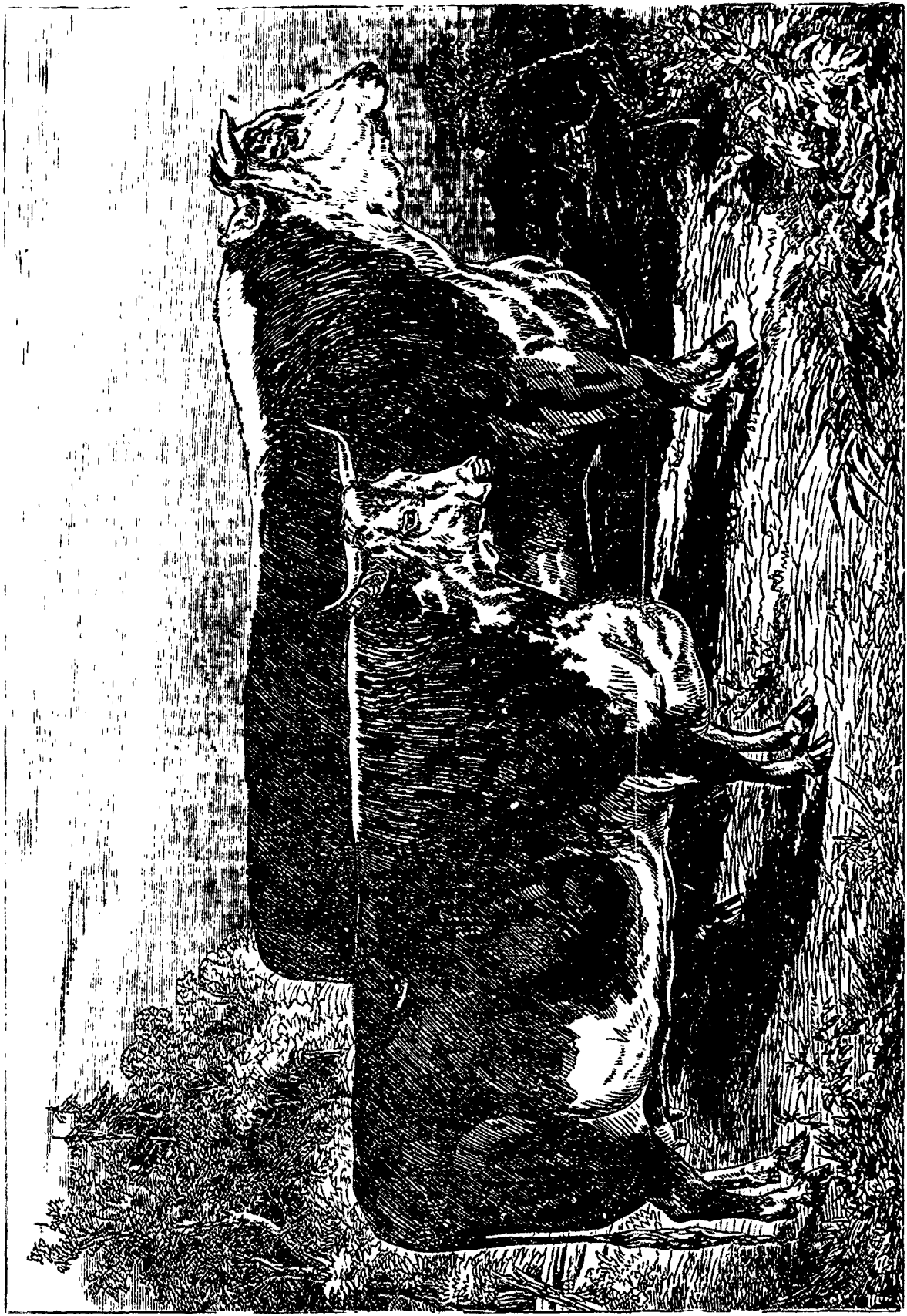


in anti-in. a principle attended by the happiest results when kept within legitimate bounds. By careful selection and intermixture, Tomkins ultimately succeeded in imparting to his herd the permanent characteristics of a different breed. In this latter respect, observes an able writer, "he was no less successful as Bakewell, as many of the Herefords deviate considerably from the common type. Tomkins, indeed had what he termed his silver line. This was a line of stock, his Pigeon line, a silver line from which we are merely to take that his animals had not been so amalgamated as to acquire a permanent class of common characteristics. Tomkins, it appears, was a man of most unassuming and retired habits, and although devoted to a long life to the improvement and establishment of his breed, he seldom exhibited any specimens away from home, and like those eminent breeders, Bakewell & Collings, he managed to keep his method of proceeding pretty much of a secret. Little is known with any degree of certainty but the fact of the two cows before mentioned, and the refining of himself chiefly to his own herd for the means of its improvement. Some have thought that the Herefords have certain resemblances to the Devon, and that they are a sort of variety of that

white was called Pigeon, and the other, of a rich red colour with spotted face, was designated Mottle; and it is remarkable that the marking of these two cows may be distinguished in their descendants at the present day. Mr. Tomkins appears to have

reader About the year 1763, Mr. Benjamin Tomkins commenced a system of breeding from apparently accidental causes, that materially affected the character and economic value of the stock of this part of England. It appears that two cows had been brought

The Herefords.
 is the picturesque and fertile county bordering on Wales, resting on what geologists denominate the "old sandstone," a very valuable race of cattle has been bred for many centuries, subject to such modifications as to size, milking and fattening properties, as differences in elevation, pasture and state of cultivation would naturally produce. Herefordshire was of old a part of the county of the Cantabrigians, but at a very early period fell under the domination of the Anglo-Saxons. Yet, although it has thus for a vast period been connected with Wales only by contiguity of situation, its cattle retain the traces of a common ancestry. They have that orange-yellow colour of the skin which distinguishes the Pembrokes and the Devons, and also that medium length of horns which separates these breeds and their varieties from the race termed Long-horned."



HEREFORD BULL AND COW.

exercised much care and judgment in selecting his cows and bulls, all of which, with but slight exceptions, were taken from his own stock, thus adopting the principle so successfully pursued by Bakewell and Collings in long and short-horns, viz., breeding for the dairy at a fair on the confines of Wales, which exhibited several remarkable properties, among them a superior symmetry of form, and great tendency to fatten. These two cows formed the foundation of the improved breed of Herefords. The one with more

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It is not now possible to trace with any minute degree of accuracy the early progress made by the several varieties of cattle that belonged to this interesting district; but it may be justly said that we are indebted for the present improved Hereford breed to comparatively modern times—a few details in relation to which cannot fail to be interesting to the