

source of loss, the duty incumbent on every farmer whose lands are stocked at all, to give this matter his most careful consideration is abundantly manifest.

Stocking a farm judiciously is a feat that but few comparatively accomplish in the best manner possible. And this arises, we believe, more from a lack of consideration than from a lack of ability. It is because so many farmers allow the masterly powers of thought which nature has given them in so remarkable a degree, to slumber in the cradle of the unweakened.

In stocking a farm the first consideration is *adaptability*. By this we mean the adaptability of the land to maintenance of stock of a certain kind, and the adaptability of certain breeds of stock to the present or prospective conditions of the land. Every farm is better adapted to the production of some one kind of stock, except so far as similarity of conditions, food and treatment will answer for breeds with much resemblance in their nature and uses. It is therefore the imperative duty of the farmer to consider carefully which breed or breeds are best adapted to the conditions of his own farm.

The popularity of a breed is usually a mightier factor of the farmer's consideration than adaptability, hence the reason of many of the mistakes that are made. Because Jersey cattle sometimes sell for \$20,000, this is no sure indication that every farmer should stock his farm with Jerseys, and because Shropshire sheep bring good prices and find ready sale to-day, it does not follow that a majority of farmers should take up the breeding of Shropshire sheep.

It would be unwise for the farmer with much surface soil violently undulating, to stock his farm with the heavy breeds of cattle, sheep or horses, and it might be equally unwise for those possessing fertile bottom lands to stock them with the lighter breeds of the same. One farm may be admirably adapted to dairying but less so to producing beef; another may suit the growth of mutton and wool, and a third may produce beef better than anything else. Let dairy produce, then, be grown on the first, mutton and wool on the second, and beef on the third. The enumeration of the conditions of adaptability would unduly swell the contents of this paper, and therefore for the present cannot be considered.

Proximity to market should be a determining factor. The dairyman remote from market town or railway station and in a locality where cheese factories and creameries are unknown, will find it impossible to compete successfully with those enjoying the advantage of proximity to one of these or to all of them. So situated, he had better not go into dairying. He could better engage in the growth of meat or wool, which can be marketed with but little trouble and at far longer intervals. The cost of marketing should at no time bear a large proportion to the cost of production or no place will be found for any margin of profit.

The *natural tastes* of the individual should be considered. The farmer who has a passion for light horses, fleet of limb and comely in form, should breed them, and so he who loves the sounding tread of the heavy draught, with massiveness of build, should breed the same. The lover of the heavy beefing types with parallelogramic forms, should choose the Shorthorn, and he who admires more rotundity of shapes, the Aberdeen Angus Poll. Those who are never so happy as when pails overflow with milk should think of the Holstein and the Ayrshire, and the man who has strong admiration for big wool sacks should breed sheep.

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The History and Breeding of Bates Shorthorns.

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(Second Paper.)

We have noticed that Mr. Bates spent an early period of his life at Haydon Castle, (generally spelled Aydon but the *Official Gazetteer* gives it Haydon), in the neighborhood of which resided Geo. Culley, an eminent breeder and writer. The brothers Colling are reported to have said, that whatever they knew about breeding cattle they acquired in the first instance from Mr. Geo. Culley, and why may we not conclude that Mr. Bates from the same eminent authority obtained the first rudiments in the art of which in later years he became so proficient.



Thomas Bates, of Kirklevington.

It was not, however, until he moved to the Halton Castle farm that he laid the foundation of his Shorthorn herd. His attention was first called to this breed by Mr. Waistell, of Great Burdon, near Darlington, who was not only a large feeder and grazier, but also a breeder of Shorthorns, and one who was so far ahead of his time that he actually believed in pedigree and talked pedigree at that early date, when herd books were not only unknown but unthought of. We little realize the trouble and hard work that those old pioneers of the herd book, Messrs. Coates, Whitaker & Bates, had to undergo to get people to register their cattle. "Old Coates," as he was called, rode from breeder to breeder on an old white mare, with saddlebags attached to his saddle, collecting data upon which to publish the first volume of "Coates' Herd Book." This data was then submitted to either Mr. Bates or Mr. Whitaker, or both, for revision and approval, and had it not been for the kindly assistance of the Greenholme enthusiast, in more ways than one, the first volume would not have been published as early as it was. It was printed at Olney, and a manuscript copy of it is still preserved, written out in Mr. Whitaker's own hand.

