

Recently a society with a stud book was formed to keep the breed in as pure a state as possible, which is most essential in all breeds. Lately a lighter animal has been in great demand, and a society with a stud book has been formed, namely, the Yorkshire Coach Horse Society, for horses with a large infusion of thoroughbred blood in them, which give them still more quality, the cross always being in the dam, great care being taken in the class of thoroughbred stallions used, so that the true type of the Coach horse may still be retained.

The English Coach and Cleveland Bay are the only fashionable coach horses in the world. They are sought after by all the crown heads, nobility and gentry of Europe, for state purposes.

For many years I have always found in my experience that stallions with a large amount of thoroughbred blood in them, but still retaining the type, color and size of the Coach horse, should be in height from 16 to 16.2 hands, and weighing between 1,350 and 1,400 pounds, with plenty of knee action. It is invariably horses of this stamp that come to the front in the show yard, and are the best getters in a country like this, where the majority of mares are very cold blooded.

To make the breeding of Coach horses a success, farmers should always study the kind of mares they have and mate them to suit, but never breed rough mares with draught blood in them to Coach stallions, expecting to get Coach horses suitable for the demands of the market. But mate light mares to good, strong blooded Coach stallions and it will always be a success. The time has gone long ago for the large overgrown Coach horse, as many think it should be; yet, it is almost impossible to sell a Coach stallion to some men in Canada and the Western States, unless he is a great overgrown brute from 16.3 to 17 hands high, and weighing from 1,500 to 1,600 lbs. If such horses were geldings in England they would be of no value whatever as horses for luxury, but would be used as drudges with their commoner bred brethren. Stallions of this kind are not in demand anywhere but in Canada and the Western States, and those that are taken of the right kind are very often mated to a rough class of mares. To hear the complaints of the New York dealers, that it is impossible to find horses to suit the market, one would think, seeing the amount of Coach stallions that go into that country, it could not be so, but it is. Stubborn prejudice seems to have such a hold of the farmers that they seem to think they know the wants of the man better than he does himself, and when they find they cannot sell they clamour for protection, so that they may be able to force such stock on the market.

I assure the farmers of Canada if they breed right, although there were fifty per cent. of duty into the States, it would not injure the market for good horses if they were suitable; it is not the price as much as the quality. And always bear in mind, whether it be Coach, riding or driving horses, or Hunters, to study the markets, and there will always be success.

There is one important point breeders should always consider—the quality and soundness of the sire; that is a matter that is very often overlooked in this country. I can say with safety that there is 75 per cent. of horses raised here professionally unsound, although they may be practically sound. The cause is not far

to seek. There are so many bred from unsound mares that are of no value for any other thing, and supposed to be good enough for this purpose. It would be better for the owner and for the country if such were destroyed.

It should be borne in mind that the better class of horses that are shipped to Great Britain and the larger cities of the states have nearly all to pass a veterinary examination at some time as to soundness, and all who have passed through the ordeal know how harassing a thing it is to have them condemned after they are sold.

There has been formed in South Dumfries and Paris district a breeding society to give a substantial guarantee of mares, with liberal terms, to engage two stallions, a Clydesdale and a Coach, the very best that can be found, for the use of the members. No doubt by forming societies of this kind farmers will get educated how to mate their mares and go on in one line of breeding.

If it is for draught purposes breed them as large and wide as possible with short legs.

For coaching horses, the great thing is a fine front with a grand broadside look, and plenty of knee action; although a horse be a little rough, if he has knee action it will always sell him. I assure the breeders of this country if they raise such stock they will find there will come here from Great Britain and France plenty of dealers and army contractors to buy their stock. There is something like eleven to twelve thousand horses imported into Great Britain every year, and more than that into France.

There is one important thing which ought to be taken into consideration by the exhibitors of this country, that is, the classing of different breeds and ages of horses. Many who are anxious to study and know the qualities of the different breeds are utterly at a loss with the present system.

