

THE GALLOWAY CATTLE.

*Roger B. Miller.*

KANSAS BREEDERS OF GALLOWAY CATTLE.

Blackshire Bros.-----Elmdale.  
Bartlett D.-----St. Marys.  
Darrow J.A.-----Heber.  
Goodrich J.S.-----Goodrich.  
Kellam Geo. M.-----Richland.  
Matson O.E.-----Furley.  
McCandless W.Guy-----Cottonwood Falls.  
Platt M.R. -----Kansas City  
Smith W.A.-----Walker.  
Thrall E.W.-----Eureka.  
Wear Jas. -----Barnard.  
Wiggans Van.B.-----Lyle.



Are a hardy hornless breed of Beef Cattle which take their names from the province of Galloway, which now comprises the stewarty of Kirk and bright and the shire of Wigton but formerly included the shires of Ayrshire, Lawark, Reufen and Dumfries. The province now includes a strip of land about ninety miles long. It is a county which has high up lands richly covered with good pastures, and the valleys are very fertile, while the hills are densely covered with woods, Numerous small lakes and rivers are found along which are found rich moor lands. The climate while mild is damp and at times cold.

#### Origin.

##### 1st Theory of-

Youdtt in his work on the cattle of G.B. says "There appears to be the remnants of two distinct breeds of native or aboriginal cattle. The first are middle horned while the second are polled. The Galloways, Augers, Suffolk and Norfolk breeds came from these polled cattle, while the Devon, Hereford, Sussex, and Highland Breeds came from the horned cattle.

##### 2nd Theory.

The most plausible theory as to the origin of the Galloway Breed is that they were brought into Scotland, from Scythia through Europe and Ireland by the Scots who originally lived in Scythia.

Heroditus, the historian, who wrote about B.C. 400 says, "In Scythia the oxen have no horns" and it is probable that the Galloways there came from the old Scythian breed of polled cattle. The believers of this latter theory account for the appearance of wild polled cattle in England by saying that in the comparative roving and uncertain life of the earlier settlers of Scotland led, their cattle would sometimes get lost in the forests, and as there was plenty of feed they thrived and thus started the wild



#2.

breed. The difference in environment causing the different breeds to spring up.

Early History.

Breeding and grazing cattle was from time immemorial the chief work of the farmer in Galloway. A history of Scotland in speaking of that country in the time of Alexander III. (1249) says, "Black cattle was reared in great numbers during the Saxon period", and that Galloway was more fruitful in cattle than corn". "Cheese was made in great abundance and the animals were all consumed in the land, only the hides being exported" later as the supply exceeded the demand they were driven in herds southward to England. Hector Breece in 1570 says of the Galloway, "In this country many cattle and oxen are raised, the flesh of which is delicious and tender. In 1688 a large trade with England sprang up and large numbers of cattle were taken to that country. Before the land was fenced it was the practice to drive them slowly along and finally finish them in some large market town but later it was necessary to drive only at night while traffic along the roads was suspended and upon the introduction of trains this practice was entirely suspended. In the markets they were greatly preferred to the large cattle because of the excellence of the meat. A Galloway steer would bring as much as a Lincolnshire ox of double its weight.

When England and Scotland were united this trade assumed large proportions. It was the object of the breeder to secure a uniform lot and three years was the age at which they were deemed the best. If a two year old showed extra well it was shipped.

No individuals were saved because of excellence. This tended to bring up the herd as a whole but led to no



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Calves were never killed. Spraying was much practiced. Heifers selling at two years old because of fine meat. Very early they were noted for the fine flesh.

Robert Browning says:-

"The Galloways sell higher in the Smithfield market per stone than any other breed. Owing to the fat being laid on the most valuable parts which seems to be a quality of the highest excellence when the value of feeding cattle is to be ascertained.

The hides are not as thick as Long Horns or as thin as Short Horns, but their beef is well marbled or mixed with fat, therefore in point of quality much superior to the other breeds.

This is not inconsistent with the fact that horned cattle of other breeds have been bred simultaneously in the same districts.

An unmistakable proof of the antiquity and purity of the breed is found in the absence of scurs in pure Galloways and in this great power they have to remove horns when crossed with other breeds.

Treatment to which they have been subjected, and the cold, damp climate in which they were originally raised, have contributed much to their proverbial rugginess.

The long wavy coat which protects them is probably owing to the dampness of the climate and to the high altitude.

No breed can claim to the title of Pure Bred as well as the Galloway. There is no mixture of breeds. All improvements have come from within by careful selection.

