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RED POLLED BULL, "FRANCILLO," 669. Imported and owned by G. F. Taber, Ravenwood Farm, Paterson, Putnam County, New York.

## OUR ILLUSTRATION.

Francillo, 669, is a beautiful animal of great style and substance, with hair and skin as fine as silk. The accompanying portrait does him injustice, as he is heavier and broader in build than represented by it, the artist having made the drawing from an unfavorable point of view to show his form fully in this respect. His grand-dam, Fanny A., 9, was a heavy milker, and the most successful show cow the breed has yet produced, while his grand-sire, Rufus, 188, held the same position among bulls. His daughter, Dolly, 1463, has never been beaten in the show ring.

## RED POLLED CATTLE IN ENGLAND.

The English Red Polled cattle originated in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, in England.

So far back as can be traced, there existed in the counties mentioned a breed of Polled cattle renowned for their hardiness and excellent milking qualities; the bullocks also making a very superior quality of beef. They were rather small, and seem to have been of different

colors, more frequently, however, of red or dun. During the last half century, a number of enterprising men of that section have taken a special interest in the improvement of this breed, and we have, as the result, the pure-bred Norfolk and Suffolk Red of the present day. These animals are usually of a rich red color, sometimes a shade lighter, of medium size, small bones, good form, and particularly clean and stylish about the head and neck. The cows are frequently very plump and straight when dry, but when giving milk become lank and less pleasing to the eye of any but the dairyman.

Mr. H. F. Euren, editor of the Red Polled Herd Book, says: "The history of Red Polled cattle can be carried back well into the last century. Suffolk had from time immemorial its breed of Polled cattle, producing butter which one hundred and fifty years ago was asserted to be justly esteemed the pleasantest and best in England. Arthur Young, in his 'Survey' (A.D. 1794), defines the area 'a tract of country twenty miles by twelve . . . the seat of the dairies of Suffolk'—which, he said, must be peculiarly considered the headquarters

of the Suffolk Polled stock, though he found the breed spread over the whole country. In this 'Survey' we get the first accurate description of the breed. Though Arthur Young makes no note of Norfolk Polled cattle, yet advertisements of sales held in and from the year 1778 prove that dairies of such animals were numerous in the country, and that they extended from the northern boundaries of the Suffolk headquarters well into the centre of Norfolk."

## IN AMERICA.

In the fall of 1873 the foundation of the Ravenwood herd of Red Polled cattle was made by the importation of a bull and three heifers from the herd of Lord Sondes, at Elmham, Norfolk Co., England, at that time considered to be one of the best collections of this breed in England. These were the first Red Polled cattle brought to America of which we have any authentic record, and gave so good satisfaction that a number of importations have since been made, comprising representatives of the best strains of the breed. Most of these animals have been retained in the Ravenwood herd, but their progeny have been widely disseminated throughout the Eastern,