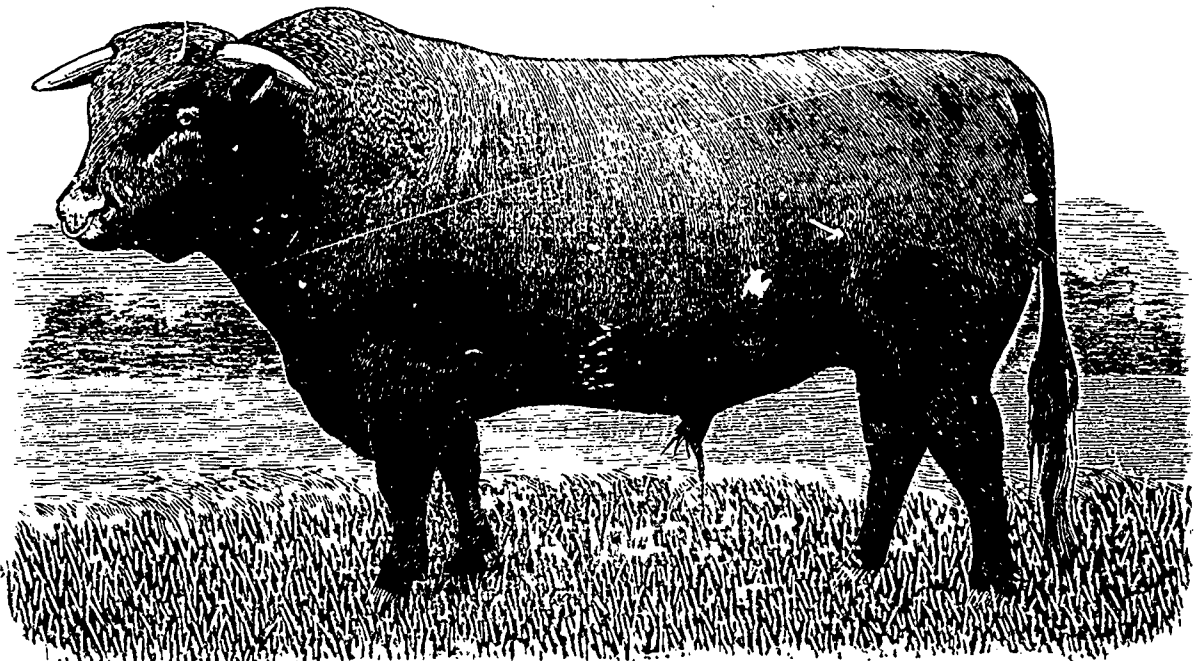


my farmers to put in potatoes, because with the implements we now have, it is easy to cultivate them. For at the beginning of improved systems we must not attempt too difficult things; we must ascend gradually. To have good crops of vegetables the land must be well hoed, and I found that this would more easily be done when potatoes were the crop, and with greater profit, without mentioning other sorts of vegetables; for you know that suburban proprietors make more money out of vegetables than those who are at a distance from towns. But what happened? First came that hateful potato beetle; my plans were pretty thoroughly floored! (Laughter.) All at once, a poison was discovered to kill those horrid brutes; then I announced, from the pulpit, my first great victory over the potato-beetle. (Laughter.) But just imagine what opposition I encountered! There was a man who, at the very door of the church, exclaimed, that people must not pay attention to me, because Paris-green would poison all the cattle, that in the parish of St. Augustin, a man had

oh, the instructions I gave him about it! I did not quite tell him to get a oradle for it, but very nearly. (Laughter.)

The calf grew up, then I said: He who reared this animal ought to derive some little profit from it to pay for his trouble; the price charged for the service was fifty cents; that was not enough to ruin a man. But only think, she would not breed! What is to be done! said I. Anyhow, this fine breed of cows must be distributed around the North. I bought four cows, and gave away, here and there, every calf they had. Go and visit the North now, and you will see lots of them. They are capital cows. Thus, in this way, I did all that lay in my power. To-day, you know, when people talk of these cows, they say: "These are Curó Labello's cows." They have my brand on their foreheads. (Laughter.)

But something occurred, gentlemen, which gave a great impulse to the progress of agriculture; this was the establishment of the Dairymen's Association, of which M. Bernatchez is the president, and of which you see so many members met



DEVON BULL, DUKE OF POUND 16TH.

THE PROPERTY OF MR. A. C. SKINNER, POUND FARM, BISHOP'S LYDIARD.

WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE AT THE DEVON COUNTY SOCIETY'S SHOW AT EXMOUTH, AND OTHER PRIZES.

sprinkled his potatoes with Paris-green; a storm came on; the rain ran into the ditches charged with Paris-green; his cattle had drunk of this water; and they were all dead. This tale went from house to house. It was all a lie; it was the man's sense alone, that was dead; but I was to some extent its victim.

I relate this partly to show you the difficulties we meet with in introducing improvements. But we must never be discouraged. I wanted to introduce into the North a breed of cattle, which is very hardy; good butter-makers, cows that give 8 or 9 pounds of butter a week for many weeks. These cows, I have seen; 3 or 4 years ago, they asked from \$80 to \$100 a piece for them. They tested them by skimming their milk, for their price depended upon the quantity of butter they gave. Well, only fancy! some one gave me a calf of this breed. Ah! I loved it as if it had been my own child! (Laughter.) What do you think this calf was worth? \$200. I gave it in charge to a farmer, telling him to take great care of it. And,

here to-day. You can form no idea of the good that this has done. Seeing M. Taché present, I cannot refrain from offering him my grateful thanks for the zeal he has shown in this respect. His talents are, indeed, very remarkable; he has devoted all his intelligence, all his acquirements, to the important question of the dairy industry. We cannot do less, gentlemen, that thank him for it.

You know that to get a good flow of milk from the cow's udder, a good lot of food must go into her mouth. This law admits of no exception, and unfortunately, we are in the habit of feeding our cows insufficiently: we do not value them highly enough; we do not know what profit they are able to afford us. Nowadays, all the markets of the world have been altered by steamers and railways; it follows, then, that our farming must be altered if it is to be made more profitable. If the man that sows an acre in oats, reckons up the whole cost of the seeding and harvesting of this crop, all the food and labor it has consumed, I think, he will find that he has