

to end mightily, and disposes all things sweetly," to borrow scriptural eloquence.

The wonder of it all, too, is that the extremities are likely to put the centers to shame. We would that Canada, as a nation, could go at the systematic improvement of her herds as Japan appears to contemplate, from this official report; we would that those divisions of Maritime Canada could regulate stud bulls on the Japanese plan, and what a revolution for the better must not overtake our animal husbandry:

"In the Japanese Imperial Parliament a government bill is under consideration to provide for the better breeding of cattle by fixing a standard to which entire male cattle, described as stud bulls, must conform. In answer to a member, the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce stated that, in examining animals for stud purposes, the authorities intended to select bulls more than a year and a half old, exceeding four feet in height, and sound in health and temper. For dairy purposes, the breeding of Ayrshire stock would be encouraged.

"Answering another inquiry, the Vice-Minister stated that the Japanese cattle were inferior to the European or American in many respects. The average weight of Japanese cattle, added the Vice-Minister, was 70 to 80, while European or American cattle averaged from 100 to 125 standard. Japanese cattle were also inferior in pulling power, which would compare as 4 to 5 in respect of distance travelled, and as 100 to 150 in respect of load haul, against similar service by European or American animals. The hides of European cattle were over twice as large as those of Japanese, were stronger, and the price was three times higher. Japanese calves would value from Y20 to Y60, against Y40 to Y150 for European calves. Under the circumstances, the government intended to gradually replace Japanese cattle with European, and this tendency prevailed throughout the empire.

"The Vice-Minister stated, in reply to a further question, that at present the inspection of stud bulls was left to the local authorities, but it was proposed to appoint officials in the central government for the supervision of the inspection, in order to get uniformity. The appointment of such officials would cost the government Y20,000 a year. At present there were about 3,464 stud bulls and 60,000 cows in the empire."

A. E. BURKE.

## HORSES.

### THE WORKING MARE AND HER FOAL.

It is customary among farmers who use the working mares of the farm as brood mares, to work the animals up to within a week or two of foaling, and there are those who hold that it is no injury in this practice. But it should always be remembered that the mare at this time is not fit for heavy straining work, and she should not be called upon to draw heavy loads, or in fact to do any but the lightest kinds of work. After she has foaled the mare is usually put to work again within a very short time, because the season is a busy one with agriculturists, and they can ill afford to leave her idle as long as would be advantageous. While she lies idle at pasture and nurses her foal, both mother and foal are likely to do well, but when anything in the shape of work comes to disturb them the foal suffers a setback. It is necessary, therefore, that the work be light and of short duration, but it may be gradually increased. The foal suffers more or less, no matter how considerably we may treat the mare which has to work, because it is partially weaned and the mare does not yield as much milk as if she were idle. Occasionally we see farmers allowing the foal to run with the mare while she works, but the majority prefer to leave the foal at home. As to which is the better system depends upon the nature of the work, the temperament of the mare and foal, and the carefulness of the man in charge of them. When the foal runs with its mother it has an opportunity of sucking at intervals, and also of picking up food in the pasture, and it scarcely requires anything additional, but otherwise it would require to be fed occasional meals of crushed oats. These may be given in small quantities, say a pound or two at a time, about three times a day. Two or three pounds in the day would be quite sufficient for the largest foals and more than enough for some, but green fodder must also be fed. If the foal runs in a paddock or orchard it will pick up enough forage, and it will also enjoy the very great advantages of fresh air and exercise which it would not have if shut up in a house.

When two or more foals run together it is easier to keep them quiet and contented than if only one were kept, and they soon become accustomed to the absence

of their mothers in the daytime; they play and romp together, feed on the pasturage which comes within their reach, and rest when they feel so inclined. It is, however, advisable that the fence of the place where foals are kept apart from their mothers should be strong and safe, so that they may not injure themselves in attempting to break out. It may be even necessary to enclose them in a more secure place than a paddock for the first few days, until they grow accustomed to solitude, as they are particularly restive, especially if well bred, and are liable to leap before they look, with sometimes disastrous consequences. A large yard is sometimes used to keep the foal from its mother, but in this case there are three things that it is well to remember, namely: that shade from the sun must be provided; or, in other words, that the foal must have access to a house or shed or spreading tree; that suitable fodder must be supplied; and, finally, that the yard must be kept clear of anything hurtful that the animal would be likely to pick up, such as withered litter, dried stalks of vegetables or of clover, etc.

