

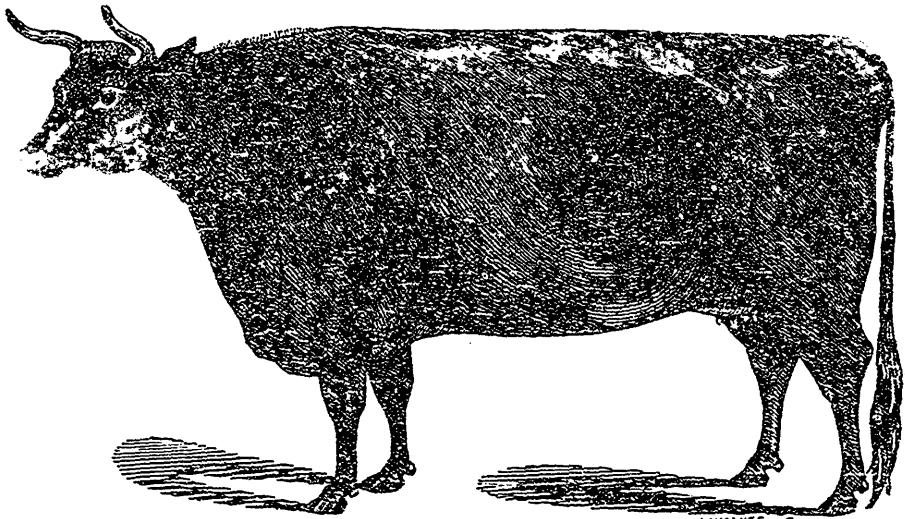
climate and soil, and by the manner in which they have been required to live by man.

There are five distinct races or breeds in this country, known as Ayrshires, Jerseys, Short-horns, Devons and Herefords. Individuals of other breeds have been imported from time to time, but their number has been so small that they have had little effect on the stock of the country.

No one of these breeds unites, in a very high degree, all desirable qualities. Some are best fitted for giving milk, others for beef or labor. Cattle should therefore be selected with regard to the specific object for which they are wanted, and that object should be had in view in their keeping.

The Ayrshires take their name from the county of Ayr, in Scotland, where they originated seventy or eighty years ago. They are kept chiefly for dairy purposes, for which they are admirably adapted, on account of the large quantity of milk they give in proportion to their size and the amount of food consumed. Their milk is of good quality, though not, usually, so rich in butter qualities as that of the Jerseys or the Devons. They are well adapted both for beef and for labor, though in these qualities they are probably surpassed by the Devons, or the Herefords.

The Jerseys are celebrated for the richness of their milk, and the excellence of butter made from it. They come from the



Primerose, 1st Prize Devon Heifer.

islands of Jersey and Guernsey, in the British Channel, where they have been highly valued for dairy qualities for many years. They are ill-adapted for labor, and their beef-producing qualities do not compare very favorably with those of some other breeds, although they are easily fattened, and their flesh is of good quality.

The improved Short-horns are large in size, and, in a rich and fertile section of country, are well-adapted for the production of beef. They come to maturity at an earlier age than any other family of neat cattle, and attain a greater weight.

They first became known in the luxuriant valley of the river Tees, England, and first really celebrated in the neighborhood of Durham. Hence they were for many

years called Durhams or Teeswaters. They have been extensively introduced into this country, and have had a great influence upon our stock.

The North Devons are remarkable for great uniformity of color and size, and are kept chiefly for beef and as working cattle. They come from Devonshire, in the southern part of England. They are small, hardy and easily adapt themselves to short pastures. Their milk is rich in quality, but deficient in quantity.

The Herefords, so-called from the county of Hereford in England, where they originated, have nearly the same qualities as the North-Devons, but their size is considerably larger. They are kept mainly for their beef, which is of peculiar excellence.