

cows, however, bear a much higher price than is within the means of many persons : and, besides, her yield of milk is not so copious in measure (though rich in quality) as that of cows of other breeds. As, however, many, into whose hands this work may find its way, will have facilities for keeping this beautiful animal, we can hardly, perhaps, take a better course than to hear the evidence of a distinguished Jersey cow-keeper on the points and successful treatment of this excellent little breed of cows, since so much of the matter which applies to this cow will be found valuable in the selection and management of all others. The conclusion, then, of Colonel Le Couteur, of Belle Vue, in the Island of Jersey (*Jour. R. A. S.*, vol. v., p. 43) is, that "the breed of cattle, familiarly known throughout Britain as the Alderney, and correctly termed in the article Cattle, of the 'Library of Useful Knowledge,' 'the crumpled horned,' was, it is conceived, originally Norman, as cows very similar to them in form and colour are to be seen in various parts of Normandy, and Brittany, also; but the difference in their milking and creaming qualities is really astonishing, the Jersey cow producing nearly double the quantity of butter." This increased value of the breed, however, has been the result of long and careful attention to the selection of the animals possessing the best qualities.

"Ten years," adds the Colonel, "have elapsed since the attempt was first made by fixed rules to improve the form and quality of the Jersey cow. A few gentlemen, presided over by the then Lieutenant-Governor, Major-General Thornton, selected two beautiful cows, with the best qualities, as models. One of these was held to be perfect in her barrel and fore-quarters; the other equally so in her hind-quarters. From these two the following points were laid down to be the rule of governing the judges in all the cattle-shows of the Jersey Agricultural Society. The accuracy of this arrangement is proved by the fact that no deviation from it has been made, the experience of ten years having only added to the scale the points for general appearance and condition.

Scale of Points for Cows and Heifers.

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| I.—Breed, on male and female sides, reputed for producing rich and yellow butter..... | 4 |
| II.—Head small, fine, and tapering; eye full and lively. Muzzle fine and encircled with white; horns polished and a little crumpled, tipped with black; ears small, of an orange colour within..... | 8 |
| III.—Back straight from the withers to the setting of the tail; chest deep and nearly of a line with the belly..... | 4 |

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| IV.—Hide thin, moveable, but not too loose, well covered with fine soft hair, of good colour..... | 2 |
| V.—Barrel hooped and deep, well ribbed home, having but little space between the ribs and hips; tail fine, hanging 2 inches below the hock..... | 4 |
| VI.—Fore legs straight and fine, thighs full and long, close together when viewed from behind; hind legs short, and bones rather fine; hoof small; hind legs not to cross in walking... | 2 |
| VII.—Udder full, well up behind; teats large and squarely placed, being wide apart; milk veins large and swelling..... | 4 |
| VIII.—Growth..... | 1 |
| IX.—General appearance..... | 1 |

Perfection for cows..... 39

"The Jersey cow is a singularly docile and gentle animal. In those bred on the heights of St. Ouen, St. Brelade, and St. Mary, there is a hardness and a sound constitution that enable them to meet even a Scotch winter without injury; those bred in the low grounds and rich pastures are of a larger carcass, but are more delicate in constitution. Of the ancient race it was stated; perhaps with truth, that it had no tendency to fatten; indeed some cows of the old breed were so ungainly, high-boned, and ragged in form, Megs Merrilies of cows, that no attempt to fatten them might succeed—the great quantities of milk and cream which they produced probably absorbing all their fattening properties. Yet careful attention to crossing has greatly remedied this defect. By having studied the habits of a good cow with a little more tendency to fatten than others, and crossing her with a fleshy well-conditioned bull of a race that was also known to produce quality of butter, the next generation has proved of a rounder form, with a tendency to make fat, without having lost the butyraceous nature. Some of these improved animals have fattened so rapidly while being stall-fed, from the month of December to March, as to suffer in parturition, when both cow and calf have been lost; to prevent which it is indispensable to lower the condition of the cow, or to bleed, in good time. Such animals will fatten rapidly. Their beef is excellent; the only defect being in the colour of the fat, which is sometimes too yellow. It is now a fair question, whether the improved breed may not fatten as rapidly as any breed known?

"The grand desideratum," continues Col. Le Couteur, "is to discover a breed that will be useful to the grazier, the dairyman, and the small farmer. In so small a spot as Jersey, it is difficult to cross the breed essentially—a great step towards it is gained