

were becoming quite general. These improvements had also convinced them of the value of improved labour; and now our Parliament has granted £150,000 for the importation of labour of that sort. Men with inclination to drink had better stay at home, as the Cape wine was cheap, wants few, wages good, and labour always in demand; but those who went, determined to resist this temptation, might work with the pleasant prospect of themselves becoming masters of comfortable homes in a few years. Mr. Eaton concluded by expressing his desire to learn more as to stall-feeding, which he thought ere long must be adopted in the colony.

Brahmin Cattle Crossed with Durham, Devon, and Native.

The following communication was addressed to the Secretary of the New York Agricultural Society by Dr. D. C. Ambler, of Jacksonville, Florida, and will be found to contain an interesting account of his experiments, conducted on a large scale, in crossing the Brahmin cattle on other breeds, in Florida. We copy it from the January number of the Society's Journal:

When I saw you last, I had made a commencement of a Stock Rancho, at Enterprise, on Lake Monroe, Upper St. Johns, some 200 miles South of this. My first enclosure consists of a prairie of some eight to ten thousand acres of very excellent pasture. I placed on it some four to five hundred native cows; on which I cross with bulls of half Brahmin and half Durham or Devon. The mark of blood in the grade calves is very distinct and very superior to native. These grade calves at six months are better calves than natives at twelve months—all from same class of cows, and running on same pastures, and all fat. Their rapid growth quite exceeds my expectations. These calves and their sires bear the heat and sun of our summers much better than their mothers, with an entire immunity from bilious diseases—as black tongue, murrain, &c. This season I place some four to five hundred more cows on the pasture, and a corresponding increase of bulls; each year select cows from my outside or half wild-woods stock; and bring others to those in the enclosure, till I rob my outside stock of all breeders. At the same time increase the size of the pastures and improve the feed by introducing improved grasses. Should my life be spared I hope, in a few years, to show a fine herd of blooded stock—when I should be most happy to see you, and ride over these beautiful southern prairies, in our sunny winter days.

The nine hundred calves I market this season, will make a beginning of rations for our good people, whether in the cotton fields or the tented field.

The fine stallion I procured from Jefferson

County, in your State, bears himself well in his new home, and I trust a few years will show a good herd for the road, the saddle and the plow. My mares are running at large on the same prairie as the cattle—requiring no feed but the grass, for the whole year.—*January 1st, 1861.*

Shorthorns from America to England.

We remember hearing one of our enterprising Canadian breeders observe at our Provincial Exhibition four years ago, that the time was fast approaching when we might select as good specimens of several of the improved breeds of live stock, either from the United States or the British Provinces, as could be imported from Britain herself. This remark is beginning to be verified. We referred to this subject a few weeks ago, and have since found the following remarks in the *London Agricultural Gazette*:

It is interesting to learn that America, which has hitherto acted as such a drain on our best herds of Shorthorns in England, with no small profit, of course to their owners, is at length beginning to restore somewhat of the benefit she has thus derived. We understand that Mr. Langston, M. P., of Sarsden, has just hired of Mr. Samuel Thorne (of Thorndale, N. Y., one of the largest buyers at the great Tortworth sale, seven years ago, a young bull, the '5th Duke of Thorndale' by name, a son of 'Duchess 66' (for which 700 guineas were paid at that sale,) by 'Grand Turk,' bred by Mr. Bolden, and sold at Mr. Ambler's sale for 300 guineas.

Mr. Robinson, of Clifton Pastures, and Mr. C. Howard, of Biddenham, have also hired of Mr. Thorne, the '2nd Duke of Thorndale,' got by '2nd Grand Duke' (a son of the 600 guinea cow at the Tortworth sale), out of 'Duchess 71,' a daughter of 'Duchess 66' (the 700 guinea cow just named), by the Duke of Gloucester.

Here we have the pure 'Duchess' blood crossing and re-crossing the Atlantic for the improvement of herds on both sides of it; and while enormous sums are paid for the hire of such bulls, there is no reason why the cost of transit and of insurance should stand in the way of a still more frequent interchange of good offices of this kind.

Apricot's Gloster.

We observe in a recent number of our excellent cotemporary, *The Rural New Yorker*, a fine wood engraving of this handsome Shorthorn Bull, bred by Mr. S. P. Chapman, of Madison County, N. Y., and owned by Messrs. Butts & Cass, Onondaga county, calved Jan. 15, 1858, got by Duke of Gloster out of imported Apricot. He is described as a very promising animal, richly imbued with the Bates' blood, Kirk-leavington, England.