The best fodder to supply is something fresh and green, in the shape of clover, or any other newly-mown grass, but wet fodder or anything of too sappy a nature is to be avoided. All green forage should be supplied in small quantities, and in a suitable rack, so that it may not be soiled, trampled under foot or wasted. Foals are sometimes subject to bowel troubles, owing to the condition of the mother's milk when she works, and in this connection it is well to remember that the foal should not be allowed to drink from the mother when she is in a heated condition, since hot milk, especially when taken too much at a time, is apt to upset the stomach. The precaution to be taken is to work the mare slowly for the last hour or so before she is unhitched, and to let her return slowly from work to the place where the foal is kept. If there seems to be a large quantity of milk in the udder, some of it may be drawn off half an hour before the foal is allowed to suck, and this will have a cooling effect.

The diet of the mare when she has a foal at foot must be carefully considered, since it has a direct and very great influence on the health of the foal. If there are signs of purging in the foal no medicine is so effective as to put the mare on a dry diet, allowing her hay and oats only instead of the grass to which she has been accustomed; but if, on the contrary, there are evidences of constipation, a few days on pasture may have a more beneficial effect on the foal than medicine of any kind. The careful breeder will, however, see that constipations are avoided, by treating both mare and foal well and rationally, feeding them on wholesome foods and avoiding overwork.—(Live-stock Journal.)

### SPECIFIC FOR LYMPHANGITIS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Noticing so many are troubled with lymphangitis, I will give you a simple cure and preventive. At first symptoms of the trouble, give 4 oz. Buchu leaves divided into three equal doses, 12 hours apart. Steep each dose in a little water, and pour all over oats or

bran; they will eat it readily. This will cure the worst case in 36 hours; I have never known it to fail. I trust this may benefit someone. I have been helped by many such recipes in "The Farmer's Advocate." Essex Co., Ont. YOUNG FARMER.

### MEMOIRS OF CLYDESDALE BREEDERS.

Continuing the series of "Clydesdale Memories," by Mr. Thomas Dyke, published in the Journal of the Highland Society, an interesting selection from which appeared in our issue of May 16th, we quote this week the final chapter, devoted to the work of Messrs. Montgomery, of Netherhall and Banks, admittedly the most prominent of present-day breeders and exporters of this great breed of draft horses.

Though the Messrs. Andrew and William Montgomery, of Netherhall, are young in comparison with others who commenced their histories with the pioneer shows of the Highland & Agricultural Society, the senior member has been long enough at the business to have reached the veteran stage; and the firm, individually and as partners, have during the past forty years carried out more transactions, home and foreign, in Clydesdales than the aggregate of all Clydesdale dealing during the previous forty. Sons of the late Mr. Hugh Montgomery, of Banks, Kirkcudbright, they were bred and reared in a corner of East Galloway, to which the late Mr. Muir, of Lochfergus had transferred his Lanarkshire Upper Ward sympathies. Having leased Boreland farm, on the Balmaghie estate, Mr. Andrew Montgomery made his first start in the Clydesdale line with two stallions of more than passing merit, Farmer (288) and Pride of Galloway (601). Very early his knowledge of draft horses was recognized in the south as in the north, and in 1877 he officiated at the Bristol "Royal" in a mixed ring of Clydesdales and Shires, studbooks and special showyard classing having still to make their appearance. Differing with the other two judges—both southern men—as to the relative merits of the mares, he said he would allow them their way if their particular fancy would pass the veterinary surgeon. This was agreed to, and the result was that Mr. Drew's famous Mary Gray, by Topsman, which Mr. Montgomery championed, was placed at the top. Since that time Shire breeders have attached greater importance to the necessity of having horses without sidebones. In 1878, when our present Majesty King Edward VII. was Chief Live-Stock Commissioner at the Paris Exhibition, Mr. Montgomery acted as a judge of draft horses, no doubt holding out strongly for the seven select mares from Merryton, without which Britain would have been, so far as the draft-horse section is concerned, quite unrepresented.

A strict believer in the Darnley and Prince of Wales type of horses, Mr. Montgomery purchased his noted stallion Macgregor, sired by the former, from Mr. Craig, Flashwood, Dalry, Ayrshire, in



Baron's Pride (9122).

Brown; foaled May, 1890. Bred by R. & J. Findlay. Sire Sir Everard (5853), dam Forest Queen (7238), by Spruighill Darnley (2429), by Darnley (222).