

HORSES AND CATTLE.

HEREFORDS—1817. 1884—A CONTRAST.

Two striking pictures are shown herewith. Looking into a book that was printed sixty-seven years ago, we found on its frontispiece a finely-executed engraving of one of the best Herefords of that day. The interest is heightened by the comparison of this animal with the one below, sketched from a Hereford of to-day. It would not be easy to better illustrate the marked improvement that has been made within two-thirds of a century. The book from which we produce the first portrait is entitled "The Code of Agriculture," by Rt. Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart., founder of the British Board of Agriculture. This "Code" was published in England in 1817, and in the following year it was reproduced in America. The second engraving shows the bull Sir Garnett, imported from England, and now in the herd of C. K. Parmelee. In this model animal the greatly increased depth of the body, the better clothing of the legs and the shoulder with flesh, the shortening of the neck and broadening of the back, and the general rounding out of the form, are characteristics especially noteworthy. The more placid expression of the modern bull as compared with that of the bull of 1817, may be to some extent due to the skill of the artist who has placed on the block a true like-

ness of a typical Hereford of 1884, showing not the form alone, but the colour-marking which forms so plain a distinguishing characteristic of the breed. The horns of the Herefords are generally rather strong, at a first glance giving a somewhat coarse appearance of the head, compared with those of other pure breeds, notably the Shorthorns. The following quotation from the Code of Agriculture will be of interest, since it places clearly before the reader the principles of breeding announced in 1817, which have brought the Herefords into their present excellent form, giving to them their honourable position

among the leading beef breeds: "Though it is extremely desirable to bring the shape of cattle to as much perfection as possible, yet profit and utility ought not to be sacrificed for mere beauty, which may please the eye, but will not fill the pocket; and which, depending much upon caprice, must be often changing. In regard to form, the most experienced breeders of this day (1817) concur in this: 1. That the form or shape should be compact, so that no part of the animal should be disproportioned to the other; and the whole be distinguished by a general fullness and rotund-

ought to possess. The form must likewise be such as to contain the greatest possible proportion of the finer, compared to the coarser and less valuable parts of the animal. This, by selection, may be attained; and thus the wishes of the commoner may be gratified.

"The form of animals has fortunately attracted the attention of an eminent surgeon (Henry Cline, Esq., of London) the substance of whose doctrines are: 1. That the external form is only an indication of the internal structure. 2. That the lungs of an animal is the first object to be

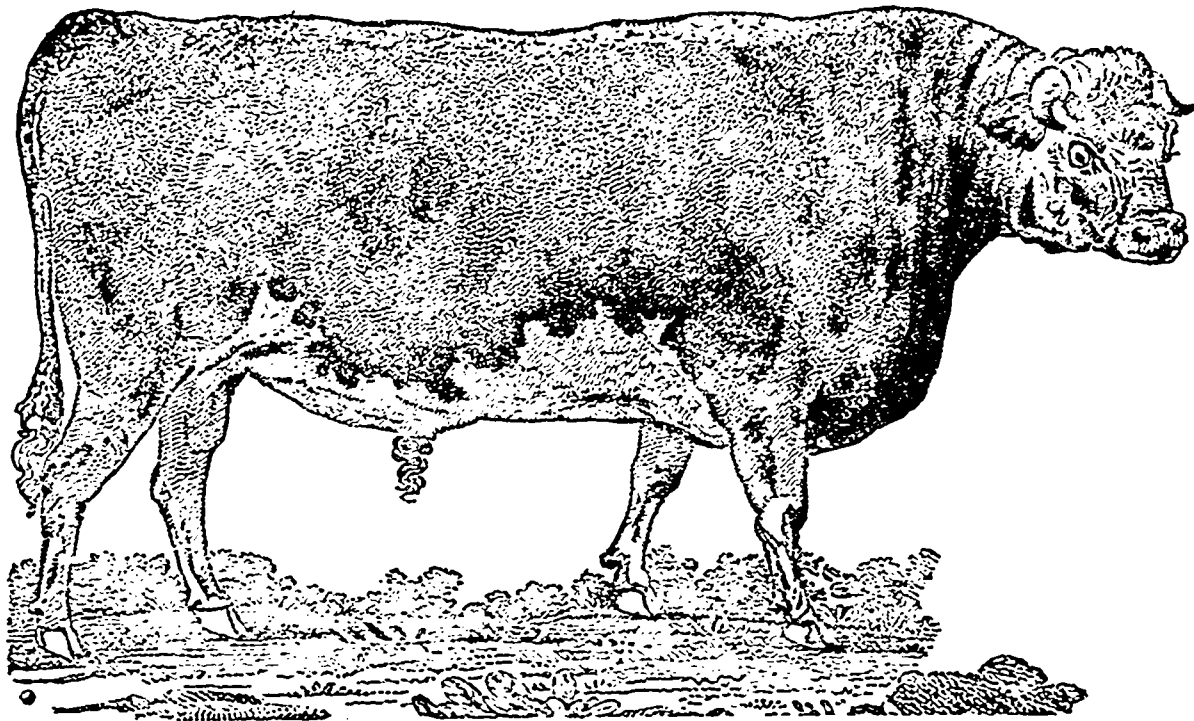
attended to, for on their size and soundness the health and strength of the animal principally depend. 3. That the external indication of the size of the lungs, are the form and size of the chest, and its breadth in particular. 4. that the head should be small, as by this the birth is facilitated—as it affords other advantages in feeding, etc.—and as it generally indicates that the animal is of a good breed. 5. That the length of the neck should be in proportion to the size of the animal that it may collect its food with ease; and 6. That the muscles and tendons should be large, by which an animal is enabled to travel with greater facility.

