

teenth or twentieth century that the kitchen, and not the field, the road and the turf, is the true test of the horse, the feeding, fat-forming, and perhaps milk-giving properties of the horse will hereafter have to be cultivated, instead of his speed, his strength and his courage.

Now, if in neat cattle, as in horses we could at once recur to the original type of the race, if we could say here is the thorough-bred bull or cow as we can of the stallion and mare, and all the rest are but dunghills, we should have at once an invariable standard and an unexceptional rule for breeding. Since every cross of the inferior but gradually improving female to the superior male would be in that case a certain step gained and the breeding of cattle would approach, as that of horses does, nearly and every day more nearly, to an exact science.

But nothing of the sort is true of neat cattle. No one race of oxen is thorough-bred, as compared with any other race; nor is there any race so distinctly superior to any other that we can predicate to a certainty that crossing two different races, families or varieties will produce an improved off-spring.

When we say, then, that cattle are thorough-bred, Durham, short-horns, Devonshire, Ayrshire, Herefordshire, long horns, or what you will—we do not imply that any one of these bloods is more thorough-bred than any other, or superior to it. We do not even imply that the blood, of which we pronounce the individual animal thorough, is in itself original, primal, or other than the produce of some possible remote cross. We only assert that the animal is a pure and positive individual of an established and distinct variety, which is now capable of reproducing itself from two like parents, like to like forever. Just as we say, correctly, a thorough Canadian, a thorough Suf-

folk-punch; not one of which have or pretend to have a drop of thorough blood, in the true sense, in their veins—meaning only that they are genuine individuals of a genuine race.

The same is the case with the races or varieties of cattle. Each is pure in itself, but no one thorough-bred. Their qualities belong to their breeds; and for their qualities they must be chosen.

Economy of Feeding Roots.

Although we are almost continually hearing the praises of root crops from numerous writers of the agricultural press, such encomiums being echoed through the country on account of their great yield, as compared with other farm crops; and although this great aggregate yield per acre, their succulency, and other accredited qualities, are not to be denied; still writers on this subject have not, in many instances, proved themselves true theorists—theory being always a consistent ideal of the best practice—but rather copyists of a popular idea not really well understood, except by practical men who have had perception and judgment sufficient to enable them to deduce correct principles from experience of their own, or that coming under their own observation. This class of the best friends of agriculture, together with correct judges from observation know well that there are many things to be considered, as affecting the value of any crop for agricultural purposes, besides large relative yield; especially when the profits of such produce are indirectly derivable from its consumption and reproduction in another form, by means of stock, on the premises where it is raised. For instance there is the amount of meat-^{or milk} food in beeves, or the increase of weight in stock, as well as the quan-