

merciless tormentor, however, has no notion of relaxing speed, and flogs and spurs him to increased exertions till he is almost ready to fall down. There are no fences or obstacles in the way, and, by a skilful use of the whip always on one side of the head, the horse is gradually worked round till he faces towards home; and back he comes, after a couple of hours, jaded and blown, and scarcely able to stagger along, his head down to the ground and nostrils dilated, heaving flanks, and quivering in every muscle, up to the post, to be tied to it again, but not so close this time as before, and with a little grass thrown to him as if in mockery of his misery. Exhausted nature can stand it no longer, and in a few minutes he sinks upon the ground and stretches himself as if about to die, lying in that position sometimes as long as 24 hours without moving. When he is able to stand up the process is repeated, but with very much less spirit on the horse's part, and, after half a dozen lessons of this kind, his education is considered finished. Of course, in many instances the training has to be continued much longer; but very frequently horses that have not been backed half a dozen times are sold as 'broken in.' Such is the simple and rough training given to horses in a country where the riders are celebrated for their bold and daring fearlessness and the freedom and skill they acquire in the saddle.—*Exchange*.

CLEVELAND BAYS.

Geo. G. Brown, of Aurora, Ill., writes as follows to the *Breeders' Gazette*: "I am willing to endorse much of 'Close Observer's' article on Cleveland Bays in the *Gazette* of Aug. 27. On some points he is in error, however. A notable one is the location of the 'Cleveland District,' which lies not in the 'East,' but North Riding of Yorkshire, and is composed of the *Vale of Cleveland* and a few immediately surrounding parishes, and is well known as such throughout Yorkshire. I have driven all over it time and again and visited nearly every farm. There originated the justly celebrated breed of horses known the world over as Cleveland Bays, taking their name from this district and their rich bay color.

"Before making my first importation, in 1874, I thoroughly informed myself as to what a real Cleveland Bay should be by reading all available published accounts of them, and also by consulting with well-informed Englishmen from that locality.

"On landing in England I was recommended to an extensive 'Coach-horse' dealer in the 'East Riding' of Yorkshire. I spent considerable time and money in his company looking up a lot of little mongrel half-strained Hackney stallions near Hull and Goole. They stood from 15½ to 16 hands, with no indications of even good breeding. I finally told my guide in disgust that if no better horses could be found I would go home without buying, for I could find plenty better at home.

"I cut loose from him and went into North Yorkshire and there found what I wanted—pure Cleveland Bays, standing 16½ to 16¾ hands, weighing 1,400 to 1,500 lbs., stylish, symmetrical all over, and capable of ten miles per hour with perfect ease.

"My first purchase was the mare Maud and the grand young stallion Criterion. Maud is still in our possession, having bred regularly every year since, and whose colts can be seen at our farm, a credit to the breed. I showed Criterion at leading fairs in Illinois and Iowa, and took first premium every time, and at Illinois State Fair at Ottawa took *first* and *sweepstakes*. He proved an excellent sire, but was unfortunately killed at the commencement of his second season. Probably no other horse ever made more friends in so short a time as did he.

"At first I advertised my horses as 'English Coach,' but finding the prospect good for opening up a large trade I realized the necessity for starting right, and that to call them simple coach horses would open the field to all the mongrel bay horses in England that are entitled to the term. I therefore used their proper name in my subsequent advertising.

"The difference between the two cannot be more concisely given than to say Cleveland Bays are English Coach horses, but *all* English Coach horses are not Cleveland Bays.

"The name Coach horse in England has no more significance, so far as breeding is concerned, than the term draught horse has in America. Coach horse means simply a large, stylish horse, suitable for coach purposes. He may be pure Cleveland Bay, or a half blood, or he may be from a Cart mare, or a large Hackney mare by a thoroughbred or a Hackney sire. A great many stallions of the latter breeding have been brought to the United States and palmed off as pure Cleveland Bays.

"In 1874, and for a few succeeding years, it was not very difficult to procure first-class pure Cleveland Bays if the buyer was willing to pay the prices, and I secured a large number, among them Vanguard, Bay Splendor, Buckingham, Duke of York, Leversham, Leo, British Splendor; and many others of the same stamp, who have proved uniformly good and true breeders.

"For many years government agents and private buyers from France, Germany, Spain, Italy, and Austria have made large annual purchases of pure Cleveland Bay stallions for crossing on the native mares of their respective countries, and when the additional demand was made from the United States it soon had the effect of nearly depleting Yorkshire of its best parent stock, so that now one needs to be well posted to secure the good ones.

