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NELSON-STUMP JERSEY HERD

Having traveled over 7,000 miles and having spent fifty-three days in transit, the herd of Island Jerseys being imported by Messrs. Nelson and Stump arrived at Independence with Ross Nelson in charge, Wednesday, June 8, not weary and emaciated with their long trip but looking as fresh and well conditioned as if they had only come in from across the river from summer pasture.

To get a first look at a real Island importation we journeyed down into Independence, and through the kindness of these gentlemen the Agriculturist is able to give some data respecting their long journey. The herd was picked and selected by W. R. Spann of Texas, the noted Jersey authority, judge and importer. Mr. Spann was chosen to judge the bull show in the Island while over there, a high compliment paid by the Jersey Islanders to the Yankee brethren.

Mr. Spann had carte blanche orders in his selections and journeyed all over the Island, which is not large, to be sure, but contains more full blooded animals to the square mile than any other place in the world. And in his travels he visited practically all the large breeders there. Mr. Spann had also the advantage of having attended all the semi-annual shows, and

as a consequence it is no doubt that when he finally assembled the herd, consisting of twenty-two heifers and two bulls, he had the pick of the two-year-old stuff on the Island of Jersey.

In the herd are animals from such noted breeders as J. P. Romeril and J. W. Mallett, while a goodly number are from St. Hellars and St. Peters, the heaviest exporting centers on the Island.

Thus it follows and it can truthfully be said that after they were once gotten together the gentlemen responsible for the enterprise felt very well satisfied with the results and secure in the belief that theirs were a herd not surpassed by any that have ever been taken from the little Island kingdom.

To give some idea of the magnitude and the difficulties of such an undertaking, we will follow the herd from the time it left the island:

First, the official of the American Jersey Cattle Club stationed there affixed around the horns a chain and lock with a number. This number was also burned into the hoof, a record of this number was made and the key to the lock kept on the island. From St. Hellars they were transported across to St. George's channel to Southampton and thence by rail to Liverpool. Here they were taken aboard the Layland liner, the S. S. Iberian, and shipped to Boston, being twenty-four days en voyage. They landed at Boston, April 27, and went immediately into quarantine at Littleton, some thirty-four miles from Boston. Here they were retained for the regulation thirty days, and here Ross Nelson received them and started on the long journey across the continent for the Pacific coast.

A glance at the route traversed gives some idea of the travel entailed by such a journey.

At Littleton they were shipped over the Boston & Maine to Fitchburg, Massachusetts, then over the Delaware & Hudson to Binghamton, N. Y., then followed the Lackawanna to Buffalo, the Nickel Plate to Chicago, through to which place they were put in the record time of seven hours; here they were picked up by the C. M. & St. P. and taken to Omaha and were then respectively handled by the Union Pacific to Portland, and finally by the South-Cific, Oregon Short Line, O. R. & N. ern Pacific to Independence, where they arrived Wednesday, June 8, 1910.

The condition of the herd spoke volumes for the handling they received in transit. For in looking them over one could scarcely believe but that they had been browsing in this particular pasture since they were born. However, they had just completed a journey of over 7000 miles and been on the road nearly sixty days.

One is at once struck with one very noticeable feature, and that is, the extraordinary uniformity of the herd. One is lead to believe that they must have belonged to one man, yet such is not the case. This feature seems to indicate that there is a general demand, and a universal idea of type over there which is followed more generally than it is here. At the same time if type is a hobby there, as it is here, there is evidence in this herd that the prime purpose is not overlooked, and that is milk production, for it is the general sentiment of all who have been favored with an inspection of the entire herd that they are unmistakably strong on all those points considered essential for heavy records at the pail. These two features strike the observer at a glance and give the herd an originality of appearance which is, to say the least, striking.

All the helpers are with calf with the exception of two, which dropped their calves on the road. One which dropped at Boston died, and in a sense this was not unfortunate.

Mr. Spann, while on his tour through the island, noted what claims was the finest type of a Jersey cow he had ever seen. He was later able to secure one of her calves. When the first calf died in quarantine, Mr. Spann assured Mr. Nelson that in view of the friendly feeling which had prevailed among all parties during the time they had worked together he wished to make him a present and so gave him this calf of his, which was his own favorite. Mr. Nelson appreciated this very highly and says that it is an indication of the high qualities of this gentleman as he found him. The other calf was born at Carlton, Oregon. These two are

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