There is no breed that can more truly be said to be indigenous to the country and incapable of improvement by any foreign cross.



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Yonatt, says:-

"Shorthorns have almost everywhere improved the cattle of the districts to which they have travelled but even the first cross with shorthorns have done little good in Galloways and as a permanent mixture the choicest southern bulks have manifestly failed.

#### Cross with Angus

First cross is usually a very superior animal, and in many cases feeds better and matures quicker than either of its parents. But they require to be kept for the butcher only, as almost invariably the next cross is no good.

#### Cross with Hereford and Shorthorn.

Is much the same as with the Angus. The first cross is a superior beef animal but the second cross is of no value.

Some say that Galloways were originally horned but old breeders as James Lrierson of Cargton; Thos. Biggof of Chapelton; John Cunningham of Whitecairn; Lat Peter Kerr, senior of Bellymach; Alexander Halliday of Culcagarie, say that no pure Galloway ever had horns.

As early as 1249, Black cattle of Scotland were recorded in History and in 1566 they were famed for the numbers that were raised in Galloway. 1570 they were noted for quantity of flesh and its quality.

The Galloways are premently a beef producing breed. Their flesh is mottled or marbled, fat and lean intermixed, and it is this quality which gave them their early fame and for which they were bred to supply London and England markets.

While for many years the black has been the predominant color. It is not the only one. Black is the color which has been bred for



#5. many years. It being thought that the blacks were harder and stood the winters better. It is a very rare sight to see any other color but there are pure breeds of red, black and white or a dun. This point comes out clearly in crossing with other established breeds. And the Galloway is not a pure black. The claws when first dropped should be a dark mahogany brown. The under coat should always have this brown tinge which is more clearly seen when shedding the ahir. A very deep black being found frequently in half breeds. Many families have white on the udder and under line. Off color is the sign of lack of purity.

Galloways are no plebian race, recent probagated experiemtn with their merits untested but a breed well and favorably known.

The first importation was made in America in 1853 to Canada and in 1875 to U.S. The Galloway had made name and place for himself as a superior beef producer in all sections where known and in public tests at Kansas City, New Orleans, St. Louis, and at the various Chicago fat-stock shows, his beef being five grained, firm fat, juicy and marbled evenly, the fat with the lean, sustaining and proving the reputation brought with them from Great Britian. We have more than one testimony that there is no other breed worth more per pound weight than the first class Galloways". and that they are the best butchers, best both in regard to quality of beef and proportion of offal.

And eminent butcher says, " The quality of beef is superior to any I ever killed and the offal more profitable. As to early maturity I killed several heifers of fifteen months that cost me \$105.00 each."

No class of cattle make such heavy weights with so little bone and with lean meat cuts so thick and fine in grain that both butther and consumer are well pleased.



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A farmer of McLean County, Illinois, sold a car load of half blood Galloways steers which sold fo \$.20 more per 100 lbs. than any other cattle sold that week.

There is no more beautiful sight on the farm than a row of these black animals feeding at a rack or drinking from a trough with their shaggy polls snugly together.

They are a hardy, hearty, happy, handsome lot with compact deep symmetrical body and with a beautiful picturesque head, short and wide; a large prominent eye, a dainty short ear pointing forward and fringed with long hair. His coat is a luxuriant one of long bright wavy hair over lying a black mossy undergrowth of fine, soft, shorthair which resists the wet and cold. This long coat is shed during the summer and thus he does not suffer from the heat as do the larger thicker skinned breeds. This thick hair also protects him from the flees as has been demonstrated in the south many times.

A new industry or rather one which has just lately been considered is the robes of fur and other fur articles of wear which have been made from this fine coat, this is one of the extras which add much to the feeders profits.

The Galloway cow is a good mother requiring no nurses for her young, but produces enough milk for her young, and but little more so that there is no loss in rapid beef production in heifers by a tendency to produce milk.

The milk has been found to be rich in butter fat, making butter of fine grain and rich in color and quality.

Another point of interest is that in the west they have a record of by far the largest per cent of saved calves. Not more than two



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out of a hundred being lost, this is a result of the early training in the Highlands of Scotland, and this fact is making the Galloway more popular every year. These calves are also always strong enough to stand and suckle immediately after being dropped.

