

Prize Winning Short-Horns,
How Fed and Bred.

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This breed of cattle is better known, more numerous and widely disseminated than any other breed. It originated in the north eastern part of England, mainly Durham and Yorkshire, in the valley of river Tees, from which they have been known the world over, as Durhams, and in many localities, in an early day as Teeswater cattle.

As early as 1750 the cattle of that region had won a reputation for their large size and good milking qualities, but they were coarse boned and slow in maturing.

Some of the early improvers were as follows:

Robert and Charles Colling, were connected with the improvement of this breed from 1780-1820, and did more for their improvement, than any other breeder of their time. In 1796, Charles Colling selected and fattened for exhibition a steer that was transported over England, and part of Scotland, in a large wagon as a show. This was the animal known as the "Durham ox", and when six years old weighed 3024 pounds.

Soon after Robert Colling fed a beautiful thoroughbred heifer, and sent her for exhibition

thru many counties; she was known as the "white heifer that traveled."

Her live weight was 2300 pounds. The exhibition of these animals with their marvellous weight and symmetry, made the stock from that time the objects of wide observation and great demand. In 1837 Amor Cruickshank of north-eastern Scotland, laid the foundation for a herd of Short-Horns, the descendants of which are now generally known as "Cruickshanks," or "Scotch," and constitute perhaps at the present time, the most popular, and best selling type of the breed.

The Cruickshanks are noted for their beefy qualities, and may be said to be founded on a blend of such families or strains as the originator deemed most likely to contribute to a strictly profitable type of animal, regardless of any so called fashion or particular strain.

Of the several beef breeds of today, the "Short-Horn," ranks first.

The general quality of this breed was proven at the Columbian Exposition 1893, where they came in competition with the

other beef breeds. They won a majority of all prizes, over all other breeds combined!

In the ninety day dairy test which was carried on at the Exposition; the champion Short-Horn cow Nora, produced 3679.8 pounds of milk; while the champion Jersey cow Brown Bessie, produced 3634 pounds. The Guernsey cow Materna, produced 3548.8 pounds.

Again in tests 2-3 and 4, the three best Short-Horns, one in each class, including the two year old heifer, gave 5561 pounds, while the Jerseys of the same description, gave 5330 pounds; showing, in favor of the Short-Horns 531 pounds.

The test of the Columbian Dairy School, proved that for a large supply of milk of the best flavor, Short-Horns led the other two breeds, and were excellent dairy cows in every sense of the term.

If milk of a good quality and lots of it is wanted, the Short-Horn cows can supply it.

Bell 2nd. a prize winner, produced 8449 pounds of milk, from April 12th. to November 26th.

Judged by the standard of value, the

Short Horn is without a competitor. \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$20,000 have been no unusual prices, and as high as \$40,600 has been paid for a single animal, and at the present time, there is a rapid increase in demand for such animals; They were never so popular as to day, and are more sought after than ever before.

As to the number of Short Horn cattle in comparison with the other beef breeds, the following statistics show.

These statistics are taken from various herd books of the United States and Canada, and includes all registrations up to January 1, 1900.

Galloways, ----- 16,365

Angus, ----- 37,059

Herefords, ----- 105,091

Total of these breeds 158,515

Short-Horns, ----- 495,851

These figures show that the Short Horns are almost three to one, as compared with the above breeds. Certainly it shows conclusively the favor in which they are held by the general public.

The report of the American Fat Stock Show, for the last thirteen years, shows us the average daily gain of all the pure bred Short-Horns, as compared with the daily gains made by Herefords.

The average daily gain of the three year old Short-Horns, was 1.59 pounds; of the Herefords, 1.50 pounds. The daily gain of all the two year old Short-Horns, was 1.81 pounds. Of the Herefords 1.65 pounds.

Of all yearling Short-Horns, 2.14 pounds. of Herefords, 1.96 pounds. The average weight of the three year old Short-Horns, was 2115 pounds; Herefords 1903; the average weight of the two year old Short-Horns was 1765 pounds; Herefords 1642 pounds; the average weight of the yearling Short-Horns, was 1389 pounds; Herefords 1338 pounds.

Nichols, a roan Kentucky bred Short-Horn, when exhibited as a three year old, weighed 2060 pounds, and having to his credit, 1.54 pounds of gain for each day of his life, won the grand sweepstakes prize over every thing at the American Fat Stock Show,

in 1879. The following year he did the same, weighing 2465 pounds.

The National Live Stock Journal, said "He is, in our opinion a perfect model of his kind, and we very much doubt if his superior was ever seen on either side of the ocean."

