

put forth by the people to secure these prizes. The Birmingham, England, fat stock show was no exception to this rule, for the first prize for a fat animal of any breed was 100 guineas, equal to \$511 of our money. This was won by the cross-bred Shorthorn-Angus-Aberdeen heifer owned by a Mr. Stephenson of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The likeness of this fine animal, re-engraved from the London Live Stock Journal, is shown on this page. She was from an Aberdeen-Angus bull and a cross-bred Shorthorn cow. She was small in size, but for symmetry and beauty of form, thickness, levelness, and quality of flesh and general ripeness, she has seldom been equaled.

#### The Clydesdale Horse.

As the name indicates, this breed of horses was chiefly

and Edinburgh to London pass through the county, and early portraits of the Scotch breed would lead us to conclude that the coach-horse had also something to do with making the Clydesdale the useful animal he has become.

We read that the first Agricultural Exhibition held in Scotland took place about the year 1786 in the Grassmarket, Edinburgh. A few horses were then shown, and several premiums awarded.

However, the main influence exerted on the improvement of the breed of Scotch draught-horses did not show itself till some years after 1826, when the Highland Society, now the Highland and Agricultural Society, began its system of visiting the important Scotch towns with its show every year in rotation. In 1826, it met at Glasgow, and was favoured with perhaps the best show of Clydesdales made in Scotland up to that time. After this, shows became common through-



CROSS-BRED POLLED HEIFER. (From a Photograph.)

raised in the county of Lanark or Clydesdale. The soil in Lanarkshire, along the bank of the river Clyde, is of a deep loamy nature resting on a sandy subsoil. Before the county was opened up by railway enterprise, pastoral farming was in the ascendant, and rearing of young stock, but chiefly horses, formed the main feature of agriculture. The river banks and haughs, afforded magnificent pasturage, and young animals could be raised in great numbers at a comparatively trifling cost. What the original breed of the county may have been like, it is now almost impossible to say. One thing is certain: the native horses were always an active, weight-carrying breed. We read of Englishmen and Frenchmen purchasing them for war purposes, and the only kind that seem to have been imported were those of Flemish origin. That stallions of this breed were introduced into Lanarkshire from time to time, may now be accepted as an undoubted truth, the last occasion being in the last quarter of the seventeenth century. The main roads from Glasgow

out the country, until, now, there is scarcely a parish which has not its annual show of cattle and horses.

There is a gradation in the shows. First of all, there are parish shows, then district shows, then county shows, and lastly open shows. Animals which lead at the parish shows come out to those embracing a wider area, and so on. In this way, the best stock comes to the front, and a farmer need never be at a loss to have the merits of his stock tested. If he thinks he has a good animal, he takes it to the parish show. If it passes muster there, then he may hopefully take it to a district show, and if it does well there, then he may still further test its capabilities by taking it to the large open shows, such as Ayr, Glasgow, Aberdeen, or the great National Exhibition of the Highland and Agricultural Society. These shows are visited by large numbers of people. In the case of the Royal of England, and the Highland and Agricultural of Scotland, it is customary for the farmers of the district where it is held to give their servants a holiday during its progress, and in