THE VICE PRESIDENT'S GUERNSEYS.

Visit to Some Dairy Cows of the Blue Blood.

At Rhinecliff, N. Y., is the finest herd of Guernsey cows in America, the owner says in the world. The owner is Vice President Levi P. Morton. The difference between the Jersey and the Guernsey is a little hard to define. The Guernsey is larger than the Jersey. In color the Guernsey is red, brown and mingled white. The prevailing color is light reddish brown. The pronounced black and fawn colors occasionally found in the Jersey are wanting in the Guernsey. The illustrations will show the white usually mixed with the light red and brown of the Guernsey. Like the Jersey, the Guernsey bull is not to be trusted at large.

CHAMOINESSE II.

The superintendent of Mr. Morton's farm, Mr. H. M. Cottrell, was not at home at the time of my visit, but the dairyman, Mr. W. W. Robison, and the herdsman, Mr. John Rowley, a young Englishman, gave full information about the beautiful cows in the pastures surrounding the vice president's mansion upon the hill.

There are 120 cows in the herd. The barn burned down some months ago and is being replaced by a new one that will hold 800 cows. One man must milk ten cows at a milking. The calves are allowed to remain with the dam three days, when they are taken away and brought up by hand, so to speak. The milking is done at 4 in the afternoon and 5 in the morning.

The pride of the dairy is the cow shown in the illustration. She is 6 years old and is one of the foreign Guernseys, having been imported five years ago by Mr. Morton. Chamoinesse gives from 700 to 800 pounds of milk a month when fed on the regular Ellerslie dairy ration. This is about the same the year around and is as follows: Four quarts ground oats, four quarts cornmeal, eight quarts bran—given in two feeds every day. In addition one pound of oilmeal is given to each cow, with hay, fodder or ensilage. With the oilmeal no butter color is needed for the Ellerslie product. It is to be noted that there is no prejudice against ensilage here.

Of course the Ellerslie herd people claim that even the Jersey is scarcely the equal of the Guernsey in butter production, while the greater size of the Guernsey makes her of some value as a beef animal.

Vice President Morton's butter making is known to fame the country over. The butter must be all made from sweet cream. While the milk is yet fresh it is heated to a temperature of from 90 to 95 degs. and run through the cream separator. It is made at once into the famous Ellerslie sweet cream butter. This butter is salted in the proportion of three-quarters of an ounce of salt to a pound of butter. In marketing his butter the vice president sets an admirable example to his brother hayseeds. He employs no middleman, but ships his goods directly to the consumers. One of the customers of the Ellerslie Guernsey butter is the Union League club, New York city; the other is the Shoreham club, Washington. It may be remarked likewise that the price obtained for the butter is fifty-five cents a pound the year around. That kind of farming pays. A balance churn is the one used for turning the cream into butter. "Where is your milkroom?" I innocently asked Mr. Robison.

"We do not have any," he answered. "We need none. The cream is separated at once and churned; the skimmilk is fed to the chickens."

To be sure. I had not remembered that where a cream separator is used there are no milk pans needed or any milkroom. The cream does not have to rise. It is whirled off at a dizzy rate through a patent machine that would have set our grandmothers crazy. Furthermore, from actual test I can say that this sweet cream butter is delicious. Unsalted it would taste much like the fresh churned butter that Americans meet at every turn in Europe. I sometimes think we do not know how to eat butter, we Americans, filling it with brine and salt, as we do, and taking away the best part of it, which is the rich, creamy, nutty flavor.

DISS III.

Another one of the choicest cows in the Ellerslie herd is Diss III. Her color is light red. Diss gave 8,193 pounds of milk last year, and when her calf was a month old the milk tested 5 per cent. butter fat. When fresh she gives thirty to thirty-five pounds of milk a day. Diss is 8 years old. The fine dairy form of these handsome cows will be especially noted.

It requires seventeen to eighteen pounds of the Guernsey milk to make one pound of butter. One cow yields an average of one pound of butter a day. The milk tests steadily at 4.5 to 5 per cent. fat. There is one cow whose milk has tested as high as 8 per cent., Mr. Robison says.

