

## COLOR.

Color was, in the opinion of the old fanciers of Suffolk Polls, a distinctive characteristic. Mr. M. Biddell, speaking in 1862, could "recollect the time when no other color than red would be looked at in a Suffolk cow," and in this discussion on color it was admitted that "the red cow had established the breed." Previous to that meeting of the Suffolk Agricultural Society there was a tendency being developed to get rid of the color distinction. This may have arisen from the remembrance of the fact that "red and white, brindle, and a yellowish cream color," had also been accepted colors, as representing good milkers. In Norfolk, as I have said, red was the favorite color, but in a few districts sheeted polls were preferred. The fashion has during the last forty years set steadily in one direction. The red, which is now recognized as the mark of excellence, is a deep, rich blood-red, and the spot of white on the udder, which Mr. George held to be a sign of good breeding, has been crossed out. The predominance of the deep red shows plainly the degree in which the old Norfolk breed has affected the polls, and, on the contrary, the freedom from horns and from white on the udder and face is evidence of the persistence of the Suffolk Polled character. The amalgamation of the two varieties—Norfolk Polled and Suffolk Polled—may with certainty be traced from the year 1846. Both counties henceforth met in an honorable competition in the show yard. Purchase of the handsomest and truest bred red stock became the desire of all the breeders. The result of this zeal was soon made evident, not only at county shows, but also at the Royal meetings. The breed, however, continued to be without a name until the Royal Agricultural Society, at the Battersea meeting in 1862, opened classes for "Norfolk and Suffolk Polled" cattle. This cognomen was thereupon adopted by Norfolk, but it was never accepted by the Suffolk Society, whose practice it has been either to provide classes for "Suffolks," or—and this very recently—for "Suffolk and Norfolk Polled." This breed now having its Herd-Book, and being distributed far beyond the boundaries of the two counties, is henceforth to be known as the "Red Polled," and the Register as "The Red Polled Herd-Book."

The standard description reads as follows:—

## ESSENTIALS.

**Color.**—Red. The tip of the tail and the udder may be white. The extension of the white of the udder a few inches along the inside of the flank, or a small white spot or mark on the under part of the belly, by the milk veins, shall not be held to disqualify any animal whose sire and dam form part of an established herd of the breed, or answer all other essentials of the "Standard Description."

**Form.**—There should be no horns, slugs, or abortive horns.

## POINTS OF A SUPERIOR ANIMAL.

**Color.**—A deep red, with udder of the same color, but the tip of the tail may be white. Nose not dark or cloudy.

**Form.**—A neat head and throat. A full eye. A tuft or crest of hair should hang over the forehead. The frontal bones should begin to contract a little above the eye, and should terminate in a comparatively narrow prominence at the top of the head.

In all other particulars the commonly accepted points of a superior animal are taken as applying to Red Polled cattle.

## DIVERSITY OF TYPE.

Many of the old Suffolk Polled cattle were much more massive beasts than the Norfolk;

and this characteristic is yet in evidence. They could easily be picked out from a collection by the comparative coarseness of the head—a difference which is now but seldom manifest. In other points there were few divergences in character between the two varieties.

## WEIGHT.

At the close of the last century the animals when fattened seldom exceeded fifty stone (of 14 pounds). This is the report both of Marshall and Young. The former says:—"The superior quality of their flesh, and their fattening freely at an early age, do away with every solid objection to their size and form." There has been great improvement in this matter of weight for age, while there has been no deterioration in the quality of the flesh; butchers now, as then, purchase the Red Polled readily, because they die well, and the meat is equal to the best Polled Scot or Highlander.

## PREPOTENCY OF THE POLLED TYPE.

Red Polled cattle are found to lay on flesh rapidly on pasture of the poorest character, where other breeds need to have an additional supply of richer food. The dry temperature of Norfolk and the poor pasture seem more particularly to have had their effect on the size of the stock. The first cross—stock sired by a Red Polled bull, no matter of what horned breed is the dam, is usually red in color and polled in character. Such animals, when fat, are eagerly bought by the butcher. I have recently seen a number of such cross-breeds, the produce of a Red Polled bull and a pure-bred Jersey cow, and am told the cross is an excellent one. Some of the animals had a few silver hairs mixed with the red coat; all were polled, and all had black noses.

## TIPPOO, THE GREAT TROTTING PROGENITOR OF CANADA.

(Concluded from our last.)