An Illinois non-pedigreed Short Horn steer, made on grass and corn, without oil meal or ground feed of any kind, and never housed a day of his life, except while at the show; was winner of the grand sweepstakes prize, over all at the American Fat Stock Show in 1881, and again in 1882.

This was Mr. Mullen, when exhibited in 1881 his age was 1237 days, and weighed 2095, or a growth of 1.61 pounds per day from birth. In 1882 he weighed 2565 an increase of 470 pounds during the last year.

The Sweepstakes, winner at the American Fat Stock Show in 1882, in the class three year olds of all breeds, in a field of forty three entries, was a grade Short Horn steer reared in Marcial County Iowa. His name was Tom Brown.

This steer was 1174 days old, and weighed 1945 pounds, or 1.65 pounds for each day of his life. In its report the awarding committee referred to the steer as a "model of a butcher's bullock," and added: "The small head, his short nicely tapering neck, fineness of bone, and shortness of legs with well proportioned quarters, give promise of a large percentage of meat of superior quality to gross weight, than any other steer in the ring." The length and depth of loin were unusual, and the quarters were thickly meated down to the hock joints.

Another animal which deserves mentioning is "Cleveland," then but sixteen months old, this steer was adjudged on foot, the best yearling Short-Horn; the best Short-Horn of any age, and the best yearling of any breed or grade, at American Fat-Stock Show at Chicago 1885.

When shown his weight was 1205 pounds, and his age was 497 days. His gain per day from birth was 2.6 pounds. His dressed weight was 849 pounds or 70.4 per cent of gross weight.

Throughout the show he was much admired; more so than any other animal on the floor.

The Datto Short-Horn Steer "Clarence Kirklington,"

deserves mentioning. He was a champion at the Fat Stock Show when a yearling in 1882, when a two year old in 1883, and when a three year old, in 1884. On the latter both alive and on the block.

George Bothwell of Nettleton Missouri, is one of ~~an~~ our great prize winning short Horn breeders. He has been connected with this breed for the past twenty years.

His herd is headed by the two great Crunkshank bulls, "Nonpareil Victor 132573," "Grand Victor 115782," and the great Bates Bull, "Winsome Duke 11th. 121622." "Nonpareil of Cloverblossom 153672," was Champion Junior bull of 1900 and of 1901. This animal was owned and bred by George Bothwell, Nettleton Missouri.

Feed fed by Bothwell when fixing his animals for the showing.

As to the roughness, he feeds equal amounts of corn fodder, hay and cane. During the summer his cattle run on blue grass pasture.

In time of drouth he feeds green cane. And as to grain, he feeds a mixture of the following. Ground oats $\frac{1}{4}$, bran $\frac{1}{4}$, ground wheat $\frac{1}{4}$, ground corn $\frac{1}{4}$ by weight, and from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 pounds

of oil meal. The amount which he feeds an animal, depends upon the age. He feeds his calves about a quart to a feed; and from yearlings on up, he feeds from one to two gallons per feed.

J. C. Hall, of Hallsville Missouri, is another one of our Prize Winning Short Horn breeders.

When fixing his animals for show or sale; he feeds his cattle all the clover hay and corn fodder they will eat; he also feeds in addition a few pounds of timothy.

As to the grain, he feeds $\frac{1}{4}$ bran, $\frac{1}{4}$ oats, and $\frac{1}{2}$ corn and cob meal.

Mr. Hall has handled this breed for the past eighteen years. He keeps nothing but registered stock.

The different types, or strains of this breed, as the Cruikshank and Bates, have been developed by in-and-in breeding.

The term in-and-in breeding, properly indicates the breeding to gather animals that are closely related for a number of successive generations.

In-and-in breeding has two objects:

First, more speedily to secure desirable characters in animals, and second, the more quickly to secure uniformity and permanence in the transmission of these.

In formation of breeds, in-and-in breeding has been found a necessity, as in no other way can desirable qualities be unified, speedily and rendered permanent, and in no other way can undesirable variations be quickly eliminated.

In-and-in breeding cannot be carried on indefinitely. If it is carried to far, it becomes injurious; there is a decrease in size of the animals, and a tendency to lose their reproductive power.

In-and-in breeding should not be adopted by those who do not understand it thoroughly, or who may practice it in a haphazard way. Breeders of prize winning animals, select pure bred animals, which reach as near their ideal type as possible for them to secure. Then by careful breeding and selecting, saving just the very best for breeding purposes, and by careful feeding the ideal type is reached; and the breeder has what we call prize winning animals;