ELIZA ARCHARD CONNER.

Affairs in Russia.

Russian affairs look in a very bad way just now, for not only has the cholera followed the famine, while of course nihilism still is rampant, but, moreover, the czar, the czarina, the czarewitz and the prime minister, M. de Giers, are all very unwell—the emperor and the statesman being really very seriously indisposed.

As a matter of fact the strength of Alexander III has always been greatly exaggerated; because he is big and muscular he is supposed to have a robust constitution.

He has plenty of muscle, and St. Petersburg is always ringing with stories more or less true of extraordinary displays of the imperial strength—lifting heavy weights, crushing with his hand all kinds of metal things, etc., but what one does not hear so much about is that his majesty has completely lost his appetite during the past eighteen months, and, moreover, that he has nervous symptoms which would indicate that he is going the way, so far as his health is concerned, of his ancestor, Paul.

To make matters still worse, his most trusted physician, Professor Obermuller, is just dead of cholera, and the czar is, rightly or wrongly, said to be the most "difficult" patient to manage in all Europe. Private information received here in Berlin from a most authentic and high source intimates that a series of events of terrible importance is likely to take place in Russia. Perhaps before Christmas the vast Russian empire may have experienced changes which will affect it in all its length and breadth.—Berlin Letter.

A Pathetic Incident in Real Life.

There is a pathetic story which has never been told attending the death of James T. Leighton, of New Haven, who fell dead in Monument square, Portland, Wednesday evening. It appears that he had a son who, in a fit of rage, induced by an altercation with his father, left his home and mysteriously disappeared. The months went by and the father and mother received no tidings of their boy. Learning that he was employed in Portland, the mother and father went there on the Boston boat Wednesday morning and registered at the Preble. He searched the city all day with no success, and though ill and weak he resolved to start out again that night.

He met a man who informed him that his son was stopping in a boarding house on Free street and offered to lead Mr. Leighton there. The latter was overjoyed, but after crossing the square became so weak that he leaned against a building and was unable to proceed. He asked his guide to hurry to the boarding house and fetch his son. The man hurried, and when he returned with the son they saw a crowd surrounding a prostrate form on the sidewalk. They hurriedly pushed the bystanders aside, and there they found the father a corpse. Heart disease brought on by excitement, the physician said.—Bangor (Me.) Whig.

Whittier's Companion.

When John G. Whittier's office in this city was surrounded by a mob fifty years ago nearly every one on the premises felt constrained to depart. The gentle Quaker found himself alone with an office boy who would not desert him. Whittier at last made his way through the surging crowd down Chestnut street to Fifth. His gentle mien and quiet way of receiving threats gained him the mob's respect, and the courageous little fellow who clung to his employer through it all was also admired. The pair finally took refuge in a friendly house. Whittier never forgot that boy, and for years he wrote him constantly in this city. When death came to the boy, since grown to manhood, his daughter sent Whittier a letter announcing the fact and received a touching letter of sympathy. Recently a babe was born to her, and he will be christened John Greenleaf Whittier.—Philadelphia Record.

A housewife whose table linen always does her good service mends it with flax embroidery cotton of a number to correspond with the quality of the cloth. Under the ragged edges of the tear she bastes a piece of stiff paper, and makes a network of fine stitches back and forth over its edges, carrying the stitches about an inch beyond the edges of the cut. Thin places and breaks in linen may be run with the flax or embroidery floss, and towels should be mended in the same way.—Daughters of America.

Sweet and Sour Milk.

Economical women who insist upon buying goods that will "turn" are respectfully recommended to invest in "sweet" milk. The rest of us pine for such as will not "turn." It is appalling to learn, on the authority of the department of agriculture, that milk which is free from bacteria will remain unchanged for two weeks, though kept in a warm oven. If this be so, what of the healthfulness of sour milk, and what, alas, of cottage cheese?—Boston Commonwealth.

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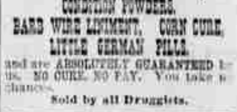

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