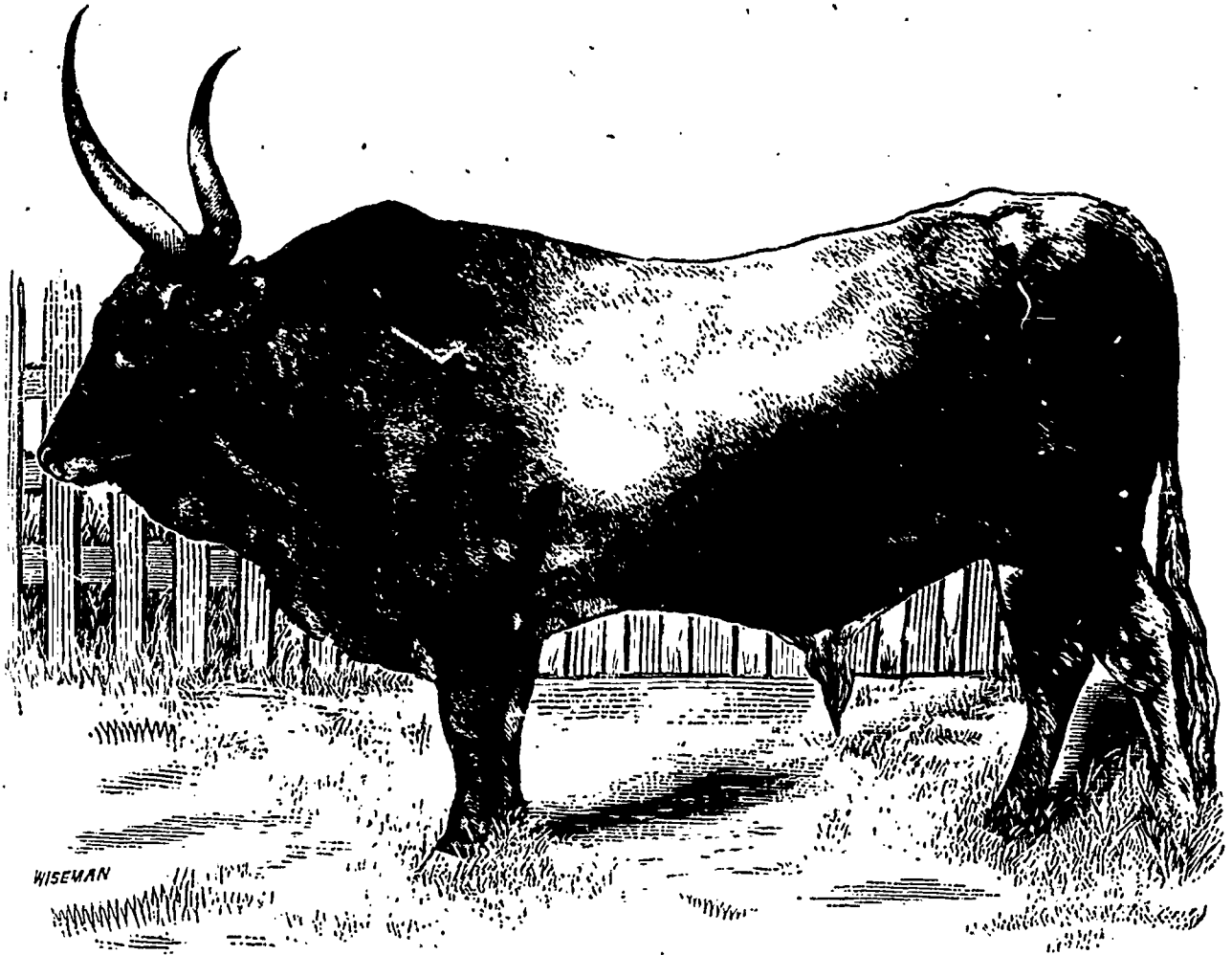


heap, but return handsome profits, leaving in the hands of our farmers at least \$6,000,000. This can easily be accomplished by our farmers, who study their own interests and improve their stock by short horn blood, and give their attention to the breeding and feeding of stock. No fears need be entertained for a ready market, it will be a long time ere the supply will equal the demand for healthy Canadian stock.

About all the farmers in this country annually fatten at least a few pigs. But very many farmers who have but 40,

or 80, or 100 acres feel they cannot successfully compete in cattle feeding with the large farmers; and, unquestionably, the farmer who has a lot of 50 or 100 steers has some marked advantages in caring for and feeding them over the man with one, or two, or a half dozen. The work can often be done to much better advantage, and in much less time, in proportion to number, with the large lot. When ready for market the owner of the half-dozen car-loads of steers can choose his market, and receive reasonable shipping rates



An Italian Bull.

while the man with but a few is dependent on his local markets or neighboring dealers, or, if he attempt to ship at all, he must pay a higher rate.

But, as in most cases, this question has two sides. The advantages are not all in favor of the more extensive dealer. Very often the stock of the small farmer will receive better care and give a better return than those in larger lots. Oftentimes, too, a large part of what they eat would be wasted were it not for them. The pasture may often carry an extra steer or two, and yet give grass enough for the cows, and so of the stock field or the hog stock. What is of even more importance, as affecting the profit, is, that while the labor of feeding the small number may really be greater in proportion than in the case of a larger number, it really is often done at less cost, because the work is just so much done in addition

to what would otherwise be accomplished. A farmer will add the feeding of a half-dozen steers to his usual "chores," and do the work without conscious fatigue or loss of time needed for other labor. The large stock feeder must "make a business" of his work, either for himself or for a hired laborer. This has its good results, but it also causes a direct outlay. Another very important consideration is found in the fact that the average farmer can give much better attention, in the way of shelter and protection and also in variety of food, to his half-dozen steers—thereby securing a larger percentage of gain to food consumed—than is often practicable for the great feeder who numbers his cattle by the hundreds.

These points, at first flash, may not seem of no importance, but they are well worth thinking about by those who have