

man of brown-red complexion, clad in a brown loose coat and scarlet waist-coat, leather breeches, and top-boots. There he entertained Russian princes, French and German Royal Dukes, British peers and farmers, and sight-seers of every degree." Whoever were his guests, they were all obliged to conform to his rules. "Breakfast at eight o'clock, dinner at one, supper at nine, bed at eleven o'clock; at half-past ten o'clock, let who would be there, he knocked out his last pipe. There he talked on his favourite subject, breeding, 'with earnest yet playful enthusiasm;' there, "utterly indifferent to vulgar traditional prejudices," he enumerated those axioms which must ever be the cardinal rules of the improvers of live stock. "He chose the animals of the form and temperament which showed signs of producing most fat and muscle," declaring that in an ox "all was useless that was not beef;" that he sought, "by pairing the best specimens, to make the shoulders comparatively little, the hind-quarters large;" to produce a body "truly circular, with as short legs as possible, upon the plain principle that the value lies in the barrel and not in the legs," and to secure a "small head, small neck, and small bones." As few things escaped his acute eye, he remarked that quick fattening depended much upon amiability of disposition, and he brought his bulls by gentleness to be as docile as dogs. In sheep his 'object was mutton, not wool, disregarding mere size,' a vulgar test of merit. Dr. Parkinson told Paley that Bakewell had the power of fattening his sheep in whatever part of the body he chose, directing it to shoulder, leg, or neck, as he thought proper, and this, continued Parkinson, "is the great *problem* of his art." "It's a lie, sir," replied Paley, "and that's the *solution* of it." The account of Parkinson was, indeed, a mistake as to the mode by which Bakewell produced his fat stock, but it was no exaggeration as to the result.*

The great physiologist, John Hunter, confirmed in one essential particular the observations of Bakewell, for he asserted that in the human subjects he had examined he found small bones a usual concomitant of corpulence. Mr. Clive, the celebrated surgeon, who paid much attention to the breeding of cattle, also came to the conclusion that extremely large bones indicated a defect in the organs of nutrition. But "fine-boned" animals were in fashion when Bakewell commenced his career, and to the majority of people it seemed a step backwards to prefer well-made dwarfs to uncouth giants. One or two enlightened persons having suggested at Ipswich fair that a piece of plate should be presented to Arthur Young for the public service he had rendered in introducing the Southdown Sheep into Suffolk, a farmer determined to put forth the counter-proposition, "that he was an enemy to the county for endeavoring to change the best breed in England for a race of rats" The tenantry of that period were strong in the self-confidence of ignorance. "To attempt to reason with such fellows," said Young of some of those he met with in his tours, "is an absurdity," and he longed to seize a hedge-stake in order to break it about their backs. Even if they were persuaded to try some improvement to which they were not previously inclined, they reported that "their experience" was

* Archbishop Whately has adduced Bakewell's discovery to illustrate a position in his treatise on "Logic," and he puts in such a clear light one portion of the great cattle-breeder's mode of proceeding, that we quote the passage: "He observed in a great number of individual beasts a tendency to fatten readily; and in a great number of others the absence of this constitution: in every individual of the former he observed a certain peculiar make, though they differed widely in size, colour, etc. Those of the latter description differed no less in various points, but agreed in being of a different make from the others: these facts were his data. . . . His principal merit consisted in making the observations, and in so combining them as to abstract from each of a multitude of cases, differing widely in many respects, the circumstances in which they all agreed."