#### W. C. Edwards & Co.

The above firm, who are among the largest mill owners of the Ottawa district, have lately gone quite extensively into fine stock operations. With a view to push this part of their business, they have equipped three large farms, all of which are conveniently situated for railway accommodation, being some thirty-five miles down the Ottawa River from the Capital city, the river also affording a convenient route while navigation is open. At each of these farms a different line of breeding is followed and a manager installed to whom all enquiring correspondence should be addressed. That nearest the office of the firm is Pine Grove Stock Farm, situated at Rockland post-office and station, the manager of which is Mr. Alex. Norrie, who is well posted in the requirements of Shorthorn breeding.

The barn on this farm is admirably laid out for high-class stock breeding, and is doubtless one of the best, if not the best, in use for cattle breeding in Ontario. The building measures 150x60 feet, and comprises stone basement, in one end of which are placed two silos in each corner, with large root cellars between, the next compartment being laid out with bins for ground grain, bran and cake for immediate use, while root pulper, water and other appliances are conveniently at hand for labor-saving and mixing feed.

The stable consists of rows of stalls running the remainder of the length of the building, with wide feed passage down the centre. Tied in these stalls are some three car loads of

high grade steers of extra quality, being fattened for the export trade. At each side a large, well-lighted row of box stalls are fitted up for the breeding herd. A stationary engine is used for grinding, chaff cutting, pulping, as well as threshing and cutting ensilage, the required shafting being conveniently placed for this work, and pumping water, the whole forming the most complete equipment we have yet seen.

At this farm the breeding of Shorthorns of a very high character is carried on, and the firm are to be complimented on the general appearance of their stock, as they are in the highest possible breeding condition. For a number of years specimens of a high order have been selected to place in this herd, when, in addition to these, two cows were purchased while the cattle were still in quarantine, from the importation made by Hon. John Dryden in 1887. Of these two, Sweet Rose, bred by Mr. E. Cruickshank, Lathenty, belongs to one of the Booth families for which this herd was at one time distinguished. This cow won first at the Provincial Exhibition held in Ottawa in 1887, and she has indeed turned out a most profitable investment to her present owner, as the four heifers she has produced for them attest. The first of these is Russell Rose, just turned three years old, by the Cruickshank Victoria bull Royal Victor, which takes well after her mother in show qualities and size. She is indeed a beautiful heifer, of the thick useful sort; full of the Shorthorn character that is now required. Bertha of Rockland, by Imp. Pioneer, of whom, as a sire, we will have more to say in future, is much the same type as her elder sister, and is also a worthy representative of her illustrious parent. Rose of Hope, just turned the year, and the calf now at her foot, are the other two from this particularly profitable cow. From the same importation was selected Twilight, also bred by Mr. E. Cruickshank. This cow belongs to a family bred by Mr. Longmore, of Retty, from which herd Mr. Cruickshank obtained some particularly good cattle at the time of its dispersion, and on which he bred the best Sittyton bulls obtainable in his uncle's herd. Although this cow has not the unexcelled producing record of her stable companion, still she has produced two heifers and a yearling. Starlight, by Pioneer, is a very neat and straight red, who appears exceedingly well, even in the very select company in which she is found. The calf at foot, which, although the unfashionable white, bids fair to equal her sister in form. Several other cows and heifers, bearing the impress of the most notable Cruickshank sires that have been used this side of the Atlantic, are to be found in this herd, their thick, natural flesh, early maturing and easy feeding qualities making them distinguishable as the proper type. Several of the old Syme sort, which have done so much to improve the cattle of this county in the earlier days of Shorthorns, and which, from their being so widely dispersed through the county, makes more reasonable in value, still must always be looked up to as those of the most useful type.

The stock bull Grandeur, now in use in the herd, was imported in his dam, which is of the justly celebrated Brawith Bud family, so popular at Sittyton. Grandeur's sire was Patriot, which was also included in Hon. John Dryden's importation of 1887. This bull has much to recommend him. He is one of the thick-fleshed early maturing sort, and is of large size. We shall be much surprised if he does not turn out an impressive sire.