"If 'Close Observer' was misled, as I was on my first visit, and has been induced to make his purchases in the East Riding, near 'Hull and Goole,' his impressions and preferences are easily accounted for.

"I secured this year a fine lot of registered Cleveland Bays, but I left behind quite a number also registered, and took in their stead some with a strain of blood which renders them ineligible, because I preferred them to second-rate pure bred.

"I think the English Society will make a success of its stud book; but I also think they will yet see the necessity and propriety of adding a class for what may be termed improved Cleveland Bays having a recent dash of blood, for it is a fact that some of the best sires are now excluded under present rules, owing to a strain of blood; but the business needs close watching to prevent unscrupulous breeders from mixing Cart and Hackney blood. There are families of pure Cleveland Bays that would be greatly improved by infusion of blood, but there are others quite good enough without.

"I intend showing quite a string at Chicago and other fairs. Some of them are eligible to registry; others are not on account of the 'blood,' and it will take a very close observer to distinguish one from the other. I cordially invite 'C. O.' and other critics to examine and judge whether his description of pure Cleveland Bays is correct or not.

"'Close Observer's' assertion that 'English and French coach horses are the same' is correct only so far as it applies to the cross or mixed-bred coach horses of England. The pure Cleveland Bays and mixed blooded coach stallions taken to France have been crossed on the native mares to breed coach and harness horses, and no doubt the former have there, as in this country, produced much stock that strongly resembles the sires."

SOWING GRASS SEED ALONE.

Z. Mass in Country Gentleman.

Farmers as a rule do not give sufficient care or attention to their grass lands. The whole tendency of agriculture just now, and for the future is, and will be, to the cultivation of more grass and the establishment of permanent meadows. For several years past I have abandoned the seeding of grass and clover, or either alone, with grain crops; on two occasions I have sown turnips with summer sown grass with advantage, but I have always sown the seed in August. There are many reasons why this is better than spring sowing upon grain, and I think there are less risks in the summer seeding than in spring sowing. The most important advantage in summer sowing is that a year is saved, and that a stubble may be prepared in good season, and a good stand secured before winter. This is quite important, for the loss of use of the land for a year is a loss of money. Another advantage is, that there is time to fit the land in the best manner, and this proper fitting cannot be urged too strongly as an exceedingly important element in the case. My method for some years past has been as follows: As I have long considered our present four-course rotation entirely too short, too exhaustive of the soil, and as giving too little fodder for supporting sufficient stock to keep the land in requisite fertility, I take the oat stubble, or a wheat or rye stubble, or both, for grass seeding. The land is manured as soon as it is cleared, and the manure is ploughed under with narrow lap furrows, and not more than five inches deep. This is worked immediately with the Acme harrow (and I would here beg permission to say that for this work this implement is invaluable), the manure and soil being worked well together, and the land being smoothed and made quite mellow and fine, as well as firm. The surface is then well brushed with a brush harrow so as to obliterate every furrow or harrow mark. This is important, especially when grass is sown alone, as when orchard grass is used, a more even stand is secured. The seed is sown in two ways, one across the other, so as to get an even distribution, and a final brush harrowing completes the work. The result depends on the perfection of the work. The ploughing must be even, and the harrowing thorough and often repeated, to get the requisite fine tilth and firmness of the soil. It will not do to scatter the seed upon the surface and leave it uncovered, or to be covered in by the first shower. A sufficient depth of fine soil over the seed—at least half an inch—and a firm bed for the roots, are required for the successful germination of the seed. A final rolling is simply ruinous. It packs the soil, makes a crust, and causes the surface to dry out so that the young grass is destroyed. If the soil is rough, and a roller is to be used, it should be after the plough, or between the harrowings; but this is rarely needed if the stubble is ploughed as soon as the land is cleared. In a month after sowing, the field will be covered with a green sheet, and, as a rule, the grass will be high enough to be pastured with sheep in the fall. It is not advisable to turn anything heavier than sheep on the land. The next season a crop of hay may be taken, which will be as much as could be done had the seed been sown with grain, and with much greater chance of getting an even and strong stand.

If some shelter for the grass is thought necessary, I would choose turnips. Millet should never be used for summer seeding. It is an exacting crop, and would "foster" the grass to death, robbing it of all the soil has to give it. Turnips are not so exacting, and their broad leaves shade the grass, and preserve it from the hot sun in a dry fall. They fall down and cover it in the winter, and in the spring they decay, with the roots, and afford considerable fertilizing matter, which greatly