

see no reason why they should not meet with reasonable success.

"To my mind, while we desire to fully and thoroughly establish the Holstein as the best combination cow for milk, butter, cheese, and beef, we cannot reasonably hope to excel those animals that are bred exclusively to any one point, but we can, at least, make a favorable showing in comparison with them. It should be the duty of every owner of a Holstein, particularly every member of this association, to make tests of their cows for butter, whether the circumstances are favorable or not, and thus in a year or two we should be able to satisfy the most skeptical of the superiority of Holsteins as butter-makers.

"Every record of twelve pounds of butter, or over, per week, is an additional proof that the milk of this breed, if not as rich in butter as that of the exclusive butter breeds, is sufficiently so to make them highly profitable as butter cows; and in this connection it should not be forgotten by us, and we should not neglect to urge upon all dairymen, the value of Holstein skim-milk over that of the exclusive butter cow or ordinary cow. It contains a percentage of casein that few milks do, and this property is of inestimable value, not only to the dairyman who manufactures cheese, and also to the farmer who sells milk, fattens calves or swine, but alike to the village milk-peddler, who sells milk for family consumption, and the city man, whose family uses the milk for household purposes. Holstein milk is better feeding, better cooking, and better drinking milk than any other I am acquainted with, and these properties make it valuable over other milk.

"There seems to be, among some, a prejudice against Holstein milk and butter, on account of its color. Naturally the sense of sight often affects the sense of taste, but as before said, with regard to the quantity of butter, the same can equally as well be said of the quality, that, with proper care in feeding and breeding, we shall be able to heighten the color where necessary. In many instances the color is quite high enough, and the light color is generally caused by not feeding butter-making foods. Whenever Holstein butter has come into competition with other butter, its quality has been commented upon and commended, and at various fairs Holstein butter has received prizes over that of even exclusive butter breeds.

"By actual test by a noted scientist and chemist, Holstein butter was found to stand the test of heat better than any other. Dairymen, grocers, experts, consumers, all concede that the quality is of a very high character. Thus far little has been done in this country towards establishing their claim as beef cattle, owing, in part, to their high price as breeders, and further as it has not been deemed necessary.

"The imported Holstein Bull Ebbo, five years old, was killed on the Remington farm, in Czzenovia. Weighed, alive, on day of killing, 2,260 lbs.; dressed beef, 1,313 lbs.; hide, 156 lbs.; rough tallow, 75 lbs.; per cent. of dressed beef, 58½.

"The imported cow Lady Clifden was killed on the farm of Hon. W. A. Russell, her owner, at fourteen years of age. Live weight, 1,800 lbs.; dressed beef, 1,211 lbs.; per cent. of dressed beef, 67.

"This showing for beef is remarkable, when the age of the cow and her long-continued and enormous milk records are considered. In 1875, in 362 days, she gave 16,274 lbs.; in 1876, in 282 days, she gave 12,243 lbs.; in 1877, in 396 days, she gave 13,227 lbs.; in 1878 and 1879, in 372 days, she gave 16,287 lbs.; in 1881, in 103 days, she gave 5,969 lbs. This runs over a period of six years, and she was dry part of the time, commencing at seven

and ending at thirteen years of age, in greater part past the prime of a milch cow's life, and still she averaged over 42 lbs. of milk for 1,515 days.

"When the fact that this cow belongs to the noted Aaggie family (the deepest milking family of cattle known), and, in fact, is a half-sister to the celebrated Aaggie, this record of beef is all the more remarkable.

"As the evidence of those who have had practical experience with Holsteins as beef cattle, I quote the statement of Edwards Bros., Ottawa, Ills., large dealers and butchers. They say, 'We having had practical experience with them in the London, Eng., trade, have long been aware of their desirable qualities as beef cattle, for thousands of them are cut in London markets every month. For veal calves the Holsteins stand without an equal. This is admitted without dissent, and as mature beef cattle we believe them fully equal to any others. The fat is evenly distributed over the carcass, the meat well marbled, and there is but a small percentage of waste. We have killed a great many grade Holstein calves in this city within the past two years; and although they are hardly up to the full bloods we have dressed in London, they are far ahead of the average natives and other grades. Full blood mature Holsteins are yet seldom to be had in this vicinity to kill; our first opportunity occurred last week, in the form of a four-year-old heifer. She weighed 1,705 lbs. and dressed 1,036 lbs., and had 161 lbs. of rough tallow. She was very thick on the rib, her fat evenly distributed, and the meat well marbled.'

