

than if they were taken from the ewes and carried to a new place. The truth is, that our English breeding flocks are so well fed that when the time of separation arrives, half the lambs will be found to have already weaned themselves.

**Swedes.**—"Cooked rutabagas with a little meal or bran will make admirable pork." So says "Herds and Flock. Try it, if you want a piece of salt pork of five pounds weight to lose two pounds in the boiling. The same food that makes good mutton and beef will make the worst possible pork: witness distillery fed beef, and hogs fattened off the same food.

**Early fattening.**—Mr. Clement Stephenson, one of the most persistent winners of gold medals for the best beast in all the classes at the Smithfield Club show in London, expresses himself on the subject of the great change that has lately taken place in the class of bullocks required by butchers in England in the following words:

**FAT, MEAT, EARLY MATURITY.**  
—Fat on animals intended for the butcher is produced by the breeder and feeder at a great loss. The consumer does not want it and the butcher can not afford to pay for it. The Pall Mall Gazette reports an interview with Mr. Clement Stephenson, a leading veterinary surgeon and stock exhibitor; that gentleman in answer to the query: "To whom is this change due?" said:

"To all the three classes combined. What the consumer desires the butcher must obtain, and what the butcher demands the breeder and feeder must produce. Therefore, as the consumer and butcher found that these very fat animals went largely to waste, and the feeder found them most costly to mature, the consensus of feeling has led to the abandonment of the old state of things."

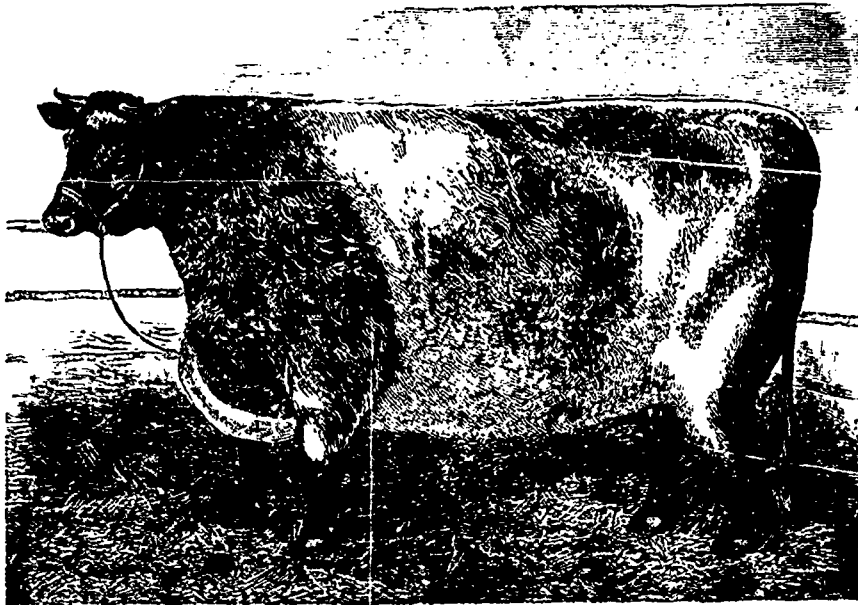
"What has been the effect on the breeder and feeder of this change? Is it more profitable to him?"

"The change has brought about the seeking after early maturity, which has resulted in better meat to the consumer in a butcher's animal, with less waste, and in more profit to the farmer or feeder. Previous to ten years ago, the only animals fit for the Christmas shows were four to four and a half years old, and how they could be fed to a profit I can not tell. Now the animals are under three years old—many of them only two. All my champion prizes, with the exception of that won by Young Bellona last year, have been taken by two-year-old heifers. Of course the animals are small now as compared with ten years ago, but they are not cross-boned, or covered with lumps of fat, as was then the case. Early maturity is what we have been striving to obtain, and the animals should be ready to market from two to two and a half

years old. I do not believe in three-year-old animals. All cattle worth feeding for the butcher should be finished before they are three years old. Many shown of the latter age are scarcely saleable, as they are too fat, and there is too much waste. Consequently they neither pay the producer, the butcher, nor the consumer. No animal should be fed simply to feed the dripping tin."

"Now, from a feeder's point of view, can you state concisely what is the advantage of early maturity?"

"My experience is that almost every particle of food given to a yearling is profitable, in that it produces flesh. It is slightly less so with a two-year-old, and every year afterwards the food tends more to offal and waste tissues at an increasing ratio. Above all is the fact that a two-year-old beast is profitable to the producer, but I do not think a three-year-old is. The class instituted for steers under two years old has marked an era in this question, and pays best, as you can see at any show."



SMITHFIELD-PRIZE SHORT HORN HEIFER PRINCESS ROYAL 6TH.

"I suppose there are secrets in breeding and feeding show animals, are there not?"

"I know of none, save such as are common property. In breeding the secret of success is to use the best bull that can be procured. 'A good bull is half a herd,' and much of the goodness of a herd 'goes in at the mouth,' for good breeding without good feeding would be useless. A beast to make a good show animal must, in the first place, be as near perfection in form as possible. It must have

a sound constitution, a good appetite, be able to assimilate the food it consumes, and, when ready for showing, there must be a maximum of beef with a minimum of offal. Withal, it should be true to type and full of quality."

"Perhaps you will tell us your mode of feeding."

"The animal selected is taken at a year old, when the process begins. The food given must be varied, the same food never being given twice in succession. But the great point is regularity in feeding. During the whole process the hours selected must be rigidly adhered to. No more food must be supplied than is consumed, for leaving food lying about soon induces repletion and sickness. I know it is customary with some feeders to give condiments, but I have never done so, and do not believe in them. (1) But every beast has a lump of rock salt, which it can lick as it thinks well. Beyond this, I supplied no artificial foods whatever. Exercise is a most important factor in the production of fat stock. Without exercise general health can not be maintained, and it must be given systematically every day. An animal which has imperfect health can not fulfill the mission of being fatted, and it is a *sine qua non* that one which requires medicine in any form

(1) Neither do I.