

### HEREFORD BEEF IN LONDON.

The *Mark Lane Express* of London, England, alluding to a statement made in our columns by an English correspondent, says:—"A Shorthorn breeder writes to one of the United States papers stating that the London salesmen say they cannot sell Hereford bullocks. No wonder this Shorthorn breeder does not give his name. The only difficulty the London salesmen experience with regard to the Hereford bullocks is in getting as many of them as they want in the season. As grass-fed beef, there is nothing that comes into London that can touch the Herefords."—*Breeder's Gazette*.

The following appeared in your last issue copied from the *Mark Lane Express*.—

"The only difficulty the London salesmen experienced with regard to Hereford bullocks is in getting as many of them as they want in the season. As grass-fed beef, there is nothing that comes into London that can touch the Hereford."

This is stating the case rather extravagantly, but we have not quoted it here for the purpose of making any question in regard to the excellence of the Hereford as a grazing beast, but to direct the attention of those of your readers who are not familiar with British Markets and British methods in grazing and feeding cattle, to a few points essential to a correct understanding of such paragraphs as this. It is said that salesmen find it difficult to get as many Hereford bullocks as they want "in the season." Now it is to be observed that Scots, Herefords, etc., are always looked upon in the markets as grass-fed beasts, while Shorthorns of all grades are in the market all the year round.

In the next place, it is to be observed that grass-fed beef, in proper condition, is always of better flavour than the stall-fed, and this is especially the case in Great Britain where turnips and cake are chiefly fed, which, as is well known, impair the flavour of meat, as they do of milk and butter. Besides, the Scots, Herefords, and Devons, when brought fat to the markets in the autumn off grass, have more age than the average of Shorthorns, which may be profitably fattened on artificial foods at from twelve to twenty months. Now, cattle killed at those ages make beef that is relished by many as being exceptionally tender, while it lacks the rich juiciness and high flavour that would be found in the flesh of the same cattle when fully matured and made up on grass of the highest quality. Hence we find upon the estates of wealthy gentlemen in England, select lots of bullocks being grazed to full maturity, to furnish a supply of beef for the holiday season. These bullocks are frequently found grazing in the parks with the deer. In winter, in very severe weather, they are sometimes allowed a little hay, but are never fed turnips or cake.—*Breeder's Gazette*.

### MAMMOTH STOCKMEN.

From the Standard Oil Company and W. H. Vanderbilt down, the heavy capitalists and combinations of heavy capitalists are engaging in the live stock business, and from day to day we hear of sales of stock and ranches aggregating large sums, made to rich capitalists or companies native and foreign. It is not with unfeigned pleasure we note this invasion of combined capital into this vast and profitable field of agriculture. Heaven knows the words "capitalists," "combinations," "syndicates," have become well-nigh synonymous with schemes for ill-gotten wealth and the crushing out of all smaller competitors, and already that audacity and defiance of law so characteristic of many of these great concerns has been exemplified by the Standard Oil Com-

pany and others in their stock operations. However, it is a case of "What are you going to do about it," and in the meantime our general farmers must see to it, so far as the means at their command will permit, that their stock shall be steadily improved. Perseverance on the part of every farmer in the matter of breeding to a higher standard every kind of stock from his horses to his pigs, like persistent care in the selection of his seed, will very soon show its good effects upon his pocket. Many farmers raise a couple of colts every year. A little breeding up would soon make these colts worth \$60 more apiece at four years old than they are now. The same care persisted in with regard to all the stock products of his farm will in ten years time make all the difference between affluence and penury in many a man's case. We are writing now of the average hard-working farmer who is carving out his own fortune in the west.—*Farmer's Review*.

### HOLSTEINS AS BUTTER-MAKERS.

A correspondent in *Country Gentleman* says:—"The Holsteins are fast coming into prominence as the greatest milk and beef breed. But the fact that they are also among the largest butter-makers is not so well known. Breeders have paid more attention to milk production than to butter, and comparatively few tests have been made. Those that have thus far been published seem to show that the Holsteins are destined to become as famous for butter as they already are for milk and beef. I have figures at hand of a few tests of thoroughbred cows and heifers, which I give in the table below, all of which I believe to be reliable and correct.

