

that if an account had been kept of her yield. the preceding year, it would have amounted to at least *nine hundred pounds*! Please recollect that America is a big country.

The English Agricultural Commissioners, in a report of what they found in their line, in a visit to the United States in 1879, said that our turkeys were very small, and that none ever attained, as in England, the weight of 40 lbs. I regret to say that this is a great mistake in their report; for a poultry breeder, in Kentucky, affirms—and he is ready to make oath to it—that he has one that weighs *fifty-two and a half pounds*! I beg the Commissioners to make a note of this, and hereafter be a little more careful in under-rating the products of America.

Pray did they never hear of the famous Colonel Nimrod Wildfire of Kentucky, who modestly dubbed himself half horse and half alligator? He declared he could run faster, swim farther, dive deeper, stay under longer, and *come out drier* than any man in "old Kaintuck." He also had the handsomest wife and the prettiest children, and could whip his weight in wild cats (these last are the ferocious lynx of America), so judge of his prowess!

The Kentuckians are called the Gascons of the United States; but what is Colonel Nimrod Wildfire in comparison to a couple of French Gascons? A pair of these one day, in a confab together, were boasting of their superior faculties. One declared that his eyesight was so acute that he could see a mouse taking his round on the top of a fortress wall *four miles distant*. His companion, not to be outdone by this marvellous faculty, replied that he could not see quite so far, but he could *hear the mouse trot*! *Live Stock Journal*. (Eng.)

### Jerseys at home.

THEIR QUALITIES AND MANAGEMENT.

Jersey is but a small island; if it were square, it would just be  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles each way. Yet this little spot manages to support about 12,000 cattle, that is, roughly speaking, one for every two acres of its surface (rocks, roads, and wastes, and house-room for 60,000 people included). And it has done this for the last twenty years, at least; for the census of 1861 gives the number of cattle in Jersey as 12,037. What is still more remarkable, it exports every year above 2,000 head (the average export, by the Customs' returns, for the last eighteen years being 2,049), nearly one for every ten acres. Now the total number of cattle in England only averages one head to ten acres; it therefore follows that, in proportion to its size, Jersey exports, every year, as many cattle as England contains. In other words, if England were to export cattle at the same rate, her whole stock would be swept away in a single year, not a hoof would be left behind.

The system that enables Jersey to do this must be worth considering, particularly in these days, when the English farmer is at his wits' end what to do, as his sheet anchor, wheat-raising, lets him drift upon the rocks. But another, and not less striking, result of our management is the

### BREED OF CATTLE

it has produced. Hitherto it has been the accustomed fashion in England to look upon Jerseys as the curled darlings of fortune—pretty playthings for the rich—lovely little objects for the lawn—yielding a small quantity of very rich milk, cream, and butter, for those wealthy enough to afford such extravagance. That they are small, we admit—beautiful, we grant. But why shouldn't they be small? and why shouldn't they be beautiful? Is the Fox-terrier less plucky, less useful, less fit for his especial duties, because he is not a Mastiff? Fitness for the work is the thing; all the rest, tinsel and buckram. The office of the Jersey is to convert grass and

roots into butter, not beef. She is not bred to be eaten; she is too valuable as a butter machine. Then, why should she be larger? And, far from being the rich man's luxury, she is, more than any other breed, the poor man's necessity, the small farmer's best help. This is very easily and simply proved (in a general way) by our Island experience. We have seen that 12,000 cattle are here kept in a place six miles square, where rent averages £9 *an acre*, where the farms are smaller than anywhere else in the world, where every farmer works with his own hands, and is brought face to face with the wolf he must keep from the door. What do we see?—the island eaten up with cows, and the farmers beggars? On the contrary, the whole island is like a garden, thickly strewn with comfortable well-to-do houses and homesteads; we find ease and comfort everywhere, poverty and want unknown, beggars none. I do not say this is all the produce of cows, but I do say that our farmers (who have so close a fight, and yet are so wonderfully successful, must understand their business, and do not keep 12,000 cattle at a loss. If Jerseys pay here, with land at £9 *an acre*, can they be unprofitable in England, or anywhere else where butter finds a market? But we go much further; we hold that the Jersey cow is the most beautiful of her species, and the most profitable.

### HER MERITS.

We will sum them up as shortly as we can. We hold that the Jersey is the most profitable of butter cows—she will yield more butter (for her size and the food consumed) than any other breed whatever; that a good Jersey will yield half her own weight of butter in a year—she rarely exceeds 800 lbs. in weight, and her average here is about 700 lbs.—cows that yield half that weight of butter in a year are to be found in every good herd; that her milk is richer than that of any other breed, six quarts very commonly producing a pound of butter—there is therefore less water to handle, to milk, manage, and find pans for; that her butter is better in colour, better in texture, and better in flavour, and commands a higher price; that she comes into profit early, her first calf being commonly dropped when she is two years old, and often before; that she is gentle and docile, easily managed (in Jersey at least) by the women and children of the household, who lead her to the field, tether her, lead her home again, milk her, and manage her generally, without any assistance from the stronger hands, which are left free for other work.

Lastly, that she is equally at home in the arctic cold of Canadian winters, and the tropical summers of the Gulf of Mexico. Letters now lie before me from the Secretary of the Jersey Cattle show at Mobile, were they succeed perfectly; and from Mr. Burnham (purchaser of the famous Coomassie) in Connecticut, who finds them do equally well in the Northern States; and there are several large herds in Canada, to which the Hon. Mr. Cochrane (of Shorthorn fame) is just adding another. May we not fairly challenge the world to produce another breed with such credentials?—*Langley House, Jersey*.

### A Canadian Commissioner reporting on British markets.

In the summer of 1880 Mr. Richard Gibson, a member of the Ontario Agricultural Commission, visited England, and during a brief stay made observations of the British market for Canadian agricultural products. From these observations, embodied in the report of the Commission, we extract the following:

"In conversation with several butchers and dealers, they all took the same view of the Canadian cattle trade, viz.: That the best time to ship is from February to August; that