

T. C. Booth's royal prize-winning cow, Lady Fragrant.  
—From "Shorthorn Cattle," by Sanders.

privilege to be present. One can feel the tingle of it thirty years after it is passed. Other sales followed in that and the following year where comparatively high prices prevailed but none approached this one. The highest priced female was sold in America in 1873, while the highest priced bull ever sold was the "Duke of Gonaught" (\$3604), sold in Great Britain in 1875 for \$36,904. This bull also traced to the original Duchess cow purchased by Bates from Colling. These high prices turned the attention of all more and more to Bates-bred cattle. Booth cattle, from this time on, seemed to be neglected and wherever offered at public auction prices were greatly reduced. This undoubtedly led to careless mating, which further tended to loosen their hold on the general public on both sides of the Atlantic.

#### PEDIGREE FAD

The exceedingly high prices paid for certain individuals among the Bates cattle set more and more persons on the chase for that blood and that only. The result was that a particular pedigree began to increase in value in the mind of the purchaser, regardless of individual merit. The result was the same as that reached in the Booth cattle, only it came about from another reason. Men became enamored with pedigree, regardless of what it should represent, and from this point the downfall of the Bates cattle began. To add to this pedigree fad, which seized great numbers of the breeders, another crazy idea became prevalent—that, while the Shorthorns from the first had shown a variety of colors from a yellow-red to clear white, now only one color was permissible and that must be a dark red. This naturally limited the

selection of superior males as no one would for some years consider seriously a proposal to use at the head of their herd a white bull nor even a beautiful roan. It is easily seen that, with these two ideas becoming more and more prevalent, individual excellence was, in many cases, lost sight of. The splendid furry coats of the days of Colling or of Bates and Booth were seldom seen, but, instead, a certain harshness of hair and hardness of skin which was the certain premonition of failure to hold the first place in the esteem of the masses of the people. Both of these tribes seemed to be growing farther away from the early maturing qualities sought after. Many breeders looked more for gay appearance than superior feeding qualities. But the man standing next to the consumer could not satisfy him with mere style or even pedigree. These both went into the waste basket when the animal was killed. Good flesh, and lots of it alone met the demand then. With this lacking we cannot wonder that the practical man of that day refused to accept the results reached.

While this was going on in Shorthorn breeding, the owners of other beef breeds were moving in exactly the opposite direction, and began to present cattle for public criticism of another type. The Herefords first demanded attention with a low-set, easy-feeding, fleshy class of cattle, which at once became the popular ideal. Hundreds were brought to the United States, where they were largely used to produce cattle for the extended ranching ground of that time. They were called good rustlers and were said to be able, under ordinary conditions, to take care of themselves better than any other

breed. They never secured a good foothold in Eastern Canada, where the above conditions did not exist.

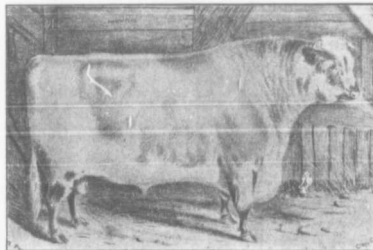
**THE IMPROVEMENT OF OTHER BREEDS**  
Following this invasion by the Hereford, another followed of the Black Polls which also had been wonderfully improved for beef production. In neither of these breeds was there any pretence of the presence of the dual purpose idea. The milking propensity in both cases has never, even up to the present day, been considered of the value of most breeds produce superior cattle, but it is now conceded that neither have the power of the Shorthorn to impress with their own excellence the common or native cattle of most countries. No breed exists today which by a cross of any kind can improve the Shorthorn. But, on the contrary, it is asserted that an infusion of Shorthorn blood improves the grade crosses of any other breed, and in most cases the pure breed also.

Notwithstanding this fact, there was a time within the writer's recollection when the ascendancy of the Shorthorn hung in the balance. Style, color and pedigree had taken them far away from the original ideal of Bates or even Booth. Many of the best and most fashionably bred presented long necks, shallow bodies, and hard feeders. But, fortunately, another sun was even then rising which would infuse new life and new hopes in the Shorthorn world. Another ideal, better than the old, was to be created. Baby beef was asked for everywhere, which meant the old weight at a much earlier age. Quick growers, easy feeders, good handlers, thicker bodies, shorter necks, with thick flesh all over was to be worked out of the old foundation left by the breeders of the days of Bates and Booth. How this was done will be left for the next article.

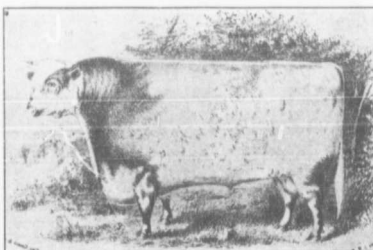
#### A Steel Frame Barn

To F. E. Dawley, Fayetteville, N.Y., Director of Farmers' Institutes for that State, belongs the honor of erecting the first steel frame barn. In its construction iron and cement play an important part. In this respect alone will it differ from other up-to-date barns. The stables are built of cement and upon this foundation is built the steel frame of the barn. The trusses were riveted in true bridge fashion, the bolts being heated red-hot and riveted on the spot. The whole frame is painted with two coats of graphite paint.

For some time at least a barn of this kind will not be within reach of many farmers. Still it does not represent the so-called wealthy man's barn. It shows the tendency of the age, the growing scarcity of barn timber.



Duke of Northumberland (1901). The Bates type.



Commander-in-Chief (21451). The Booth type.