In order that a correct idea may be gained as to the quantity of milk required to make 1lb. of curd, I have carefully noted the variations as they have occurred during the various months.

The quantities required for this purpose have been as follow: 1883—October, 9lb. 14oz.; November, 9lb. 13oz.; December, 10lb. 1884—January, 10lb.; February, 10lb.; March, 9lb. 12oz.; April, 9lb.

The average for the season has been 9lb. 12oz., whilst 10lb. 8oz. has made 1lb. of cured cheese, and our average percentage of cream is 11lb.

The following table will throw further light on this interesting subject:—

1883-84.	Milk.	Curds.	Average per cent. of Cream.
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
October ...	91,456	9,237	12
November ...	193,156	19,575	10
December ...	207,445	20,739	10
January ...	205,004	20,342	10
February ...	168,900	16,564	9
March ...	145,320	14,739	11
April ...	70,907	7,913	12
	1,082,188	109,109	...

The quality of the milk has varied considerably, some patrons standing high in percentage of cream, whilst others range comparatively low; but the average is higher than that of last season, as is also the quantity of cheese made from the milk. The reason I believe to be that the farmers have been more careful in the selection of their cows, and their general management both in feeding and milking. The latter is a most important point, as cows regularly and cleanly milked, at the same time being quietly handled, always yield the best results.

The following statement will give a comparative view of the profit which the farmers have received from the establishment of this business in their midst.

We have this year given 3d. per gallon of 10lb., and the prices mentioned below are based on milk supplied on those terms:—

	Number of Cows.	Total Amount Received.	Amount per Cow.	Average per cent. of Cream.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1	11	80 9 9	7 6 4	9
2	20	83 12 0	4 3 7	9
3	20	124 12 8	6 4 7½	11
4	11	81 15 2	7 8 7¾	10
5	10	37 7 4	3 14 8¾	9
6	25	141 0 6	5 12 9¾	12
7	20	90 5 9	4 10 3½	12
8	8	50 6 6	6 5 10	10
9	7	48 18 8	6 19 9¾	10
10	20	100 17 10	5 0 10¾	11
11	18	56 2 10	3 2 4½	8
12	15	59 14 5	3 19 6¾	10
13	3	14 13 8	4 17 10	10
14	15	54 18 9	3 13 3	9
15	25	84 12 9	3 7 8½	11
16	2	10 13 11	5 6 11½	10
17	20	97 1 7	4 17 0	11
18	10	38 9 6	3 16 11	10
19	5	40 6 9	8 1 4	9
20	7	48 13 9	6 19 1	11
21	4	17 2 10	4 5 8	11
...	276	1,361 16 11	...	...

Average per cow, £5 4s. 6¼d.

These figures show a rather small return per cow, but there are other factors in the calculation which have to be taken into account. We commenced work on the 8th October and closed on the last day of April, consequently the farmers had nearly three weeks' milk before the factory was opened, and six weeks' after we closed. I value the produce of these nine weeks at the sum of £1,