"In grade Holsteins I might give a large amount of statistical evidence to prove the superiority of the Holstein beef, but I shall content myself with the facts already given, and think that it will be conceded that what has been stated shows well for a breed that combines so many other good qualities. But more convincing proof of their excellence as beefers is the fact that for years Holland has furnished thousands of carcasses for English and Continental markets, and they are there most highly esteemed for the size of the animal, the small percentage of offal, the finely marbled meat, its tenderness and juiciness.

"Further, the calves of the Holsteins for veal are without equal in size, growth, and quality, and Holland is only less noted for its veal than for its cheese. Among the notable instances that occur to me, touching on this point, are: Rugby Prince, commencing at three months, gained 148 lbs. in 21 days. One calf, at five months and eleven days, and another five months and twenty-three days old, each weighed 600 lbs., and another at seven months and five days old weighed 570 lbs. It is not at all uncommon for Holstein calves to gain 100 lbs. per month for the first five to seven months after birth. The calf Jaap 4th, at eleven months of age, weighed 1,200 lbs.

"In the herd of Smiths & Powell, 65 heifers, coming two years old, dates of birth ranging from February to June, averaged 1,006 lbs., the largest of the lot weighing 1,305 lbs.

"On Dec. 31, 1884, Messrs. Geo. E. Brown & Co. weighed all of one lot of Holstein yearling heifers, 44 in number, which averaged 1,024 lbs. each, the oldest and largest heifer weighing 1,235 lbs. There was but one in the lot that weighed as low as 900 lbs., and only five 950 lbs. or less. These heifers underwent the hardships of an ocean voyage, and were in quarantine ninety days of the best time in the year for growth.

"Many other weights and much more statistical evidence might be given to prove their superiority for beef, but enough has been given,

I think, to satisfy all skeptics and those so blind they will not see that, while Holsteins may not equal some of the exclusive beef breeds for the production of beef, it must be acknowledged that they compare favorably with them."

#### ARABIAN HORSES.

The following is from the notes of a British officer, written during the first Egyptian war, and given by his grandson to the CANADIAN BREEDER.

The horses of the Arabian race have been at all times distinguished on account of their excellent qualities and admirable figures. They are generally esteemed throughout Asia, but there are certain tribes in the desert in possession of the finest breeds; these are the Arabs who live on the banks of the Euphrates and the Tigris between Bagdad and Bussorah.

The Sheikhs take great care to preserve the races uncontaminated, and without alteration.

The horses are divided into two classes, the nobles and the plebeians; the latter are crossed in a variety of different manners, and form the most numerous species, but it is not intended to mention any other than the first. And here it will be necessary to make an observation on a singular custom, which appears in sufficient conformity with experience; it is, that the genealogy of the Arabian horses is transmitted by the females alone, the nobility of the male is only individual.

The Arabs are accustomed to say, "such a mare is the produce of such a mare," and they are at great pains to prevent the breed from being adulterated.

When the mares are horsing, they take care they shall be covered by stallions whose descent is well known; and when they are sent to grass they are carefully tethered. No sooner is a foal dropped than the chiefs attest the fact, by means of a patent drawn up in due form and signed by several witnesses.

That of the male, as we have already observed, does not pass to his descendants, but of the female makes mention of all her maternal progenitors. This certificate always accompanies the sale.

There are four distinguished races of the Arabian horses in the neighborhood of Bagdad, the names of which I have forgotten. There is some difference in their form, which of course does not escape the notice of the jockies; as for them, they have no occasion to peruse patents in order to discover either if a mare be noble or from what stud she comes.

The Arabs wean their colts after having sucked fifty or sixty days when produced in towns, or when the proprietor is not desirous to rear them himself, the females are sent among the inhabitants of the desert.

The usual mode of bargaining on this occasion is, in their language, to give one foot of the mare, and sometimes two, or in other words, they pay to the person who has had charge of her a quarter, or even one half the value, according to an estimate made by experienced judges.

The Arabs carry on a great trade in horses; they sell them at two or three years old, and for the most part keep the mares, from which they derive considerable profit. It is also pretended that they prefer these because they do not neigh, which would discover them during their nocturnal expeditions. The princes never mount any other; the Turks, on the contrary, make use of entire horses only.

The traffic in horses is not confined to strangers, they carry on a species among themselves which is singular enough, for they sell