SOME BUTTER COWS.

These Cows Cannot Fling Feed Into Their Drinking Trough.

The milk is set in creamers as soon as strained. After setting twelve hours we draw it. The morning and evening creams are well stirred together and set in a warm room, of a temperature of about 70 deg. Fahr. When sufficiently ripe it is churned in a revolving churn, which I like best of all. When the butter is nicely granulated I draw off the milk and rinse the butter twice in weak brine. It is then put on the worker. As a rule I use half an ounce of salt to the pound of butter, sometimes more if the customers prefer it, sometimes less. The butter is put up in prints, is all sold to private parties and at the uniform price of fifty cents per pound the year around, said Mrs. Willetts.

We next went into the stables where the dairy cows were being milked. Instead of the usual drip or gutter behind the cows, there is a deep and roomy trench, made perfectly water tight. Over this is a grating of iron, and through this the droppings go to the trench, in which absorbents of various kinds are kept for utilizing the liquids. The manger is on low, so that the cow can lie down comfortably with her head over it. This she does, lying on the bedding and avoiding the grate.

Between each two cows is a waterer device, which, with this improvement they have added, they consider an indispensable feature of every good stable. This improvement is a board cover, with simple leather hinges. It projects over the edges of the basin, and when a cow wishes to drink she raises the lid with her nose and drinks. As soon as she removes her nose the lid drops back over the basin—it will not remain open. The cows learn to use it in a single day. Standing in the stables one hears the clatter of the lids falling so often that we realize as never before how often cows will drink when opportunity is given them.

"What is the advantage of this cover over the drinking bowl?" we queried of Mr. Doncourt.

"That is really a very valuable addition. Without it the water becomes foul. The cattle drink and fling bran or meal from their mouths, also bits of hay and ensilage into an open bowl. This in two or three days ferments and sours, and it will get so sour sometimes that the cattle will not drink the water."

"Why not use the common metal hinges instead of leather?"

"Because they get wet and rust, and when the cows crowd up the lid it adheres and will not drop. The leather doesn't rust."

"How long have you fed ensilage?" we queried of Mrs. Willetts.

"It is now four years, and we like it very much, and the cows are of the same opinion. It keeps them in the best of health, is much more palatable for them and it makes a better flavored butter than can be made with dry forage. Our cows do better on it than with any other food."

"How many acres of corn do you plant for ensilage?"

"About fifteen acres. Of these three are fed up while green; the remaining twelve go into the silo."

"What grain foods do you use?"

"For our dairy mainly bran and oilmeal. For our calves we prefer barley. In our experience it is the best of all. We grind the barley, cook it and mix it with skimmilk and a little oilmeal. The hot barley mush is put into the milk, and it warms the milk to just the desired temperature for the calves. They are very fond of it, and we seldom or never have any trouble with scours and kindred difficulties among them.

"In figuring on grain food for the dairy one needs to take into consideration the large amount they get in their ration of ensilage. Almost every stalk of corn has on it an ear, and sometimes it has two. This is really a very important factor in the grain ration, as you will see if you figure up the number of bushels of corn you have in each ton of ensilage."—Cor. Rural New Yorker.

To Pack Snow.

You ask me to explain how we put the snow in the icehouse and also how it was packed. In reply will say: "We pack the snow as solid and dry as possible, put six inches of sawdust between the walls, fill the house and put one foot of sawdust on top of snow. In two weeks after it was packed the snow had settled just one-half, and did not settle any more and kept perfect to the first of September, when we used the last. I weighed a few loads of the snow when we put it in, and I estimated that we had about thirty-five tons of snow, which cost us for labor thirty-five dollars.

Our icehouse will hold 110 tons of ice and about seven tons of snow. The thirty-five tons we left outside on the north end of the building we covered with rotten straw. We used that first, and it lasted us to the 28th of May. None of it melted, but not very much. We are now building an icehouse 30 by 50, and will leave the old one which is in the creamery building for floor room. The one we are building now we will fill with ice or snow, whichever we can secure first, and if successful and get ice enough to fill it, then we will build a snow shed and use the snow in the creamery and sell what ice we will not use.