That the Galloways produce the best beef is demonstrated by the fact that a Galloway was the first to reach the \$7,00,00 mark in Chicago in 1900 and that twelve Galloway two year old steers, killed in Chicago for the prize of the Journal Stockmen Union yards contest, arranged, dressed 64 67/100 and 140 lbs. tallow. This was a record breaking event at that time. The Herefords in this contest dressed 63 64/100 and took second, while the Shorthorns dressed 64, but were given third place because of poor beef.

At Kansas City, market, Drovers Telegram, December 12th:-

" Mr. H.H. Humphrey of Leeds Kansas deserves the distinction of the day. His were cattle which he raised and fed and they brought \$6.00 for yearlings and \$6.80 for two years." The cattle weighted 1,447 lbs and all were Galloways. This is the highest price paid for beef cattle in Kansas City since 1883. And the highest paid in December since 1881.

A bunch of Galloways took the prize in Denver in 1900 at the National Live Stock Association meeting.

Now comes the problem of all breeders and feeders and over which the wuestion of breed still wages battle. Which breed will produce the best beef for the least money. The question is not in most cases, which breed produces the best looking animals in the feed lot or pasture nor yet which will look the fattest at a stock show nor which will gain the most in a day but which will produce the best beef for the least outlay of cash. All other



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thoughts are thrown to the wind when this one is mentioned and an animals pedigree may run back to the cattle of Jacob and still not stand the least shade of a chance against one which which will produce the most beef the cheapest. This is the supreme test and where this test has been made, the Galloways have taken the prize. It is this reason that the Galloways are not more before the public They stand but little chance against the breeds which have been produced for the show ring but when the beef test came, the other breeds advocates say the same for the Galloway-ie that their breeds stand no chance against the Galloways which have been bred for the beef.

At the Southfield Club of London England Show, a new department was taken and the prize offered for the best beef carcass. In the sweeps stakes ring the Galloways were unanimously turned down and but scarcely looked at but when the same animals were killed and dressed the Galloways captured four of the five prizes.

Now if it true that the Galloway can be kept the year round at the least expense (and the American Galloway Association have a standing challenge for this point) and if is true that he makes the best marbled beef at the least cost (and experiments have repeatedly proven this fact) then it does not require an expert to tell the stock growers which is the most profitable breed.

The wonderful prepotancy of the Galloway breed is a very great point in their favor but at the same time a serious difficulty.

Many persons think that every black mule is a Galloway, but this is far from the case. A very small fraction of pure Galloway blood will produce a polled black animal which may be at least 3/4ths Texas ranger and perhaps more, and this has ever been a point which



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has lead breeders to think the Galloways no good. This fact that he is able to stamp his color and polled qualities so easily has led to a very easy counterfeit.

The demand for Galloway bulls for the Western Ranches is so large that many Grade bulls have been sent as pure bred and a good price was received for them, then when the breeder found the animal was no good he raised a howl that the Galloway cattle were no good instead of investigating on the quiet and punishing the real offender. At present there is a large demand for bulls in Texas, New Mexico and Arizona and the prospect of a successful breeder is very fine.

Literature on the Galloways cattle is very hard to find, and with the exception of the Herd Books there have been published only a few pamphlets for circulation.

For information on the Galloway cattle I wrote nearly all prominent breeders of the Middle States but received only two answers. One from Mr. Thrall of Eureka Kansas--President of American Galloway Association. The other from R.W. Park, Secretary of the same association.

Mr. Thrall says:- "Practically all that I have seen of value on the subject of the History of the cattle is contained in the Herd Book articles contributed by The Rev. Mr. Gillespie, Editor of the Scotch Herd Book and by Col. Daird McCrae of Guelph Canada who is the oldest breeder of the cattle in America.

I have been breeding Galloways for twenty years and have found them more prepotent than other breeds, in stamping their characteristics on their off-spring from other breeds. The Jersey Holstein and Short horns types are bloted out and the off-spring from the Dams of the other breeds. When a good Galloway Bull



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In the Hereford cross only the white face remains. The shape and color of the balance of the body being distinctly Galloway. As to which at present is the best Galloway bull in America it would be impossible to say. The winner of the Inter-National in 1900 has not competed against the winner of the American Royale in 1901 nor has the winner of the Inter-National in 1901 a clear field either as he was beaten at the American Royale in October, 1901 by Muscosis and must Moscosis was not shown at the Inter-National, six weeks later.

Mr. W.R. Park sent me a pamphlet containing the History of the Galloway cattle which can be found in the Herd Book. Of the twelve other breeders to which I wrote unanswered. It is perhaps to this seeming coldness of the breeders that the Galloway cattle are less popular in Kansas.

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