

not consider it necessary to secure pure-bred mares, of course it will be all the better if such can be got, but the price of good pure-breds is beyond the means of the ordinary breeder. Having secured the dams for our prospective stock, the next point is to select a sire. Unfortunately there are many owners of stallions who think it is the duty of their friends to patronize them. This is altogether a mistake. The breeding of horses, is a business matter, and must be considered purely from a business standpoint in order to make it a success, and the man who breeds his mare to an unsuitable stallion, simply because he is owned by a friend, not only is doing himself an injustice, but his friend an injury. The result will, with very few exceptions, be the production of a nondescript, and as a stallion's value in a community is determined largely by the quality of his stock, the production of a colt of this kind will injure his reputation to a much greater extent than can be compensated by the stud fee received. A breeder must carefully study his mare in regard to conformation, temper and general peculiarities, and remembering the law that "like begets like," select a sire that should be suitable. If the mare be deficient in some particular point select a stallion that is well-developed in that point; if she have hyper-development of any point see, if possible, that the sire is rather deficient there; if she be of hypochondriac disposition, select a phlegmatic sire, and vice versa. In all cases be careful to ascertain that both parents are not affected with any disease the predisposition to which will probably be transmitted to the progeny. Diseases or malformations that can be traced directly to injuries, of course, are not transmissible. Undesirable traits of disposition, as viciousness, stubbornness, etc., are as much to be avoided in breeding animals as disease. The classes of horses that at the present time are in demand at fair prices are: Heavy draft, carriage, saddle horses and hunters, and good, strong, clever roadsters. Other classes that cannot be produced by any special line of breeding are good chunks of 1,300 to 1,400 lbs. and cobs with extreme action.

In selecting stallions to sire any of these classes out of the mares at our disposal we should insist upon both individuality and pedigree. The time when pedigree alone was considered is fortunately past. A horse with a good pedigree, but poor individuality a poor or inferior animal of his class, is, of course, not a suitable animal for sire. Get both if we can, but I would sooner sacrifice pedigree than individuality. In mentioning the classes of horses that the farmer can produce I have purposely omitted race horses. I do not consider it is the province of the ordinary farmer to try to produce horses to race at any gait. The percentage of horses produced that are

fast enough to win money at any gait on the race track is very low, and if a farmer of ordinary means should produce one it will cost him a great deal to develop his speed. My observation has been that the farmer who has attempted this has generally ruined himself financially unless he has sense enough to see how things were going and given it up before he has spent his all in trying to produce a world beater. Therefore, I say, leave the production of race horses in the hands of the millionaire, and endeavor to produce an animal that has a fair value at four or five years old without much development or handling. Let the dealer educate the horse for the city market. Of course this applies to the lighter classes of horses that require a considerable amount of education to fetch the fancy prices occasionally paid. If the farmer has time and experience in such matters it will probably pay him to put the finished article on the market; but as a rule it pays him to sell the young horse in the green state to the dealer for a reasonable price and let him take the trouble and chances of giving him manners and action and selling him for a fancy price, provided, of course, he develops into a superior animal. The light classes of horses, as carriage horses, cobs, saddlers and hunters require good manners and willingness and ability to perform cleverly the functions peculiar to the class before they can be put upon the market as a finished product. The education of such horses is, we may say, a business by itself, and the farmer who attempts it, even though he may be very capable and competent, must of necessity neglect his general farm operations, therefore we contend that he should, as a rule, sell his horses partially green. Of course it pays to have the horse tolerably handy in harness or saddle in order to be able to show the prospective purchaser that he is capable of developing, with proper handling, into a good specimen of his class. It is a mistake to let a colt remain entirely unhandled until four or five years old and then offer him for sale in that condition. The average dealer will not buy a perfectly green one, as it is generally a hard and dangerous task to handle a big four or five year-old colt that has never been accustomed to restraint of any kind, and a horse that will drive in single or double harness, or carry a man on his back, what we might call a partially educated fellow, is worth a great deal more money than the same animal perfectly green. Draft horses, weighing from 1,400 to 1,700 lbs., are produced by breeding good mares of this class to a sire of any of the recognized breeds of draft horses, but especially to the Clydesdale or Shire. Percherons and Suffolk Punches have not proved profitable sires in this country, but the two former classes have proved very successful, and they are so much alike it is not necessary to go minutely into the

distinguishing characteristics. The Clydesdale is probably the most popular and certainly the most plentiful, but it is rather hard to say why it is so. Many claim that the draft colt can be reared with much less risk and with less liability to accident and disease than the lighter classes. This can probably be explained from the fact that the colt of this breeding is naturally a quieter and more settled animal than those of lighter breeds and hotter blood, and consequently less liable to injure himself from exuberance of spirit while in the pasture field or paddock. And then again, small hunches, or blemishes, are not considered of as much consequence, nor can they be as easily seen, especially on the limbs, on account of the amount of coarse hair, on a heavy colt as on a light animal. If we decide to breed heavy horses we should decide what particular breed we will produce, and then stick to that breed. If disappointed in the first production, do not get discouraged and try another breed; probably it would be well to try another sire of the same breed, as there may be some reason why the first sire did not nick well with our mare; but stick to the original selection of breeds, and if we use ordinary intelligence success is bound to attend us.

In the selection of a sire for any class of horses it is well, if possible, to drive around in the section in which he has stood in previous years and view his stock. It is sometimes the case that a stallion whose appearance and pedigree lead us to the conclusion that he should be a good sire is disappointing, and on the other hand an animal apparently not so good will prove valuable in the stud. In viewing the product of a stallion we must, of course, note carefully the mares out of which the colts have been produced.

(To be continued.)

Mendicant—Oh, sir, you don't know what it is to want bread?

Mr. Vounghusband—I don't, hey? I'd have you understand that my wife has been attending the cooking school, and I've lived for six weeks on angel's food, prune whip, charlotte russe and Spanish cream. I not only want bread, but I want doughnuts and apple pie.

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This is a baby. It is a girl baby. How choppy its chin is! How red its eyes! What horrid contortions it makes with its face! See how savagely it kicks! How like a demon it yells! Yet in a few short years some man will be half-crazed with wild suspense, worshipping the very air this being breathes, devoutly kneeling at her feet, and frantically begging for one word, one pressure of the hand, even a look which will give him hope.—
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