

ment to judicious crossings, and especially to the influence of the Teeswater and Alloy strains. It must not, however, be supposed that the old breed is universally improved; on the contrary, many of the dairy farmers give the rough breed the preference, partly from prejudice, and partly because the milking properties of the improved breed have been more or less sacrificed to the development of a constitutional tendency to accumulate fat. Mr. Youatt, referring to this subject, well observes: "Experience has gradually established the fact, that it is prudent to sacrifice a *small* portion of the milk to assist in feeding, when the cow is too old to continue in the dairy, or when, as in the neighborhood of large towns, her services as a dairy cow are dispensed with at an early age. This cross being judiciously managed, the diminution of milk is so small, and the tendency to fatten so great, that the opinion of Mr. Sale is correct;—"I have always found in my stock, that the best milkers, when dried for feeding, make the most fat in the least time."—This is a doctrine which will be best understood and universally acknowledged by and by, for many of the improvers of the Shorthorns have but half done justice to their excellent stock. He would deserve well of his country who, with skill and means sufficient, would devote himself to the illustration of this point."

It is a remarkable fact that the Shorthorn cow improves both in the quantity and quality of her milk as she grows older; that is, a cow six years of age is superior, as a milker, to one of three or four years of age; and her milk will yield more butter in proportion. This rule, while holding good in general of most other breeds, appears from the careful observations made by several breeders to apply in a more forcible manner to the Shorthorns.

This highly cultivated breed extended from the district of the Tees, as from a centre, as soon as its value became known. It quickly spread northward, all through Durham and Northumberland, into the valley of the Tweed, and in later years, it had extended northward, through the eastern lowlands of Scotland, to the Pentland Firth, and is now mingling with the native breeds. The Shorthorns can now be found existing in purity and large numbers in Aberdeenshire and other northern counties, and also in the Orkney Islands; where the

Swedish turnip is raised in great abundance and perfection for the purposes of feeding. This celebrated breed soon extended southward, through Yorkshire, where it was cultivated on the largest scale. The district Holderness, as we have already observed, early obtained cows from Holland, and came distinguished beyond any other part of England, for the excellence of its dairy stock. Many cows of the Holderness variety are yet to be found, but generally they have become more or less mixed with the Durham blood. The effect has been to improve their form, but in many instances to impair their milking properties; nevertheless, the modern Holderness still stands in the first rank of dairy cows, and the great London dairies are largely supplied by them. The Durham breed extended likewise across the Humber, and was largely mingled with the cattle of Lincolnshire, and the neighboring districts. Individual animals are still to be found in the former with the clumsy forms, dark muzzle, and dingy skin of the former race; but generally speaking, the blood of the improved Teeswaters has been more or less infused into the cattle of this part of England. Further, the breed has extended westward through Leicestershire and the midland counties, where it is either cultivated in a state of purity, or has been so mingled with the former breed as to modify or efface the Longhorn characters. It has taken root in Lancashire, Westmoreland, and other parts, where the Long-horned breed had been the most firmly established, and it has been carried to the counties bordering on Wales, and into the Principality itself, where the breeds allied to the Devon have been before cultivated. It has passed into the drier counties of the north, in the south-east portion of England, though, perhaps, in smaller numbers than into the central and western counties. It has been transported to Ireland, and, in an incredibly short space of time, has effected a great change in the cattle of the breeding districts of that country. Being made to cross the native Longhorns, the first progeny is always found to be good, and this effect naturally leads the breeders to resort again to the superior race, so that after a time the trace of the Longhorns becomes lost.