

on the whole, roan is decidedly unpopular, and this in spite of the fact that most horsemen will tell you that horses of this color are good and tough ones. The unpopularity of the roan color is due to the fact that other colors—bay, brown and chestnut—are preferred, whilst by many it is considered to be unpleasing to the eye, or actually ugly.

Roan was a most characteristic and typical color of the old-time famous Norfolk roadsters and trotters and their Yorkshire and Lincolnshire relations, it being very prevalent among them. Some of the best sires of this old breed were colored roan, and through them the color was perpetuated and became established in the best strains or families of this race of horses. From the old-time Norfolk and Yorkshire roadsters and trotters the roan color was transmitted to their modern descendants, the Hackney breed. Roan, both red and blue, is decidedly a most typical Hackney color, and it is to be regretted that this old-fashioned and characteristic color should be gradually disappearing in the Hackney breed. When the Hackney studbook was established, in 1884, the roan color was much more frequently met with among Hackneys than is the case at the present time. Now, in fact, it is comparatively rare.

The real roan color is practically never met with nowadays in Thoroughbred stock, but some few Thoroughbreds have white hairs sparingly interspersed in their chestnut or bay coat. Whether such ought technically to be termed roans is a matter of personal opinion; at any rate, they do not look like roans, and unless one stands close to them the white hairs are not perceived, or at least not noticed. Lord Glasgow's Rapid Rhone, who won the Claret Stakes at Newmarket in 1864, was a roan, and the color oftentimes occurred at this period in Lord Glasgow's racing stud, it being met with in horses of the Physalis (1841) family.

Among cart horses the roan color is tending to disappear. It is, it need hardly be said, only of rare occurrence in the Shire breed. None the less, roan is a typical cart-horse color, and it sometimes occurs in cross-bred and unpedigreed cart horses and agricultural draft horses. In former times, and before the Shire breed had a studbook, roan was quite a common color among cart horses and farm horses. Some of the heavy-draft horses which we imported from Belgium are colored roan, this color being a prevalent one in the Belgian cart-horse breed.

It is of interest to note that roan is one of the principal colors of the French Postier breed of horses. This breed owes its origin, in a large measure, to Norfolk roadster and trotter stallions, which in former times were quite largely imported into France from this country for breeding purposes. Through them, doubtless, the roan color was introduced into the breed.—[H. F., in Live-stock Journal.]

How Nearly is Glanders Stamped Out?

The general public might enquire as above, and it would be hard to give a definite answer. We believe, however, that under the present sane, reasonable, and, withal, vigorous measures now adopted, the time of the eradication of this disease in Canada is within measurable distance. The time can be appreciably shortened, we believe, if the Government will only provide that each and every horse crossing the International Boundary from the south shall be stopped at the boundary twenty-four hours and be tested with mallein by an inspector of the Health of Animals Branch.

We know that the plea will be at once advanced that such a procedure will interfere with settlement—a plea that is of little moment, and should not be seriously considered. If a settler is coming in with a glandered animal or two, it is better for him to be delayed twenty-four or forty-eight hours and know the worst then, rather than go into a district to seed it with glanders, and lose all his horses, as well as spread this malignant trouble amongst his neighbors.

The various horse-breeders associations, Dominion and Provincial, we believe, should support the Government in any measures likely to improve things for the farmers and horse-breeders of Canada, and should demand the utmost protection against such a disease that can be devised. Get busy; post your M. P.'s on the matter; tell them they must attend to this important matter for you, and it will be done. On the prairies, glanders is being brought under control, more especially in Manitoba; in B. C. it is not as easily dealt with, politics being no different across the Rockies than on this side, and, lacking strong public sentiment in favor of the work, the veterinarian doing sanitary work has the task of a pleasant time, and requires but a few words of tact.—[The Farmer's Advocate, Vancouver, B. C.]

The Voice in the Education of Horses.

The horse has the sense of hearing very highly developed, as it would seem to me, and distinguishes sounds, and probably also the differences in sounds, from a very great distance, writes J. Baretto De Souza, in the Rider and Driver.

(The distance from which the horse can hear sounds differs, presumably, from one animal to another, as it does with man.)

Noise has a frightening effect on some horses, and simply an exciting effect on others, especially on the trained ones, who, being well-mannered, remain under control, whatever may be their feelings in the matter.

