

had Dr. Johnson lived a century later, thorough John Bull as he was, he would most probably so far have concentrated his axiom, as to have expressed it in my words, for as he was well aware that grass was only accessory to human wants in a secondary way, that is, by being turned into beef; and by multiplying the results of the grass improver, by the beef improver, the consequence would be four for one; and this far exceeds any thing the Doctor ever anticipated. That both these results have been produced within the last half century, few will be found hardy enough to deny. But while the improvement in the vegetable world is universally admitted, the improvement in the Stock department is only partially so; yet the principle which produced the improvement in the former, is of the same kind as is now at work to bring about improvement in the latter. The question now follows: will those improved breeds of Cattle, natives of a milder climate than ours—be able to withstand the cold as well as the breeds already naturalized? This question can be answered by asking what gives one animal the power of enduring cold more than another? Physiologists tell us that Nature provides for this, not only by clothing the animal with hair, wool, or fur, for outward protection; but also by enabling them during the summer months to store carbon in the shape of fat in the inside; to furnish fuel to keep up the inward heat necessary to circulation, and other functions during the cold season; consequently we infer that the animal possessing the best coat of hair or wool for outward protection, and the greatest power of assimilating its food into flesh and fat will possess the greatest power of resistance to cold. These principles admitted, the next question follows: do those improved breeds possess higher advantages in this respect than what is called the native breed? Although Mr. Hutton says "our old Canadian cows are infinitely superior to any of those fancy breeds" as he calls them, they produce more milk on poor feeding—they *stand starvation much longer!*—they are better suited to our climate—and are in every way much better—unless we change our system of feeding, and furnish warm and comfortable housing." To use a sailor's phrase "he may tell that to the marines the sailors don't believe it." And I will now appeal to his own candour to acknowledge, if the principles I have laid down are correct, and if it can be proved that a Durham steer or Heifer (I have no intention of entering into the relative merits of the different improved breeds or holding one kind to be superior to another; because my experience has been principally confined to Durhams) will during the summer months, under the same circumstances, lay on more flesh and fat than a Canadian one; which will be the most able to withstand the inclemencies of the winter? There can only be one answer, as the matter is self-evident; and that such is the fact I most positively assert, and this assertion will be endorsed, by every breeder of improved stock, on this continent, who understands his business, and has given the matter a fair trial. And when it has been proved, even in Great Britain, that the

improved breeds, will produce from 25 to 30 per cent more beef and milk, from a given quantity of food, than the old unimproved breeds; can we wonder if they excel in this country? It is well known that our domestic cattle are not indigenous to this continent; but must at some period have been introduced from the old world. And mostly previous to the time when men of science began to turn their attention to their improvement. And when we consider how little attention has been or could have been devoted to their improvement in the early settlement of a country like this; it ceases to be a wonder, that we find them the inferior mongrel race they seem; when put in comparison with the improved breeds. In fact we are almost surprised to find them as well as they are; and we are well aware they must fall infinitely short of the improved breeds in Britain.

But as I have already occupied so much of your time, and as I consider that the introducer of a subject is not called upon to do more than state his own individual experience, with something in the way of preface, I will now proceed to state the advantages improved Stock have been to myself.

It is now about 20 years since the Agricultural Society of this county first turned its attention to the importing of Stock; upon the broad principle, that if better breeds had been produced in other countries; (and being aware of the slow, tedious process, such things could be brought about by starting from first principles) it would be much more economical, as well as a much shorter course of action, to purchase even at high prices, improved animals, than to go through the same tedious process of producing them; consequently as early as 1832, our Society commenced importing new breeds from New York State; and after proving the results, for three or four years, they were so far encouraged, as to import again 3 bulls of the Durham breed; this of course was calculated to stimulate individual enterprise, if anything would. I was one of the first to avail myself of the advantage, and seeing clearly the benefit it would be, I entered into the matter myself; and merely as a speculation I have found that nothing I have entered into in the farming business has paid me so well.

It might be stated as an objection, that I had profited by selling as a breeder; and it may be true in one sense. But if I could not sell another animal in this way, and when I knew that the profits on the improved breeds whether for the dairy or the butcher, are not less than 50 per cent; my reasons for preferring them, may be easily accounted for.

I have led the native stock, and I have milked them; but as I have not kept the results in figures, I cannot state tabularly the exact difference. But this I know well, that it was hard work to make the best of our five or six year old Cows of the common breed up to six hundred weight of beef, hide and tallow; much harder than to make a four year old Durham Heifer nine hundred, with no better keep; and as for steers, I will stake any amount that I can make two four year old Steers of my own breeding weigh more than the best six year old Steers of