

Breeding Neat Cattle.

Col. Jacques, proprietor of Ten Hills Farm, near Boston, who is known as a skillful, and most successful breeder of cows and other domestic animals, gives the following judicious directions in relation to this important branch of rural economy.

“Upon the subject of selecting and breeding domestic animals generally, it has been my object to combine as much as possible all the most desirable properties adapted to the soil, climate, and habits of New England. I wish, however, it may be distinctly understood, that whatever I may say upon this subject, I do not desire to dictate to others, but hope those who are better informed may make known their practice and experience.

“My principles are, that the *blood*—the red fluid, in every living creature, in whose body it flows by the laws of nature, is the sole agent and controlling power, in developing the general character, and that by crossing and mixing the blood of the different varieties of the same species the strongest strains of blood will be found to predominate—and that health or disease—good or bad properties—are transmissible to the progeny and descent, both in the human and animal creation—even the color may be shaded to suit the fancy.

“From over fifty years’ practice and experience upon these principles, I consider the following, among many points, important to be observed in neat cattle generally, but in bulls and cows particularly, viz:—Muzzle fine with yellow nose, eyes brilliant; head and horns light; ears thin, the inside yellow, not unlike as though sprinkled with yellow; neck of cows thin and clean, fore shoulders quite close, and well laid in, giving the fore hand a very light appearance, in proportion to the other parts of the cow; bulls’ necks may project from the breast and shoulders stout, very muscular and strong, but tapering fine, so that the bulls’ and cows’ neck be joined to the head very neatly. Throat clean and free from much dewlap. Bosom or breast, broad and full, projecting well forward; legs straight, with fine bone, and well set apart; the fore arms well covered with muscle, tapering downwards fine, shoulders smooth and well laid in, chine full, back straight and broad; ribs well rounding out, the last rib projecting most, and not too far from the hips; broad in the loins and hips, hips full

and globular—neither too close nor ragged, but placed on a level with the back; rumps long and broad—very little, if any, sloping; pelvis, broad and full; tails set on strong, and on a level with the back—tapering down to the end fine, where they should be well covered with long, silky and glossy hair; and on opening the hair here, there should be the same yellow appearance on the skin, as is mentioned above on the inside of the ears. Not too full in the twist, (which is, a fulness between the hind legs or thighs,) nor too thick in the thighs. Flanks quite deep. It is important that the whole skin should be yellow. The color of the hair is pretty much fancy. A good coat of hair, even if it inclines to be long, is not unfavorable; but it should be very silky and glossy. The *elastic handle, or touch* of the flesh, with the *silky and glossy coats*, are of the greatest importance, as these properties indicate their value as much, in comparison, as in broadcloth of from two dollars to ten dollars per yard. The bag or udder of cows should be capacious, projecting well both fore and aft, hanging moderately deep, when full, but after the milk is drawn, to quite the reverse. It is very desirable in a cow that she should have teats well spread apart and of medium size.—Cows possessing most of the above mentioned points I have found generally to be deep and rich milkers—also, neat cattle generally I have found to be of good temper, good spirits, vigorous, active, good walkers, easily kept, taking on flesh readily, and that, too, on the most valuable parts; and the bulls and cows well adapted for good breeders, for the dairy, the yoke, and the shambles.”

We have no doubt that this theory of breeding is original with Col. Jacques. When he first spoke of it in public, some persons thought him a little too enthusiastic, and some thought that his enthusiasm had impaired his judgment; but there are few intelligent breeders of cattle now, who do not acknowledge the soundness of the theory, and admire the success which has attended his efforts. Col. Jacques boasts of nothing, we believe, which he is not able to perform. Since the development of his principles, we have understood that some person has advocated them, and claimed the credit of originating them. But to him alone belongs the credit of their conception, and the first efforts to prove their accuracy by their practical results.—*Gen. Ear.*