

Mr. Logan being called upon as a successful breeder of cattle, said that he agreed in all that had been said in reference to the Durham, and further, was decidedly of opinion that the grade Durham could be kept on less food and wintered easier than the native breed.

The Chairman came to this country twenty years since, and soon after Mr. Wingfield brought in his Durham cattle to this neighborhood; but there was such a prejudice against them, under the impression that they would require better keep and attention than the native, that they were generally avoided; and it was only after two or three years, and the loss of several head of stock by the hollow-horn, that he removed on a cross, which caused him to regret that he had not tried it sooner. His experience since that time had satisfied him that the nearer an approach to the pure Durham the more profitable was the result, whether required as stock or for the butcher.

Mr. Logan bore testimony to the advantages resulting from crossing with the Durhams, in having the beasts ready for the butcher from one to two years earlier than the native breeds.

Mr. H. Tolton considered the improved breeds more advantageous to the farmer both in respect to being more easily kept and also in coming to maturity at an earlier age. They might in some instances be lighter, yet their quality was such that they would at any time command a market. There was a general impression that in this country stall-feeding would not pay; but with a good foundation to work upon, he was decidedly of opinion that it would answer well. Durhams could be made almost any weight, and, under any circumstances, would command a far better price than much heavier animals of the common kind. He had known a two-year old grade heifer sell for \$30, when a large Canadian ox would scarcely command half that sum. The object of the farmer was to raise such stock and grain as would afford the most ample remuneration. Taking this view of the question, his limited experience enabled him to say, that the Durham was the preferable breed. He believed that the Devon did well on a large pasture, and would ramble over more ground than the Durham. Indeed they so loved a good pasture that they never failed to have one, even if they had to seek it themselves. They were active too, for they could obtain admittance to a field without the place of inlet being discovered. And their very activity caused them to require extra care and food to keep them in condition. The Durham could take coarser food and do well on it, and if given better feeding they presented a return. They could be wintered cheaper than either the Devon or the native breed. The Devon had credit for being active as working cattle, whilst the pure Durham had not to any extent been proved, in consequence of the very general demand for the shambles. The few yokes he knew were good and active; and the best yoke of oxen he had ever seen, the most active, useful and laborious, were full three-quarters bred Durham, and very heavy. The owner had refused \$130 for them, and he believed they would command \$160.

After some observations from the chairman in reference to high-breeding, Mr. Tolton said, there was one thing not hitherto noticed,—the demand for Durham and grade cattle and highly remunerating prices. In illustration of this view of the question, he might state, that last winter Messrs. Parks & Freeman, two American gentlemen, selected two grade cows from his stock, and pressed him to sell them, and although he refused, they urged him to name any price he thought proper; but as he had no intention of selling them, he was afraid to mention any sum, however extravagant, lest it should have been accepted. They next tried to purchase from him a lot of lambs, which he likewise refused to part with, for the simple reason that he did not know where he could again supply himself with either sheep or cattle to his taste. He was persuaded that the gentlemen were prepared to have paid an extravagant price for such stock as took their fancy.

Mr. Wright stated, that a gentleman from near Albany had offered him £10 for a grade heifer two years old; and on his declining to sell, stated that the beast would command \$200 in Albany.

Mr. Phin having requested some of the breeders present to state the mode of feeding they adopted—

Mr. Tolton was again called upon, and said he generally gave hay with turnips once a-day, but in cold weather preferred hay or straw, and chopped stail with bran, which latter he found a good substitute for turnips. One of his cows, which was so poor last summer that he was ashamed to see her on his pasture, had much improved this winter on such feed. Whilst milking, he used turnips and hay, at other times chaff and hay, to which he had lately added one quart of ground oats daily.

Mr. Phin said that during the past winter he had fed on half a bushel of turnips and straw, and his cattle never turned out worse. Mr. Whitlaw fed the same, and his stock never looked better.

Other gentlemen bore testimony to the superiority of the grade Durham for general purposes, and the feeling of the meeting was unanimously in their favor.

The mode of rearing calves was also referred to, when one party was in favor of hand-feeding, and others of allowing the calf to suck the cow, declaring that the latter would pay fifty per cent. more than dairying.

It was resolved that the next subject for consideration should be, "The most advantageous mode of cultivating Fall Wheat." In consequence of the Spring work coming on, the next meeting will be held in June.

AUSTRALIAN DIAMONDS. — Lieut.-Colonel Sir Thomas Mitchell, Surveyor-General of New South Wales, has just arrived from that Colony, bringing with him a diamond of good form and of the finest water, weighing three quarters of a carat, and some very fine large rubies, found at the gold diggings at Ophir, West of Bathurst. Sir Thomas has presented the diamond and a sapphire found in the same locality to the Museum of Practical Geology.