

ing ripeness of condition at which they so early arrive, and the great weight of carcase, compared with the amount of food consumed. The quality of early maturity, as it is termed, distinguished more or less the old Teeswater breeds, before the Collings commenced those improvements, which have immortalised their names. More than seventy years ago Sir Henry Grey (of Howick) bred two oxen, which weighed, when six years old, 130 stones each, (14 lbs. to the stone), and a three year old heifer, belonging to another party, fed on hay and grass alone, reached 90 stone. Mr. Waistel's four years' old ox, by the bull supposed to be the grandsire of Hubback, weighed 110 stones. Mr. Charge's ox, seven years old, weighed 168 stones, 10 lb.; tallow, 13 stones. It would be easy to multiply instances of a similar kind, but the above are sufficient for our present purpose, and the reader can readily extend them by referring to Youatt, or any other trustworthy treatise on cattle.

The following have been selected from a subsequent period, when the breed had assumed more or less of the improved form and qualities, by which it is at present distinguished. Mr. Robert Colling's heifer, at four years old, was estimated to weigh 130 stones. Mr. Walton, in Teesdale, was in the habit of selling his steers at two years and a quarter old, at from £20 to £30 each; weighing from 50 to 54 stones, fed only on vegetable food. He found, by careful experiments, that his own cattle at two years old got fatter and weighed more than the ordinary improved breeds in the country did at three years. Mr. Rennie, of East Lothian, exhibited a steer at the Highland Society's Show in 1823, eighteen months old, which weighed 118 stones, of 8 lb. to the stone. These few instances, which may fairly be considered as a sort of average of a large number, clearly indicate the advancement which the breed continued to make.

"The Durham, or improved Teeswater breed, differs nearly as much from the older cattle of the Tees, as the Dishley breed of Long-horns from the older race from which it was derived. The height is less, but the trunk is more round and deep; the limbs are shorter in proportion to the depth of body, and the chest, back, and loin, more broad, so that with less apparent bulk of body, the weight is usually greater. The skin is light colored, and the hair reddish-brown or white, either separate or mixed. The muzzle is flesh-coloured, and rarely black, the appearance of which color on the skin indicates the revival of a character of the old varieties, which modern breeders study to exclude. The horns are shorter than in the former breed, light coloured, blunt, and sometimes laterally flattened. The skin is soft to the touch, the general form square and massive, the shoulders upright, and the hind-quarter large. The uprightness of the shoulder produces a hollowness behind, which does not exist in the same degree in the Devons, the Herefords, and other varieties allied to them. The uprightness of the shoulder is regarded as a defect, but it were more correct to say that is a character in harmony with the squareness of form distinctive of the breed. Although Colling preferred cattle of a medium size, yet the breed being derived from one of great bulk of body, there is a constant tendency to the production of large animals. The breed communicates its characters readily to all others, and the first progeny, even with races the most dissimilar, is usually fine. The females retain, in a considerable degree, the properties of the Holstein race, in yielding a large quantity of milk, in which respect they greatly excel the Long-horns, the Herefords and the Devons. In the property of yielding milk, however, the new breed is inferior to the older and less cultivated one, shewing that refinement in breeding, and the greater tendency to produce fat, are unfavorable to the secretion of milk. Individual cows, indeed, are found to retain the milking properties of the older race, but this is an exception to the common result. The oxen are eminently distinguished by the property of arriving at