TESTS FOR SEVEN DAYS.		
Name.		Yield.
Netherland Queen .....	20 lbs. 0 oz.	
Jannek .....	19	15
Zwarts .....	19	4
Lady Walworth .....	19	0
Aegis .....	18	2
Altona .....	17	14
Texelaar (six days) .....	17	14
Paula .....	16	12
Aegis 2d .....	15	8
Violet .....	15	6
Vesta 2d .....	14	12
Netherland Princess .....	14	11½

TESTS FOR ONE DAY.		
Name.		Yield.
Frieda .....	8 lbs. 4 oz.	
Chautauqua Girl .....	8	8
Groningen Maid .....	2	18
Mink .....	2	9½
Aggie .....	2	8½

TESTS FOR SEVEN DAYS OF TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.		
Name.		Yield.
Aggie 2d .....	13 lbs. 6 oz.	
Ophelia .....	13	5
Oriana .....	13	3½
Georgia .....	12	2
Isadora .....	10	13½
Netherland Countess .....	10	4

If owners of thoroughbred Holsteins will make careful tests for seven days and send the results to me, of all cows giving fourteen pounds or over per week, I will be glad to publish them in another table later in the season. I believe we can produce a list of butter cows from our Holstein beef and milk breed, that will rival that famous Jersey butter list of Maj. Campbell Brown, and that it can be shown that the Holsteins are the very best breed of cattle in the world for either beef, milk or butter, or for all combined."

### OIL-CAKE MEAL FOR HORSES.

The *Life Stock Journal* says:—"But very few know anything of the value of oil-cake meal for horses. Its use in fitting fine bred cattle has long been common and its value fully appreciated. The same can be said of swine, for no food will cause a pig to gain and put him in show

condition so speedily as oil-cake meal, giving him a glossiness of coat not obtainable so well in any other way. What oil-cake will do for cattle and pigs, it will do equally well for horses. A horse appearing to be bound up, as this term is understood in the stable, can, by the use of this feed, be relieved of this condition as promptly as by turning out to grass, involving none of the contingencies which attend the latter, the full strength and vigour being maintained in the meantime. Nothing so quickly improves the coat of a horse, as the use of a little oil-cake incorporated with his feed; while turning out to grass in sun and rain fades and roughens the hair in a week's time. In addition to this, oil-cake loosens the bowels, the degree to which this is done being entirely under control, while the effect from a run on grass is entirely a matter of chance."

### AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

At the International Exhibition just held at Hamburg, the show of cattle was confined almost exclusively to the breeds of Northern Europe, and the following extract from the correspondence of the *London Live Stock Journal* is interesting, as showing the relative strength in which they were represented:

The entries in cattle numbered nearly 1,000, although many stalls were empty, and these were divided among 140 classes—one of which was for a collection, and this was a most remarkable class, and contained about 250 specimens in 82 entries, so that there were considerably over 1,000 head exhibited. The Marsh breeds of North Germany commenced the list, and here we had 62 East Frisians, cattle of good size and quality, rare udders, capital heads, and chiefly black-and-white and grey-and-white. Then came 180 Oldenburgers, a smaller race, with straighter horns and less symmetrical form, being heavier in the fore-quarters and narrower behind the hips. They are, however, similar in colour, and carry capital udders. A slashing class of 172 Dutch followed, some of them being attended by Dutch women in native costume. These were one of the grandest lots in the exhibition. Their fine size, milking properties, fine coats and condition, and uniform quality, made much impression, and it is a decided disadvantage that we cannot import them for our dairies. In the next section were 58 Nilstermarshers, a Holstein race, a medium horned, thick-skinned, red-and-white, decidedly fleshy, but yet coarse beast. The Breitenburgers, also Holstein cattle, were 79 in number. These are a short straight-horned, fleshy beast, of a dark-red flecked with white, and appeared to be favourites with many.

The next division was for herds kept in the higher lands, and the above races here numbered but 18, but the Angeler, the famous little Danish race, came out with 62 entries. This breed is one of the best milking races we know; small, and almost as fine as the Jersey, it is carefully bred to type and colour, and has every characteristic of a good dairy animal, being, moreover, most gentle and a perfect fancy cow. The colour is a deep smutty red, and we know of no animal of the size more likely to come into popular favour when it is better known. There were no entries of Jutland beasts, but the next group furnished 88 specimens of less known races, which need no mention.

In reference to the query: Does cold retard gestation? a friend writes from Hawley, Minn., that after the not severe season of 1881-82 his cows "all came in on time, but after the very cold weather of last winter they all ran over about two weeks."