acceptation, and in that connection we use the term, "Natives" are referred to, in contradistinction to the modern thorough breeds.—Sprung from such diversified sources, and continued by no regard to systematic breeding, it is obvious that our common cattle could have received no distinguishing marks of color or form. The good as well as bad qualities of the original stock, by this system of promiscuous breeding, would undoubtedly accumulate in the descendants, but without impressing on them any marked or predominating quality or aspect.

We need not argue the obvious assumption, that the immigrants who introduced the earliest stock, would have selected for the purpose animals of the choicest properties. The sagacity of these men, for which they were so remarkable, must have suggested the expediency of selecting the most valuable animals for transportation. The expense of conveying an animal across the Atlantic was very great, and could only be remunerated by the choice of stock for the purpose of the greatest excellence. These importations formed the foundation of our native cattle, and gathered as we shall see, from various lands, they undoubtedly combined the most desirable qualities of the cattle of every country of Europe.

The first importation of neat cattle into New England was made by Edward Winslow, who introduced several head into the Plymouth colony in the year 1623. The other cattle introduced into Massachusetts for a series of years were brought from England. The beautiful dark red, which formerly was such a characteristic trait with the prevalent breeds of New England indicates that the stock which formed the original basis of these "Natives" imparted to them a high infusion of Devon blood. The Devons were an ancient and original family of British cattle, and were widely diffused in England, when the Short Horns had not been created as a distinct breed. This fact enhances the probability that the Devon stripe formed a large foundation of the original stock of New England.

In 1631 cattle were introduced from Denmark into the colony of New Hampshire These cattle were distinguished by a peculiar yellow color. They existed as late as 1820, in some sections of that state, and it was believed in nearly an original purity of blood. A breed of yellow cattle, which probably originated from this source, remarkable for their valuable qualities, and particularly active and vigorous under the yoke, were widely spread in New England in the first quarter of the present century, but have now, it is presumed, become extinct

The French at a more remote period had introduced neat stock from France into their colonial possessions. The Swedes at about the same time with the importation into New England, imported cattle into Delaware from Sweden, and the Dutch into New York from Holland A breed of hornless cattle, marked with all the peculiar traits of the Galloway and highly esteemed for their milking properties, was very recently prevalent in New England. These unquestionably were descended from individual importations of that valuable family of milkers. Stock was largely imported into the Southern States at an early epoch, from France, England and Spain. Choice cows were habitually procured in Europe to supply our ships with milk on their voyages, and were exchanged for others on their arrival in this country It is perfectly authenticated that these animals were important acquisitions to the milking qualities of our stock.

These various and dissimilar breeds have been preserved in certain districts with considerable distinctiveness, but in the lapse of two centuries, by the intercourse of business and the mingling of the population, they have become gradually combined, and in the amalgamation form the constituents of our native stock The mixture by indiscriminate breeding of such diversified blood for a series of generations, has from necessity produced a stock without affinity to any distinct breed now existing in Europe.

If the origin and history of our native animals, which we have thus sketched, be correct, it can require neither much argument or illustration to prove that stock springing from materials such as originated our native animals must possess elements of the highest excellence. We may advert to another circumstance as affording evidence of the natural superiority of this stock in a special department, but which is in truth the primary requirement for the dairy. We have designed to present this subject in reference to the capacity of the various breeds for yielding milk and not as to their adaptation to the shamble or yoke. The cows originally imported were selected to supply milk as an article of food for famishing colonies, and animals valuable for their milking properties would naturally have been preferred. To some of all these circumstances of origin combined, we may ascribe the extraordinary productiveness of individual native cows in their yield of milk, and the value with appropriate care and feed, of the native stock generally for the purposes of the dairy We think the position will not be questioned that a herd of native cows, receiving the same treatment which imported animals usually enjoy, are equal, if not superior, in the clear remuneration to the keeper they afford, to any foreign stock.

Experience and facts, the most reliable tests in practical agricultural problems, vindicate by actual results the correctness of this theory. Numerous cases of individual, native stock such as the Oakes cow of Massachusetts, have exhibited unequalled capacity as milkers.—Many of our largest and most productive dairies are composed exclusively of native stock. The experiment of Col. Pratt of this State, so eminently successful as to be cited in the synopsis of the census returns of 1860, in which he used in his vast dairy an entire herd of native cows proves that his singular practical judgment did not err, in giving our native stock the preference. We refer to these instances, not the