

highest point of excellence in their efforts, but some of them entertain the idea, or shape their breeding operations, or base their line of breeding upon the theory that if the horse is not a success in his legitimate line, he can be used for some other purpose.

That there are failures and disappointments in the results of careful breeding is very often demonstrated, but this does not deter the man who makes a specialty of breeding horses for speed from making other and stronger efforts in the direction sought. He may select another line which his judgment or observation tells him is more reliable, and through which his object will be less likely to be defeated; but it is hardly presumable that, with a special object in view, and with the material at hand, he would pursue a course of breeding which, if it did not produce good "trotters," would result in good plough horses. They might be used for this purpose, but it is very doubtful whether they would prove more than medium, even for this, and certainly they would not rank first-class, and the venture would be an unprofitable one.

The same rule applies to breeding cattle. It never was the intention or design of Nature that a cow inclined to produce flesh and fat largely from the food she consumes would make a successful or profitable dairy animal. Nor can it be expected that a cow, or breed of cows, that give a very heavy flow of milk will make as rich a product as another breed giving a smaller amount.

The man whose location and surrounding circumstances favor the manufacture and sale of butter makes a mistake by selecting cows for his purpose that have not been bred for this object exclusively.

Yet, how often is it the case that large butter dairies are composed of cows deep in the Shorthorn or Holstein blood, with the idea prominent in the mind of the owner that in the purchase or the breeding of his herd it is better that his cows should be of the larger breeds, so that if they are failures as profitable butter-makers, they will be worth more to the butcher. Such animals usually meet this fate early in life, for it is entirely incompatible with the order of things that a cow can be a good one for the butter dairy, a heavy milk producer, and a beef animal all combined.

In the outset it should be determined to what use the product can be most profitably employed. If large yield of milk is desired for sale in towns and cities, or the manufacture of cheese is the object, the Holstein or the Ayrshire should be selected; the flow of milk from these breeds of cattle is the largest by far of any other, but is notably deficient in oil and fat, ingredients so essential to the formation of butter; consequently they cannot be employed to advantage for making that article.

The Jersey and Guernsey cows are rich milkers almost without exception, and the butter made from them exceeds not only in quantity that of any other breed, but is of infinitely finer quality, and always commands a higher price in the market.

These considerations should govern entirely the selection of a herd of dairy cows. The different breeds, devoted to the production of beef, should be allowed to pursue their legitimate calling; they have no business in the milk or butter dairy, and dissatisfaction and disappointment will surely attend the attempt of making a success of dairying with any other breed of cattle than those specially designed for the purposes intended.

It need not follow that the blood should be pure—in very many instances this would be impracticable; the cost of establishing a herd of pure-breeds would be beyond the means of the average dairyman, and, besides, the grades,

of the various breeds are, for dairy purposes quite as profitable in most cases as the pure-bred animals.

This object can be brought about by the use of a thoroughbred bull, raising the heifer calves, and sending the bulls to the butcher for veal. In a very few generations the good results of this work will be strongly illustrated in the increase of more profitable returns, and no dairyman who perseveres in this course will ever attempt to succeed by working the "general-purpose cow."

BREEDING IN ILLINOIS.

For more than half a century attention has been given in Central Illinois to the breeding of improved cattle. As early as 1823 James Williams brought from Kentucky to Sangamon county some of the Patton stock of Shorthorns. This strain was then noted for its good milking qualities. In 1834 J. D. Smith and J. N. Brown brought also from Kentucky to the same county a number of the best Kentucky Shorthorns, and in the spring of 1838 Col. John Williams, now living, and son of James Williams above mentioned, brought from Livingston county, New York, one bull and one cow, both Shorthorns.

These are the three earliest "importations," as they were called, of improved cattle, into Central Illinois, of which we find any account. At later periods many other good Shorthorn cattle were introduced and soon became the leading stock for both beef and dairy purposes. They have since been bred chiefly for beef. In 1879 a herd of Herefords was started in the county, and this breed now adds largely to the beef product in that part of the State.

Some years ago the Holstein and Swiss cattle were introduced there, but from some cause they have not become generally known, nor their merits as a dairy breed appreciated.

It is only within the last fifteen years that the queen of butter-makers, the Jersey cow, first made her appearance in the county. For a time her gain in popularity was slow, but from the start she never lost ground. With each succeeding year the value of the Jersey as a family cow became more apparent, until finally the interest in Jersey cattle breeding in Central Illinois led to the organization of the Springfield Jersey Cattle Club.

