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The Farm.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Dairy-shorthorns.—As we have frequently explained, in this periodical, the favourite breed of cattle among dairy-farmers in England is that commonly known there as the "Dairy-shorthorn." There are, of course, certain local exceptions, such as the Herefords, in the West-Midland counties, the Devons, in the western parts of Somersetshire, in Devonshire, and Cornwall, together with a few—very few—remains of the old "Longhorns," in Northamptonshire. But, practically speaking, the almost universal cow in the dairy-counties is the dairy-shorthorn.

The origin of this most valuable breed of cattle seems to be lost in the dark ages. Long before any attempt was made, by Bakewell or the Collings, to improve the herds of Great-Britain, a race of cattle had existed in the valley of the Tees, indigenous, it was supposed, to that and the adjoining districts, and technically known as the Teeswater.

When Mr. Thomas Booth determined to breed cattle on his farms at Killerby and Warlaby, (1) he, in or about 1790, found his original foundation in these Teeswaters. Some improvements had been made in the race, and their then representatives were found to be wide-backed, large framed cows, possessing, with good average milking capacities, a great general tendency to fatten.

(1) *By* (Norse and Danish) originally meant a single farm with its out-buildings, precisely what is meant by the Scotch word "toun." Later, it conveyed the idea of a village. Ed.