"The most desirable properties of livestock in general, may be considered under the following heads: 1. size; 2. form; 3. early maturity; 4. hardiness of constitution, and 5. prolific quality: to which may be added, with regard to those sorts

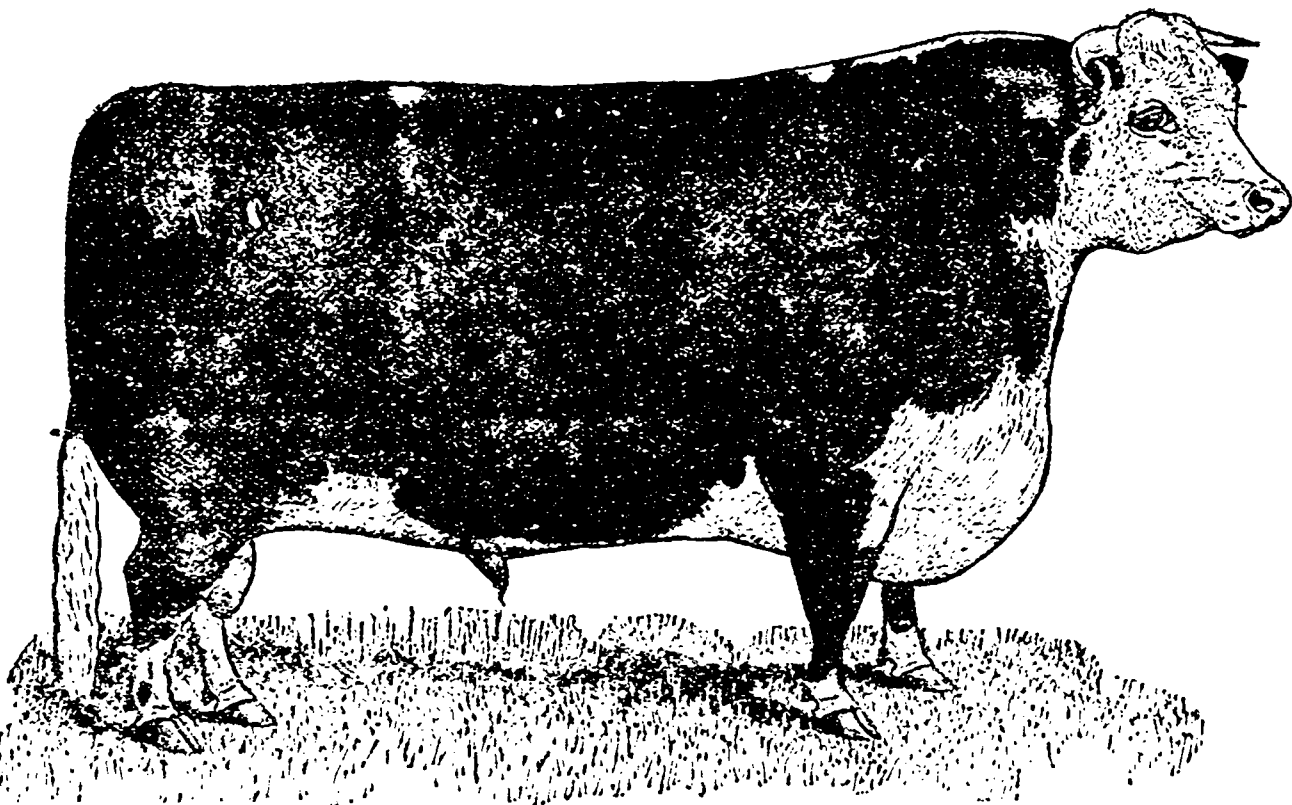
which are destined for food: 6, a tendency to grow; 7. a disposition to fatten, and 8. lightness of offal."

HOW TO TELL A HORSE'S AGE.

The foal is born with twelve grinders. When four front teeth have made their appearance, the colt is twelve days old; and when the next four assert themselves its age will be about twenty-eight days. The corner teeth make their appearance when the foal is eight months, and these latter attain the height of the front teeth at the age of a year. The two-year-old has the kernel—the



THE REPRESENTATIVE HEREFORD OF 1817.



THE REPRESENTATIVE HEREFORD OF 1884.

ity of shape. 2. That the chest should be broad; for no animal whose chest is narrow can easily be made fat. 3. That the carcass should be deep and straight. 4. That the belly should be of moderate size; when it is more capacious than common in younger animals, it shows a diseased state, and in older ones it is considered a proof that the animal will not return in flesh, in milk, or in labour, the value of the extra quantity of food which it consumes; and 5. That the head, the bones and other parts of inferior value, should be as small as is consistent with strength, and with the other properties which the animal