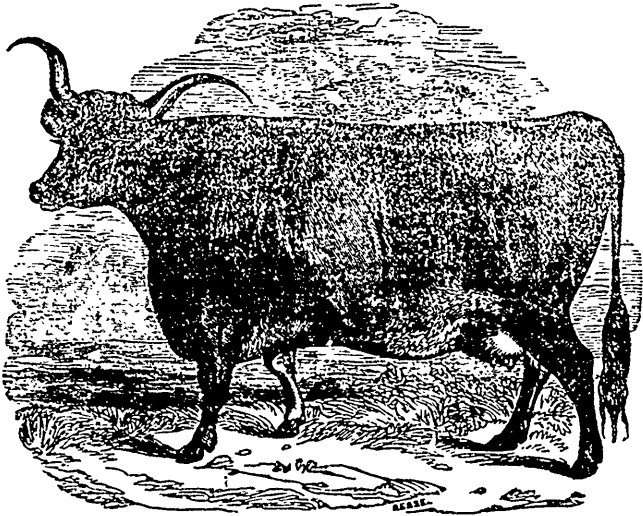


benefits conferred by the improved long-horns remained, but the breed itself gradually diminished; in some places it almost disappeared; and

at the present moment, and even in Leicestershire, the short-horns are fast driving the long-horns from the field.



DERBY COW.

The preceding cut is a faithful portrait of one of the best of them. The horns are altogether characteristic.

The Derbyshire cows were originally long-horns; and although of a somewhat inferior breed, they were very useful animals, and especially in the dairies of this country, the cheese of which has long been admired. What cross gave them their peculiar character, and especial-

ly their singular horns, it is now impossible to determine. The head was frequently thick and heavy, the chops and neck foul, the bone too large, the hide heavy, and the hair long; even the bag was overgrown and covered with hair—a circumstance very objectionable to the dairyman; they were little disposed to take on flesh and fat, yet they were excellent dairy cows.

ARE SMALL OR LARGE SHEEP THE MOST PROFITABLE?

Ever since the days of the far-famed Mr. Bakewell, of Dishley, Leicestershire, there have been two opinions, whether large or small sheep are the most profitable. The breeders of small sheep, say that an animal may be good and not great, and great and not good, and that size has nothing to do with profit. It is not what an animal makes, so much as what it costs making: and that a larger number of small sheep can be kept upon a given number of acres than larger sheep, the lesser sheep not consuming so much food per head as the larger.

The breeders of large sheep say that they can produce more wool and mutton per acre by breeding large sheep than small; and that Mr. Blake-well lived when fat flesh or tallow made as much per lb. as lean flesh. Since that time, through the gas, one pound of lean flesh has made as much as two pounds of fat when pared off as tallow, and that there is more lean flesh in proportion upon large sheep, such as Lincolns and Cotswolds, than upon the true bred Leicesters, that are now, and have been famous for fat flesh, small bone, and a great propensity to

fatten at early maturity. Many people have an idea that the sheep are all small that are bred in Leicestershire, which is erroneous. Last year I travelled through several counties, to find wool, mutton, and size combined. I found at Drayton on the Welland, in Leicestershire, four miles from Rockingham Castle, 140 rams belonging to Mr. Byran Ward, an eminent grazer, who feeds yearly upon grass from 500 to 600 oxen, and shears two thousand sheep. Mr. Ward's rams have plenty of wool, size and lean flesh, clipped all through their backs, with small, fine thin heads, which denote a well bred animal, and a propensity to fatten at an early age. Mr. Ward's sheep are styled, by many, Old Leicesters, because they have more wool and size than the pure bred New Leicesters, and have a great semblance to the best long wooled Lincolns. There are now many flocks in the county of Leicestershire that have been crossed with Lincolns and Cotswolds, to increase size and wool; and there are many flocks left of what they style pure bred New Leicesters. By the ram sales at Peterborough fair, last year, the Lincolnshire sheep seem to be gaining ground, as they made more money than any other kind of long-wooled white-faced sheep.—*M. L. Express.*