

tried the experiment of feeding sweet skim milk to pigs. I do not claim that those are the conditions always attending the feeding of sweet skim milk that way, only; I have stated what we did. We took a Holstein cow, that we happened to have, and we took a Jersey cow that a neighbor had, and made the experiment as I told you. I do not rely on the chemist to tell me what kind of a cow she was, nor upon the churn, but I rely upon both. What we have found does not prove that Holstein cows are better than Jerseys; because I might pick out one man here who is a quarter of a man, that does not prove that all men are not whole men. But here is a Holstein cow that gives these results, and here is a Jersey that gives those results under the same conditions. Now, upon those factors let us generalize and get what benefit we can.

THE DIGNITY OF BUTTER MAKING, FROM A WOMAN'S STANDPOINT.

By Miss FANNIE MORLEY, Baraboo, Wis.

Dignity, says Webster, is true honor, nobleness or elevation of mind, etc. That labor, physical toil, intellectual exertion, labor which requires hard work for its accomplishment,— that such labor for the attainment of a worthy object is something elevating and dignified, if carried on to success, is a plain American sentiment, the truth of which is verified in the fact that the best and most truly successful men and women of our land have exerted themselves physically as well as mentally and with a decided effect. We have been endowed with the ability to perform both mental and manual work. The two belong together, should not be separated, and when well balanced lead onward to success. Knowledge back of labor, whatever be the real work, is what gives dignity to the work. This knowledge is and must of necessity be obtained in various ways and from various sources. Some is learned by personal observation and experience, and much from the words and written works of others; hence by improving our opportunities we may store away in the memory much useful information.

“Yet, mortal, pause! within thy mind is laid

Wealth gathered long and slowly; thoughts divine

Heap that full treasure house; and thou hast made

The gems of many a spirit's ocean thine.”

I think we are apt to apply the word dignity to what is really a false dignity or no dignity at all. Stiffness, pride and self-conceit too often are pronounced dignity; yet how erroneously so called, since they do not partake in the least degree of the true idea. The progressive butter maker will fling to the winds his self-conceit, and be as willing to be taught as to teach, to be criticised as to criticise, doing his own studying and planning, learning useful lessons as surely from failure as from success. Therefore, let us make the most of our butter making, for in so doing we shall make the most of ourselves; and, though lesser lights we may be, strive to illumine the pathway to success. We pity the man — yes, but I will say woman — who has grown up without work, without care, without much thought, till by some unforeseen event she is made the unhappy recipient of the burden of toil, care and responsibility, for burden it is to those who are not educated aright. How much better to be trained to think and plan, also to work while young, and what better place for accomplishing this than on the farm, where there is always so much of this to be done, that each member of the household may be required and trusted to do his or her part, each one being held responsible for the appointed work. The farm, especially the dairy farm, is like unto a great school, the owner or proprietor acting the part of teacher, each worker or pupil having his different branches of study and work, all uniting in the general exercises or chores. Take, for instance, the work or study of butter making. We will suppose it to be dignified butter making, requiring thought, skill and work. Notwithstanding the progress recently made in the art, the changes of opinion and practice regarding it, and the prediction that soon butter making will be confined exclusively to factories and creameries, the real work necessitates that close attention to detail and method as to be good discipline for any young lady, or gentleman either, who may have the essential inclination to attempt the work. True, the work may be very easily and successfully accomplished with the proper use of good apparatus; yet it does take time and require more or less thought and attention. Who says that butter making, successfully carried on, is not ennobling, dignified employment? It depends upon the true dignity of the butter maker whether the article manufactured, when placed upon the market, demands a good price or a poor price, provided the milk or cream is all right when placed under

her care. Her personal attention is required in every detail,— the proper curing of the cream, temperature when churned, the coloring,— by the way, a tax upon her artistic taste and skill; the salting; all these and many more little things not on the programme, but ever forcing their way to light and demanding care.

Then, too, there is this point I would like to make and urge upon your practical consideration — the mutual benefit arising from the young lady holding the position of butter maker in your own household. Be she hired girl or daughter, the responsibility given, the trust enjoined, cannot fail to exert good influence over her heart, head and hand. The busy housewife, who has thought that no one else *could* turn out the golden butter like unto she herself, finds upon trial, in many instances, that hers was a mistaken idea, and that now she is entirely free from this work whose discipline she does not need, free to read a little more and rest a little more.

There is wide scope for the exercise of skill in coloring butter. We do not relish butter that is so high colored as to remind us of the fact that we are eating butter color; neither do we enjoy eating butter that is so white as to resemble grease. Though otherwise good, this one item, which by some is considered to be of little importance, is I think of sufficient worth to engage our attention.

Do we not admire the beautiful and artistic coloring of the rose, the rich shading of the pansy, the delicate tints of the anemone as it peeps from the ground so early in the spring? Nature has done her best to clothe her children with beauty, rendering them pleasing to the eye of the beholder; and shall not we obey the spirit of the law which governs her by giving to our butter a fine natural color?

“ Nothing was ever beautiful in vain,
Or all in vain was good.”

We know that *we*, the butter makers of Wisconsin, have nothing to be ashamed of in the way of reputation certainly; and if the work is not dignified enough for us, let us make it so by putting our highest ambition, talent, skill, planning and thinking into the work of raising the standard of our butter. This cannot be accomplished by spasmodic effort. It requires unceasing vigilance, precision, method. These component factors of success, brought into requisition and harmoniously carried out, will produce the desired result,

and withal lend dignity to our own characters. Let us, therefore, press our way onward and upward, knowing that there is always room *at the top* in every calling, not excepting butter making.

Mr. Hiram Smith — It may not be known to all present that the Miss Morley who has just read this paper did Wisconsin the great honor of taking the first prize at the International Dairy Fair in a class open to the world, made with her own hands, and Wisconsin reaps the honor.

THE INFLUENCE DAIRYING HAS HAD IN WISCONSIN, UPON THE FARM, THE FARMER, AND THE COM- MUNITY AT LARGE.

By W. D. HOARD, President of the Northwestern Dairymen's Association,
Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Association:— I think it is Buckle who says, "That those great modifying principles which make up the sum of civilized advancement, all find their source in the common people." It is only another form of that saying attributed to Horace Greeley, "Nations and trees have the same law of growth; the foundations of their progress are below the surface, out of sight."

Thinkers generally agree that that progress which contains the best and most enduring elements must include in a marked degree the simpler as well as the more complex forms of society.

We are all desirous of seeing Wisconsin prosper, and we know that unless the farm and the farmer give exhibition of prosperity, there can be no true material salvation for the community at large.

It follows, then, that we can have no higher purpose or worthier ambition than to inspire sound thought, elevate the standard, enlarge the profit and ennoble the character of Wisconsin agriculture.

The peculiar effect dairying has had in this direction will be the theme of our thought for a few moments.

I have been a somewhat enthusiastic observer and student of agriculture in Wisconsin for over twenty years.

Leaving in 1857 the close, compact and more methodical systems