Music—considered as noise of a different quality—elates the generality of horses, who, when they are not trained, consequently not under control, often manifest their elation in an unruly way.

We often know or read of discharged cavalry horses who, on hearing the regimental bugle-call, spill their civilian riders, or otherwise liberate themselves from their new tasks, and rush to "file-up" by their erstwhile comrades, wherefrom we may presume that they also appreciate the tonal value of sounds.

It has been denied that horses differentiate the meaning of words, but that denial can be questioned when one reflects that in European cavalry regiments and European riding-schools, where class lessons are more usual than in this country, horses will start trotting or cantering, or stop short, whether the novice rider is agreeable or not, and will also execute certain "figures," such

The best trick-horse trainers I have met, some of whom I have seen at work training—G. Pierantoni, E. Guillaume, A. Loyal, old Chiarini, well known in some of the States of this Union, and others less capable—always spoke to their horses while training them, and even did so at times while performing, and I have been led to understand that the best of them all, Schumann, speaks to them, even when performing, to a still greater extent.

When, then, we see by all these different examples that horses are so easily influenced by sounds, and especially by the human voice, the question naturally arises as to the reason that speech should be so completely tabooed, as it is, at least in New York, from among the means which help in the good training of saddle horses.

Of course, people allege that it is "bad form to speak to your horses," but when it comes to such a serious thing as the training of a saddle horse, whereby human limbs and even human life can be either endangered or protected, the condition of "form," alias "fashion," ought, reasonably, to be overlooked.

While I was in Italy and in France I used to speak to my horses as a matter of course, imparted to me by my different teachers, and while I lived in other countries, where I rode merely for my own pleasure, I never bothered to study the question in detail—for which I am sorry—but I now feel that I owe it to my scholars (all of whom I teach to train their own horses) as well as to myself, to go into the subject more deeply.

And as it is a point which may become, if properly studied, of very great value in horse-

training, I would be thankful to know the experience of other horsemen on the subject, as the combined observations of many might lead, in time, to the formulation of rules for an "aide," which has so far not been as generally employed as I think it deserves, and, at that, only empirically, and probably without "esprit de suite" in the minds even of those who accustom using it the most.

Although Jas. Ellis was not oversweet toward his horses, he recognizes in his book on "Riding and Training" that horses like to be petted, spoken to and made much of, more than they like sugar or other sweets, and that more is to be obtained from them by that means than by feeding them delicacies.

My personal experience concurs with his, especially in this country, where horses, as a rule, are the most gentle and most tractable I have come in contact with anywhere, with the exception of the Crakhenes, who are still kinder, and probably the most intelligent horses in the world, undoubtedly because they are handled daily from their birth, and hear constantly the human voice.

It is a sign that a colt needs bran and linseed meal if his coat is harsh and staring. Keep him healthy and growing from now until spring and he will repay the extra care as a three-year-old.

The style of team a man drives, and his manner of hitching them up, has a lot to do with his credit at the store or bank. Ill-mated teams and broken harness are enough to discredit any man in a banker's estimation.

The extra growth that is put on the colt this winter means extra scale at maturity; and weight counts every time when combined with quality.



Vigorous [6152] (12776).

Three-year-old Clydesdale stallion. Imported and owned by T. H. Hassard, Millbrook, Ont. Winner of first prize in his class at Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, 1906. Sire Up-to-Time (10475), by Baron's Pride.

as "voltes," "demi-voltes," "changes," at the instructor's word of command.

It is known that the click of the tongue and shouts, or "shouty" voicing, will excite a horse to greater speed, or higher action, as the case may be; that words of encouragement or approval uttered in a coaxing voice will have a soothing effect on them; and that the exclamation "Ho!" uttered in a comparatively loud and authoritative tone of voice will induce horses to stop.

In Italy and in the south of France, where people are more musical, they use their voices more freely than do people higher north, and especially more than Anglo-Saxons, even for ordinary purposes. The majority of saddle-horse trainers speak to their horses during the period of their education with, as it seems to me, highly appreciable results.

In the south of France, carts and wagons are—or rather were, because now they probably use automobiles—dragged by a string of animals hitched one behind the other, and it was remarkable, even for persons accustomed to these daily sights, to witness twelve or fourteen huge Percherons turn to right or to left in the footpaths of the one in front of each, at the word of command of the cartman, who, on foot, oftener than not barely walking by the side of the vehicle or behind it, thus led his team without the least difficulty.