We have said Mr. Bates' attention was first called to Shorthorns by Mr. Waistell, and from him no doubt Mr. Bates received those ideas of breeding and the value of pedigree in connection therewith that made him such a student of blood lines, and stickler of pedigree, perhaps the greatest that ever lived up to his own time.

When first Mr. Bates commenced farming for himself he bought and grazed the little Kyloes or west

Highlanders, as was the custom in that part of England, but he quickly became satisfied they were not what he wanted.

We find he afterwards, in "1799 twice bought steers descended from a cow bought at Mr. Harrison's sale after his death; and although the times were very much distressed, this cow cost 50 gs. Mr. Bates affirmed these steers were better than any he ever saw either at Barmpton or Kelton, when the Messrs. Colling's stock were at their greatest perfection. Mr. Bates had bought Mr. R. Colling's steers the following year, and both lots were by Mr. C. Colling's Favorite (252), then in his bloom" (Bell.).

It was in 1799 that the Durham ox by Favorite (252) came out first at Darlington with his half sister of the Duchess tribe. The latter was quite as great a wonder in her way, and confirmed Mr. Bates' fancy for the sort which was hereafter to be linked with his name. The subsequent travels of the ox all over England not only brought a large bull trade to Kelton and Barmpton, but was the means of drawing attention to this breed of cattle in districts of England very remote from the valley of the Tees. When we state the Durham ox weighed 3,024 lbs., "not by unwieldy bulk but by the ripeness of all his points," it is easy to imagine that he would create quite a sensation amongst stock-breeders in the southern and eastern counties of England, where small and ill-fed cattle predominated.

Mr. Bates had been breeding Shorthorns by the Tyne-side for some time, or as may be called, serving his apprenticeship, weighing and experimenting, but it was not until he became possessed of his first Duchess that he had any particular views, and he then became an enthusiast and seemed to be guided by certain theories, or perhaps prejudices, both in favor of and against different families. Of some, perhaps, he over-estimated their worth as much as he spoke disparagingly of others. Certain it is, until he bought the Stanwick cow, he had not struck out any decided line of breeding. This cow must have been a good one, for "Mr. Charles Colling frequently assured him that the cow he purchased in 1784 out of Stanwick's Park, was the best he ever had or ever saw." Mr. Bates himself writes, "I selected this tribe of Shorthorns as superior to all other cattle, not only as small consumers, but as great growers, and quick grazers with the finest quality of beef. My first Duchess calved at Halton Castle, June 7th, 1807. She was kept on grass only, in a pasture with 19 other cows, and made in butter and milk for some months, about two guineas (\$10) per week." This strikes the keynote of Mr. Bates' aim, beau ideal, or whatever term you choose to apply to that great fundamental principle he ever held in view—*utility*. They must raise their calves and make a weekly return also in shape of butter and milk sold. As he himself dictates, "Mr. Mason once said to me, 'You can go on breeding Shorthorns, because they pay you in milk, butter and beef, but we cannot unless we can sell at high prices to breeders.' This confession was unguardedly made one morning when he called upon me to breakfast, just as my housekeeper had put up the week's butter in readiness for the Newcastle market. I told him, however ready he was for breakfast, he should not have it until he counted the butter. There were 300-half pound rolls to go to market, besides what was sold at home and used in the house. There were then, I remember, 30 cows which had calved, and the butter sold for about 25c. per half pound, being above ten shillings (\$2.50) per cow, in butter alone, besides the value of the old milk otherwise sold. Had all the milk been creamed and made into butter it would have been,