

individuals are black, mixed with white or dun, and sometimes cream-coloured. The skin is thin, and of a rich orange colour, and the fat, as well as the milk and butter, is tinged with the same colour. The animals are gentle, and somewhat delicate in constitution. Being small in size, the milk they yield is small in quantity, although fully in proportion to their bulk of body; and it is viscid and exceedingly rich in cream. In their native islands the steers are used for labor, to which they are better adapted than, from the slender form of the dam, might be inferred."

In these rich and picturesque islands land, according to French customs, is very much subdivided, and the agriculture resembles in many respects that of Belgium, that is, very garden-like. "The cow, in an especial degree, is the subject of the care of these island farmers. She is penned in a narrow space, and shifted to fresh spots of herbage several times in the day, and in the nights of winter she is warmly housed, and, when about to calve, is nourished with cider. Through all the year these little cows are to be seen in their patches of meadow, often under the shade of the apple trees, and so fastened that they cannot raise their heads to pull the fruit. In addition to their herbage, they are fed with lucerne, clover, carrots, parsnips, and the large Jersey cole, the leaves of which are stripped off as they grow. A value is here attached to the cow greater, perhaps, than in any other part of Europe. She is the resource of the household for food, and her surplus produce is a part of the returns of every farm. A Jersey man, it is said, will treat every animal on his farm with neglect except his cow. To preserve the purity of the race, an act of the insular Legislature was passed in the year 1789, and yet subsists, by which the importation into Jersey of any cow, heifer, calf, or bull, is prohibited under the penalty of 200 livres, with forfeiture of the boat and tackle, and a further penalty of 50 livres is imposed on any sailor on board who does not inform of the attempt. The animal itself is to be immediately slaughtered, and its flesh given to the poor."

The island of Alderney is too small to allow of any large exportation of these animals, the principal part of which come from Jersey, which exports about two thousand annually. These

are the small, fine, and handsome sort, the favourite colours of which are the dark tan, and the lemon and white. The *Guernsey* cow is larger, coarser, and hardier, but there is not that dependence on the purity of the breed as in the Jersey cow. In Jersey, as before mentioned, no other animal is allowed, upon any pretence, in the island; while in *Guernsey* the law is not so stringent. Then the *quality* of produce is believed to be better in the Jersey than the *Guernsey*.

A recent writer of high authority remarks as follows:—"All Channel Island cows, and also very many from the adjoining coast of Brittany, are sold in England under the general name of 'Alderneys.' There seems to be important differences between the cows of the different islands. Those which are really bred in Alderney are the smallest,—then the Jersey ones; the *Guernsey* animals are the largest. There is a great jealousy between the islands about the superiority of their own cows. The Alderney people stoutly maintain the superiority of the animal which has (rightly or wrongly) given a name to the breed; whilst the contest between *Guernsey* and Jersey rages on hotly upon the moot point as upon many others. Whatever may be the rights of the question, however, it is certain that Alderney can spare very few cows for exportation. There are not 400 head in the island, and the number annually spared from this stock is under fifty. Jersey exported 1,138 cows and heifers in 1860; *Guernsey* not half that number. Many cattle are shipped at Brittany, and the skippers, calling at Jersey or *Guernsey* upon some pretence to get customs papers there, bring their live stock on to England, and sell them for Channel Island cattle. This is a fraud, for they may be bought at Brittany at from £4 to £5 a head, but a genuine Alderney will fetch from £14 to £18. In spite of the enthusiasm with which the merits of the Alderney cow are supported by her admirers, there are some who maintain that in-and-in breeding has done its work in effecting a deterioration of the animal. They point to the fact that in Alderney, where the purity of the breed is most conservatively kept, the animals are smaller. They declare that in Brittany, by the system of in-and-in breeding, a race of diminutive cattle has been obtained still smaller."