

This experiment brought to light another good quality in the short-horn, which, if not altogether unsuspected, was not sufficiently acted upon—that she improved as a dairy cow as she got older. The cow, a quart of whose milk produced more than 3 oz. of butter, was six years old, the other five were only two years old; the experiments proved that her milk was richer at 6 years old, than it had been at two. This deserves investigation.

Another circumstance is somewhat connected with such an inquiry. The Kyle and the long-horn catle seem to care little about change of situation and pasture; but the short-horn is not so easily reconciled to a change; and her milk is not at first either so abundant or so good as it afterwards becomes.

There is a great difference in the quantity of food consumed by different breeds of cattle, and that the short-horns occupy the highest rank among the consumers of food is evident enough; but we never could be persuaded that the difference of size in the same breed made any material difference in the appetite, or the food consumed. When they stand side by side in the stall or cow-house, and experience has taught us the proper average quantity of food, the little one eats her share, and the larger one seldom eats more, even when it is put before her. There are occasional differences in the consumption of food by different animals, but these arise far oftener from constitution, or from some unknown cause, beyond the possibility of doubt, that the larger cattle, the breed and other circumstances being the same, yield the greatest quantity of milk.

Experience has also proved another thing—that the good grazing points of a cow, and even her being in a fair store condition, do not necessarily interfere with her milking qualities. They prove that she has the disposition to fatten about her, but which will not be called into injurious exercise until, in the natural process of time, or designedly, she is dried. She will yield nearly as much milk as her unthrifty neighbor, and milk of a superior quality, and at four, five, or six years old, might be pitted against any Kyle, in the quality of her milk, while we have the pledge that it will cost little to prepare her for the butcher, when done as a milker. On this principle many of the London dairymen now act, when they change their cows so frequently.

The following observations were made by Mr. Calvert, of Brampton, on the quantity of butter yielded by one of his short-horns. The milk was kept and churned separately from that of the other stock, and the following is the number of pounds of butter obtained in each week: 7, 10, 10, 12, 17, 13, 13, 13, 15, 16, 15, 12, 13, 13, 13, 14, 14, 13, 12, 12, 13, 11, 12, 10, 10, 8, 10, 9, 10, 7, 7, 7.

There were churned 373 pounds of butter in the space of 32 weeks. The cow gave 28 quarts of milk per day, about midsummer, and would average nearly 20 quarts per day for 20 weeks.

#### LINCOLNSHIRE.

There is a large, coarse short-horn prevailing, particularly in Lincolnshire, denominated in the quotations of the Smithfield markets "Lincolns," but they have no further affinity with the im-

proved short-horns than as the latter have been referred to for their improvement, which has been accomplished to a considerable degree.

Breeders, with judgment, called in the aid of the short-horn, and speedily and effectually completed their object. They took away the disposition to make lean beef only, although in very great quantities; and if they could not perfectly give to the Lincolns their own early maturity, they materially quickened the process of fattening.

An improved Lincolnshire beast is therefore now a very valuable animal; and if a finer grass could be given to the meat, his great quantity of muscle, compared with that of fat, would be no disadvantage.

#### THE ALDERNEYS.

The Normandy cattle are from the French continent, and are larger and have a superior tendency to fatten; others are from the islands of the French coast; but all of them, whether from the continent or the islands, pass under the common name of Alderneys.

They are found mainly in gentlemen's parks and pleasure-grounds, and they maintain their occupancy there partly on account of the richness of their milk, and the great quantity of butter which it yields, but more from the diminutive size of the animals. Their real ugliness is passed over on these accounts; and it is thought fashionable that the view from the breakfast or drawing-room of the house should present an Alderney cow or two grazing at a little distance.

They are light red, yellow, dun or fawn-colored; short, wild-horned, deer-necked, thin, and small boned; irregularly, but often very awkwardly shaped.

Mr. Parkinson, who seems to have a determined prejudice against them, says that "their size is small, and they are of as bad a form as can possibly be described; the bellies of many of them are four-fifths of their weight; the neck is very thin and hollow; the shoulder stands up, and is the highest part, they are hollow and narrow behind the shoulders; the chine is nearly without flesh; the hucks are narrow and sharp at the ends; the rump is short, and they are narrow and light in the brisket." This is about as bad a form as can possibly be described, and the picture is very little exaggerated, when the animal is analyzed point by point; yet all these defects are so put together, as to make a not unpleasing whole.

The Alderney, considering its voracious appetite—for it devours almost as much as a short-horn—yields very little milk. That milk, however, is of an extraordinarily excellent quality, and gives more butter per quart than can be obtained from the milk of any other cow. Some writers on agricultural subjects have, however, denied this. The milk of the Alderney cow fits her for the situation in which she is usually placed, and where the excellence of the article is regarded, and not the expense: but it is not rich enough, yielding the small quantity that she does, to pay for what she costs. On the south coast of England, there is great facility in obtaining the Alderney cattle, and they are great favorites there.