

The Cheshire, or Jefferson County Pig.

This breed, which is confined principally to the State of New York, and one or two of the Western States, originated, it is believed, in Jefferson county, N.Y. (whence one of its names), from an importation of pigs from Cheshire, England. Although there is no authentic record of what these imported pigs were, it is tolerably certain that they were good specimens of the Yorkshire pig of that date, and the Cheshire pigs of the present day were produced from this stock by careful selection, aided by one or two outcrosses with white pigs purchased in Canada.

Mr. J. H. Sanders (of the *Breeder's Gazette*), who bred these pigs for a number of years, is of the opinion that they are simply an offshoot from the Yorkshires. He regarded them as among the very best of white hogs, and succeeded in fixing a type upon his pigs very similar to the Berkshire. Mr. Sanders states that he particularly noticed that the white color was so firmly fixed that he never knew one of his boars to get a pig with a black hair on it, although they were coupled with sows of all breeds, including pure-bred Essex; he also states that blue spots would appear at times in the skin, sometimes disappearing for one or two generations, and then reappearing stronger than ever. The following description of these pigs is taken from Coburn's "Swine Husbandry":

"They are pure white, with a very thin skin of pink color, with little hair; are not uniform in this respect, as pigs in the same litter differ widely in the amount of hair; the snout is often long, but very slender and fine; the jowls are plump, and the ears erect, fine, and thin; the shoulders are fine and the hams full; the flesh of these hogs is fine-grained, and they are commended on account of the extra amount of mess pork they produce in proportion to the amount of offal; the tails of the pig frequently drop off when young."

Another breed of white pigs that is found to some extent throughout the Eastern and Middle States of the Union is what is known as

THE SMALL YORKSHIRE.

These pigs are very similar to the English Small Whites and Suffolks, but a number of those we have seen exhibited at fairs in the Northern States are somewhat larger than the general run of Suffolks, and look to us as though they had a strain of the English Middle White breed in them.

They do not appear to have pushed their way very much, being confined principally to one or two localities. The following scale of points for Small Yorkshires is taken from an American work on swine, and is, we presume, the standard used by the American Small Yorkshire Club:

Head—

Smaller the better.....	2
Nose—Shorter the better.....	5
Dish—Greater the better.....	3
Width between ears—Greater the better	3
Ears—Small, thin, erect; more so the better... ..	2
(May be pricked forward, not lopped)	—15

Trunk—

Top line—Straighter the better from shoulder to tail.....	5
Belly line—The more level the better..	5
Girth in excess of length—More the better if not more than 10 per cent....	5
Depth—Greater the better.....	5
Width—Greater and evenner the better from shoulder to ham.....	5
Loin—Broader the better.....	5
Flank—Deeper and fuller the better....	5
	—35

Hams—

Length—Longer the better.....	10
Breadth—Broader the better.....	10
Thickness.....	5
	—25

Shoulders—

Length—Longer the better.....	3
Breadth—Broader the better.....	2
	—5

Legs—

Shorter the better.....	3
Straighter the better.....	2
	—5

Skin—

Smooth, flexible, finer the better. Must not be too thin, ridgy, or coarse, nor show discolored spots from old sores; not pale and ashy, but healthy in color and free from eruption.....	5
	—5

Hair—

Evenner, finer and thicker the better....	5
	—5

General appearance—

Symmetry and evidence of vigorous health.....	5
	—5