From Wallace's Monthly

He derived his information from his uncle, Stephen Niles, who was his mother's brother, and then the question presented itself, What Stephen Niles knew about these things, how he obtained his information, and what reliance could be placed on his representations. To detail the family history which Mr. Serls gives would become tedious to our readers, and we will therefore condense it as much as the essential facts will admit of. In 1798 Stephen Niles took a drove of horses to Prince Edward's County, and stopped with an uncle of his on the Bay Quinte, who was then a member of the Provincial Parliament. His uncle prevailed upon him to settle there. In 1800 he was married and bought a farm of two hundred acres of land, four miles west of Wellington, in Prince Edward's County, where he lived many years, and the place is still known as Niles' Corners. When the war of 1812 broke out he was employed by the British forces in procuring hay and grain for the mounted troops. For a number of years he was one of the bench of magistrates for the county. He was an orthodox Quaker in his religious belief, and died in 1858, leaving an honorable name behind him. This was the source from which Mr. Serls derived his information about the sire and dam of old Tippoo.

At the close of the war the military authorities sold off a large number of horses to the highest bidder, and Mr. Niles was present when Mr. Erastus Howard bid off a dark chestnut mare for ninety-three dollars, at Kingston. Here we have again the travelling preacher, Mr. Howard, and we have the time, place, and circumstances under which he became possessed of the mare that produced the famous Tippoo.

As a matter of course nothing can ever be learned about her blood and origin. In 1816 a man from Rhode Island, whose name is not positively remembered, but believed to have been Williams, travelled "Scape Goat" through Prince Edward's County, and he stopped one day and night in each week at the house of Stephen Niles, and during that season Mr. Howard bred his chestnut mare to Scape Goat. The produce was the black colt afterwards owned by Mr. Wilcox, and by him named Tippoo Sultan. This colt seems to have passed through several other hands before he reached Mr. Morden in 1826. Mr. Serls says he died in 1836, while some others say he died in 1835, but all agree that his thigh was broken by a kick, and that this was the cause of his death. All agree also that the travelling preacher, Mr. Howard, owned his dam.

Of all the various representations made concerning the sire of old Tippoo, there are two that are specially worthy of note for the details they enter into. We refer to that from Mr. Leavens, spoken of above, and this from Mr. Serls. It will be observed that these two men speak of the subject from different points of recollection, and without any conference or agreement between them. Mr. Leavens says the horse was called "Escape," and Mr. Serls says he was called "Scape Goat." Instead of this being a disagreement, the one really confirms the other, for the difference is so trifling that it is evident they both refer to the same horse. Under ordinary circumstances he would say that "Escape" was more likely to be the true name than "Scape Goat." But as Mr. Serls is so much more matter-of-fact and definite in his statement than Mr. Leavens, we are compelled to accept "Scape Goat" as the true name of the horse. Even the wild and foolish tradition that Mr. Leavens gives about "Escape" being thrown overboard, on his voyage to this country, and found again after nine days, eating rushes on a sand-bar, has something in it that is confirmatory of Mr. Serls. This story was first told of the horse that became the progenitor of the Narragansett pacers, and Mr. Leavens applies it to this descendant of that horse instead of to the progenitor where belongs. It probably had its origin in the experiences of Rip Van Dam, as narrated by him in a letter written in 1711. He went up to Narragansett Bay and selected his horse, no doubt with a view to beating some other horse, as pacing races were very common and all the fashion at that time. He got him aboard a sloop, and when they had set sail the horse jumped overboard and swam ashore. He went back, got him aboard again, and brought him to New York. In this letter, written the year above stated—1711—he gives a full account of what he paid for the horse, the freight bill on the sloop, the number of days he was making the trip, etc. This Rip Van Dam was a very prominent man in his day. In 1731 he was President of the Council, and after the death of Governor Montgomerie he became Governor *ex-officio* of the colony of New York. This letter, as we understand it, was written to a friend in Philadelphia, which was then a great centre for pacing contests. At that period the pacer was the fashionable horse, and anything that did not pace was deemed of ignoble blood. This was many years before the English running horse had reached or assumed the character of a breed. With the Darley Arabian we begin to date the history of racing in England and the formation of the breed that we now call the thoroughbred, and he arrived in England about the time Rip Van Dam's pacer jumped overboard in Narragansett Bay. It was probably fifty years later before the breed began to be known as "thoroughbred." The Godolphin Arabian, one of