The snow is twice as easy to handle as ice, as it can be cut out in blocks with a spade. I had a cream cooler fixed in shape of a beer cooler, and cold water was forced through from the pump. While the separator was running the water was 60 degs. F., but in hot weather we can lower the temperature of the cream as it comes from the separator 20 degs., which was a great saving in ice, and the quality of butter was better.—J. L. Ahlers in Creamery Journal.

Flowers Transported in Ice.

A decided novelty is on view at the Royal aquarium, Westminster, in connection with the exhibition of the National Chrysanthemum society. For the first time in history flowers from New Zealand have been imported in ice, and the experiment has proved a complete success. In the antipodes the culture of the chrysanthemum has awakened a good deal of interest. There April corresponds with the English chrysanthemum month of November, but until this year the growers here have had no means of accurately judging the methods of the plants reared in our Australasian colonies. It occurred to Mr. Earland, gardener to a gentleman living at Wellington, to take a few of the finest specimens to the Meat Refrigerating works. There they were placed in tin canisters filled with water and then frozen.

The tins were opened at the Royal aquarium and found to contain each a solid block of transparent ice, in the middle of which, imbedded as it were in pure crystal, was a beautiful bloom, perfect in shape and color and comparing, as experts declared, with the finest varieties customarily exhibited in England. In recognition of the success of the enterprise, taken in conjunction with its merits, a silver gilt medal was awarded, the feeling being that by way of encouragement to the New Zealand growers a special prize should be given.—London Telegraph.

Russia's Danger.

Should the czar die the principal danger will come, not from the nihilists, but from the quarter of the Grand Duke Vladimir, the czar's brother and the husband of one of the most ambitious, intriguing and unscrupulous of German princesses. Her influence has been bad for Russia in every way. Her terrible extravagance in dress has excited Russian ladies to even greater excesses in that way than they were wont to indulge in, which is certainly saying a great deal, for the Russian women have always been with our own fair sisters as the best patrons of the most extravagant Parisian modists and dressmakers, and it is to this Mecklenburg princess that St. Petersburg owes the objectionable habit which has now become so popular in the grande monde of Russia of having roulette tables in all the most select and "swagger" salons, where very high play indeed is indulged in.

The play at the house of Princess Betsy Bariatinsky, for example, is very high, and a young gentleman of fortune anxious to lose most of his shekels in gambling by the side of the Neva need not by any means go to the Yacht club to do so, but can "put himself on the straw," as the French say, very easily by the roulette played at half a dozen of the best houses in St. Petersburg.—Cor. Philadelphia Times.

Comrades.

Joseph Morrison, of Clinton, Ills., came into the headquarters tent of the Seventeenth corps at the G. A. R. reunion and said he wanted to register. While waiting his turn at the book, Dr. Littlewood, of that city, who served in the Twentieth Illinois, looked at him rather suspiciously, then got up and walked around and took him in from the other side. Then he tapped him on the shoulder and remarked, "You were at Fort Henry and Fort Donelson, weren't you?" "Oh, yes," came the answer, and then the stranger began to look. "Took part at Shiloh, didn't you?" continued Dr. Littlewood, "and the capture of Vicksburg, and the march to the sea?" "Of course I did, and so did you, and—wait, I'll be hanged, if it isn't Littlewood," shouted the stranger as he jumped from his seat and made a rush for his old comrade, whom he had not seen since the day they were mustered out, after serving in the same company during the war. Maybe they were not "Shekiah"—Washington Post.

A Three Years' Contract.

In sheer dogged patience nothing can surpass the Chinese race. A piece man, whose exploits were recently noticed in the Chinese papers, has become a candidate for the highest distinction of holiness by undertaking to sit on his mother's grave for three years. He has already sat there for some months in a rude hut provided by the charity of his friends. He is an object of devout curiosity to all the visitors to the cemetery, and it is confidently expected that when he has sat out his term the matter will be reported to the throne, and he will receive a suitable provision for life.

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