

About forty different classes of cattle were exhibited, all possessing characteristics which were in a great measure due to peculiarity of climate, uses, and management. The Paris Exhibition, having specimens from various countries, afforded a rare opportunity of observing the effects of climate on the breeding and adaptation of the domesticated animals. In the British islands cattle are usually estimated by two standards—their *milking* and their *fattening* qualities. These two qualities divide all their breeds into two classes, the one represented by the Ayrshire, the other by the improved Short-horn. But on the continent of Europe, as well as in some parts of this continent, another quality has to be taken into consideration, viz., their fitness for *labour*.

Subjoined is an abridgement of a portion of an excellently written paper in the last number of the *Scottish Journal of Agriculture* on the late Paris Agricultural Exhibition, by a practical Scotch farmer, whose habit of observation is evidently of a high order. He classifies the animals into two great divisions, viz., the milk-producing and the beef-producing breeds.

The Ayrshires and Alderneys stood first in a pre-eminent degree as milkers, and they were eagerly purchased. Next came the Holland cattle. They are generally heavier than the Ayrshire, from the greater luxuriance of the pastures, and the system of soiling so generally practised in that country. Some of them are perfect in shape as milkers. Next is placed the Swiss breeds, the Kerry, the French, Normand, Flamand and Breton, the Jutland, the Bavarian, the Saxon, and Bohemian cattle. The Normand and Flamand are large animals, adapted to situations where soil and climate are good, and they combine in a high degree size and milking qualities, and would throw a superior cross with the Short-horns for breeding purposes, their flesh being naturally fine. The Kerry, Breton, and Jutland cattle may be classed together, as being all small, having good shapes as milkers, and well adapted to their pastures. No animals in the Exhibition sold so readily as the Bretons; small and beautiful, with a neat head, a full large gazelle eye, amiable countenance, and quiet disposition, they gained the admiration of all. They resemble in many points the Shetlanders. At the Imperial School at Grigon, the Ayrshires yield the largest quantity of milk in proportion to the amount of food consumed, the Swiss cattle come next, and the Bretons next.

For feeding purposes, more especially, the Darhams or improved Short-horns stand unrivalled. They are eagerly sought after by improving agriculturists in all parts of the world, and command the highest prices; and the number shown by Frenchmen at this Exhibition affords a proof how highly they are esteemed in that country. Next to the Darhams are to be placed the improved Herefords, which some of their admirers consider rival even the former in precocity, when treated as liberally. None of the foreign races approach the symmetry of the Darhams; but the Charotaire, which are pure white, possess many of the qualities which distinguish the pure Short-horns, such as quickness of disposition, fineness of bone, delicacy of touch, and beauty of form. Next to them came the Garonnaise, Agenaise, Bazadaise, and Cortois. These may be considered as analogous or congeners of the races represented by the Garonnaise, a favourite breed, common on the plains of the Garonne, where it is held in