

the quagga. The paintings of the animals bred by Sir Gore Ouseley as also the skins, are to be seen at the museum of the College of Surgeons, in Lincoln's Inn Fields. On the same subject Mr. Darwin writes, in his "Origin of Species:" In Lord Morton's famous hybrid from a chestnut mare and a male quagga, the hybrid and the pure offspring subsequently produced from the mare by a black Arabian sire, were much more plainly barred across the legs than is even the pure quagga, he further corroborates what other writers assert on the subject by saying: "When a breed has been crossed only once by some other breed, the offspring occasionally shows a tendency to revert in character to the foreign breed for many generations—some say for a dozen or even a score of generations."

"Cecil," says on this subject: "It is curious to remark that when a thoroughbred mare has once had foals to common horses, no subsequent foals which she may have had by thoroughbred horses have ever evinced any pretensions to racing qualities."

Wm. Day says, as to the special conditions enumerated by Cecil: "I find that since his time, there has been a case in which a thoroughbred mare, after being covered by a half-bred horse, produced a winner. This was the case with the Duke of Beaufort's The Roe, when she bred Horseshoe and The Cob. But I never heard of another instance.

A medical man expresses the opinion that if the Sire be in all respects the stamp of animal the owner would most wish to produce in future, the mare should see as much of the horse as possible. His suggestion is that the eyes play a most important part in the reception of impressions, so that the first sexual impression produced in the mare should be a thoroughly good one, since she will always in after breeding retain the tendency to revert to it, in other words to throw back. There is, however, nothing new in this, and the practice of allowing the mare to see as much of the stallion as possible, is well known amongst breeders and farmers even here, and one which I have carried out on my own farm even to the extent of keeping a stallion constantly opposite the box of the mare which he had served; but my experience in this respect is that it would be quite absurd to suppose, that even in the case of a maiden mare, the keeping of her in the closest possible proximity to the stallion will result in anything like reproducing a perfect fac-simile in exterior conformation or anything approaching it. Two instances, which I give, amongst others seem to show, that one cannot rely upon anything much more than peculiarities of colour and markings being the subject of these impressions (1). In the case of a maiden half-bred mare and a thoroughbred stallion, the first foal reproduced the colour and markings of the horse, but no similarity of conformation, and the second foal had neither the marks nor the conformation. In the second instance the foal of a thoroughbred mare put to a thoroughbred stallion, the white markings of the stallion alone were reproduced, the conformation was wholly and entirely that of the mare. As a rule, the mare gives her colour to the foal, although now and again, thoroughbred stallions transmit their colour and markings to their progeny. But of course, except in the breeding of carriage horses, the transmission of colour, is a very unimportant consideration.

*Telegony* is not of itself a sufficient force, to overcome what has always been known as throwing back to distant ancestors. This uncertainty and the impossibility of controlling it in any manner will always be with breeders. The only possible antidote is to breed perseveringly from as nearly perfect a couple, with as many perfect immediate ancestors, as possible. The value of a pedigree does not consist in its length so much as in the excellence of the individuals more nearly related, and even in these instances, there will be occasional misfits, not only in conformation, and peculiarities of shape, but peculiarities and defects of action, such as straddling in forth, in trotting, speedy cutting, brushing, dish-ing, are unfortunately transmitted as easily, or am afraid I must admit it to be the case much more so than good action and conformation. We constantly see horses of excellent shape and perfect conformation everywhere, except in one point, which unfortunately takes away very much indeed from their value, and in the case of mares renders them quite unfit for brood mares, although very taking animals in every other respect.

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(1) The Charolais cattle are always kept in white-washed sheds, the fences are white, and the men who milk, etc. wear white clothes! All this to keep the beasts white. Ed.