

proof that generous milking properties are not incompatible with pedigree, I may here mention by the way that the two cows are producing respectively 18 and 16 quarts of milk daily. It may fairly be supposed that the same animals under more favourable circumstances (for instance, in the summer months) would give at least four quarts more each daily. At the present time (Dec. 20) they are both lying out in the open fields day and night, exposed to all weather."

The able and experienced writer of "Short-horn Intelligence" in our contemporary's columns says, with reference to Mr. Blis's statement:—"This is good evidence of the hardihood and the dairy capabilities of the short-horn, but it is wasteful practice, to say nothing of the discomfort to the cows. Much of the food consumed by the cow, instead of becoming milk, or supplying the wear of flesh incident to milking, is wanted to keep up the heat rapidly passing out of the animal's body. We can speak from experience of high-bred short-horns as hardy and good dairy stock, second to none for the grazier, the butcher, and the consumer of beef; but we always housed at night in winter. Yearling heifers we have seen do very well out of doors throughout a severe winter, without even a hovel as night shelter, but those under

our own management had, nevertheless, always a shed to cover them; and our milking cows, turned out each day to pasture and water, were always taken in-doors as soon as they gathered at the gate. In the depth of winter, when the ground was covered with snow, they would pick about in the hedge side (old fashioned Lancashire earth-and-thorn fences, one side always showing a bit of green), and they would drink at the well or streamlet (the herdsman breaking, if necessary, the ice) better than at the trough in the yard, while the few hours' exercise in the open air stimulated the circulation of the blood and caused a healthier action of the vital organs."

These remarks convey exactly the same lesson we have often endeavoured to impress upon our readers, namely, that the exposure of in-calf cows and of store cattle out of doors, without shelter, during the winter half year, is a wasteful practice, and this is so obviously the case that it is strange it should be persisted in. A non-improving, retrogressive system of management never can be profitable, and science tells us why it leads to much unnecessary waste of flesh, which must afterwards be replaced at considerable cost.

"Farmers' Gazette," Dublin.

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