life, if need be; yet blind instinct alone will not prevent the mother's crushing her little one to death in a fond, but too close embrace. It is education, mother-love, that is needed to conserve the very highest good of the child by sacrifice, if needed, present pleasure to future good. Such education our department of Mothers' Meetings strives to give, and under the wise supervision of Hope LeGrand we foresee for its great advance during 1889.

ADOPT BOTH PACKAGES.

For creamery purposes, a cask containing 100 lbs. butter would be convenient, and it would suit the English market. To adopt this package would be to follow our old record. A Liverpool firm told me that eight or ten years ago, Kamuraska butter was put into 100 pound casks, called "Goschens." This butter, by the way, had a high reputation for keeping quality, and was sometimes set aside because of its quality, for spring needs. The butter was highly salted; but it is likely that the package had most of all to do with the long keeping of the butter. These old time packages, if I am rightly informed, came into being, because of the difficulty of carrying the butter, and because of fraudulent practices such as giving over-weight of package and under-weight of butter. All such difficulties could be duly provided against under a proper supervision of our butter interests.

THE PREJUDICES OF BUTTERS.

Of consumers is a factor not to be disregarded. The popularity of a Normandy fresh butter package, a small box—will often sell other butter that would be refused in other shape. Mr. Clark, however, thinks that at the present time, there are not any weighty prejudices in the market strong enough to bear against the adoption of any particular package. Whatever prejudice does exist he would expect it to work in favor of the Danish cask (in which some of the margarine is also put up).

SOME ESSENTIALS OF A BUTTER PACKAGE.

Of first importance is the material used in manufacture. Spruce is the wood now used most extensively, and it is good. Balsam might be even preferable, but it is not always available. It is easily manufactured, and it makes a light and cheap tub. But it is necessary that the wood should be used without artificial treatment or coating. I have understood that the Vermont manufacturer are very careful to select the lumber used and to exclude any staves containing sap. I fear this, some, at least, of our manufacturers have not been wise enough to follow this example. The "bluey" butter referred to by the Bristol dealer was very likely due to sap in the wood. Our perfected package should be made to hold the butter perfectly, and the Bristol importers advised keeping brine around the butter in transit, and the "Goschens" referred to contained brine, which kept the butter from contact with the air. Now, if our package were made of material impervious to brine and had a brine-tight cover, the butter would be in a better condition, whether it were actually surrounded by brine or not. When brine is

A Fatal Attack.

A fatal attack of croup is a frequent one in the kind of 25 year old child who should be guarded by keeping his feet warm, his chest warm, his throat warm, and his head warm.

Children Cry for

Pitcher's Castoria.

It has been demonstrated that piping natural gas in pipes of one size about eight pounds per mile of the pressure is lost, but by using the telescope system, smaller pipes of the size towards the point of consumption, the loss of pressure is reduced to three pounds per mile.

The Farmers' Parliament.

CONTINUED.

The regular work of the Association began on Wednesday evening. Subject: Fruit Culture. Mr. Charles McGibbon read a paper and gave his experience in raising apples. Mr. McGibbon raises from 2,500 to 3,000 bushels of apples each year from an orchard of ten acres, and thinks that New Brunswick might raise its own supply of this fruit. Mr. McGibbon gave the varieties of trees that had succeeded with him and the names of a great number of varieties that had proved a failure. Professor Saunders, of the Experimental Farm, gave the meeting a large amount of useful and interesting information about the enemies of the apple tree and how to destroy them, which will be published in the report of Agriculture for this year. Mr. E. P. Saunders, of Woodville, who is perhaps the most successful fruit grower in N. B., was to have been present and read a paper, but was unable to come.

W. H. LYNN.

January 8th, 1889.

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