There is nothing like association of effort for the promotion of any particular object or interest. A club of this kind will do more to improve and popularize a breed, new in its locality, in a few years, than individual effort would accomplish in a life time.

The next annual sale by the Club will take place on the 27th May, and will doubtless be well worth attending by parties wishing to buy Jerseys of the best butter strains. As is well known in the history of Shorthorn cattle, their rapid dissemination throughout the States north and west of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers has been due chiefly to the custom with leading breeders of holding auction sales annually on their farms or at points easily reached by farmers and stockmen desiring to improve their common or native cattle. The foundations of many of the grand herds in the west were thus secured. The Jersey cattle interest is being greatly advanced in the same way.

In view of apprehensions on the part of some that this course of disseminating stock may tend also to the spread of diseases among them, it is becoming usual to require that every contributor to these sales shall furnish a veterinary surgeon's certificate showing his cattle to be in good health and that they have not been exposed to any contagious disease.

In Central Illinois the changes from inferior to improved cattle have been marked, as is usually the case elsewhere, by changes also in the methods of farming. One of the most notable of these is the increased area of rich pastures and a corresponding decrease in the acreage of corn.

LIST OF TRANSFERS.

Canada Shorthorn Herd Book from March 20 to April 20.

- c. Exeter Snowdrop [14536], by King William [12733], Neil Stewart, Lumley; A. Bishop, M.P.P., Exeter.
- b. King William [12733], by The Cavalier [7944], late Neil Stewart, Exeter; Thos. Russell, Exeter.
- b. Sir Walter [12741], by Pedro [11805], Walter Jones, Garnet; Isaac Drinkwater, Rainham Centre.
- c. Prairie Queen [14578], by Lord Carlisle [8824], Joseph Salkeld, Stratford; J. & E. Salkeld, Beaconville, N. W. T.
- b. Dixie [12767], by Lord Carlisle [8824], Joseph Salkeld, Stratford; Thomas Dixon, Atwood.
- b. Ratler [12745], by Lord Barrington [10140], John Baker, Simcoe; R. Hastlett, Jarvis.
- b. Walpole Chief [12746], by Lord Barrington [10140], John Baker, Simcoe; A. Colwell, Erie.
- b. Woodhouse Duke [12747], by Lord Barrington [10140], John Baker, Simcoe; L. D. Sharp, Simcoe.
- c. Victoria [14561], by Elderridge Duke [7049], Saml Y. Shantz, Berlin; D. McNaught, V. S., Rapid City, Man.
- b. Honest Jimmy [12750], by Young Udora's Oxford [6427], D. McNaught, V. S., Rapid City; R. E. McGregor, Rapid City.
- b. Red Rover [9225], by Elderridge Duke [7049], Saml Y. Shantz, Berlin; D. McNaught, V. S., Rapid City.
- b. Emperor of King [12726], by Emperor [8833], John Beasley, Nobleton; M. Murphy, Schomberg.
- b. Baron Wild Eyes [12751], by Baron Gwyneth 3rd [6605], Bilton Snarey, Croton; John N. Campbell, Ridgetown.
- b. Pelham Champion [12752], by Ogden [11392], Ezra Rittenhouse, Jordan; C. Roland, St. Catharines.
- b. Prince Imperial [12758], by Prince of Wales [12757] Benj. Shuh, Berlin; John Snyder, Berlin.
- b. White Duke [12756], by Wild Eyes Gwynn [9531], H. West, Ridgetown; Robt. Milton, Guilds.
- c. Pride [14566], by Young Roger [10660], H. West, Ridgetown; Robt. Milton, Guilds.
- b. Halton Duke [12764], by Wandering Willie [9494], Geo. Kitching, Corwhin; Duncan Campbell, Arrow.
- b. Prince [12761], by Scarlet Velvet [7833], Jos. S. Thompson, Whitby; C. Lavolette, Virginia.
- b. Red Prince [12762], by Prince [12761], Geo. Prout, Zephyr; Wm. Stephenson, Beaverton.
- b. General Simcoe [12763], by Prince [12761], George Prout, Zephyr; Joseph Graham, Rothes.
- b. Marmaduke [12760], by Aquilla [12750], James Rea, Mimosa; Henry Torrance, East Caledon.
- b. Morton Duke [12770], by Wild Eyes Gwynne [9531], John Serson, Ridgetown; N. Thompson, Sims, Dakota.
- c. Beauty of Morton [14580], by Baron Gwynne [10891], John Serson, Ridgetown; N. Thompson, Sims, Dak.