

big, and there were as many of them there, 20 years ago, as there are now.

The truth of the matter is that while all extremes should be avoided, if there has to be an excess of size, it is better, for several reasons, that the female should be larger than the male.

Like begets like, or the likeness of some ancestor, but as it is quite impossible to suit exactly every kind of mare, individually, the best that can be done, is to reduce them into as few similar classes as possible, and provide stallions for each class. Now the Haras has, at present, nothing but Percherons and Normans, neither sires would suit the fifty per cent of small mares in the Province.

It is quite impossible to breed size and quality all at once. If general improvement of shape and action, without very much attempt at much increase in size should be sought for only, in the first cross, at the same time, increased size, to a certain extent, will almost always be obtained even in the first cross.

Increasing the size of a pony breed of horses, without losing the hardiness, superior activity and strength in proportion to size, peculiar to pony breeds, has long been thought of as a great desideratum in England, but it has never been much attempted by putting large sires to pony mares, and whenever so attempted it has failed.

The Haras National absolutely requires for the successful carrying out of its scheme, one of a great national benefit, if properly carried out, a reasonable number, of smaller stallions for mating with the small mares, such as small thoroughbred ponies, if they can be got reasonably enough. They are now very dear in England, Barbs, Arabs or Hackneys, under fifteen hands. Even then, there will remain the absolute necessity for some repressive legislation, as the intuitive perception of the breeders, to which M. Turenne refers, and without which he truly says, they cannot do much, will indeed prove a broken reed to rely upon.

C. F. BOUTHILLIER.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

Tushingham House, Waterville, P. Q.  
March 15th 1892.

A. R. JENNER FUST ESQ.

Dear Sir,—Having been in England for 3 months this winter, I had a lot of reading to do on my return in the shape of agricultural papers in order to keep up with the times. Looking over the November No. of the Journal I notice a paragraph headed "The Pro. Ex. of 1891," in which you refer to my fire, and that none of my herd competed. You were right in one sense with regard to my herd not competing, but the cattle that Mr. Smith exhibited were raised by me and sold to him the year previous, as I did not see the good of fitting up a herd to compete against a neighbour and, practically, against my own cattle. The bull you refer to as the best you had seen for years was young Tushingham 2nd, that I took 14 first prizes with in Ontario and Quebec, and was by my old bull "Tushingham". What I am writing to you for is to say that I am still in the business, in spite of the fire, and have 16 head, and if you hear of any one who wants males or females of the Hereford breed, please refer him to me.

Yours very truly WALTER M. VERNON.

DEAR JENNER FUST,

I send you the English of a translation by M. H. Nagant, in the French edition of *Journal d'agriculture* for March.

"The London Live-Stock Journal" lately published an engraving, which we reproduce herewith, of the pure-bred Arab

stallion "Speed of Thought," belonging to Capt. W. A. Kerr, and bred by the Gomassa tribe of the Anezah.

"He was a dark, rich chestnut without white, save a star. One of his eyes had been knocked out by the point of a lance in a *razza*. (1) Height 14.3, girth 72 inches, measured 8½ inches below the knee, and stood on perfectly shaped feet, tough as the nether millstone. He was possessed of superlative quality from head to heel, of great muscular development; sinews clean and hard as pin-wire, and stood fair and square on the best of limbs and joints. High couraged, as proved when he beat the famous horse Long Trump by a short head after a desperate race; full of what the Americans term 'vim'; a strong vigorous galloper, his bold, free and jaunty walk, quite up to five miles an hour, being the theme of general admiration. Across country, though somewhat headstrong, he was as clever as a cat, and would face anything, no matter how big, how yawning, and on parade bore himself bravely as became his ancestry. Great depth through the heart, strong shoulders, a muscular neck with marked breadth in front of the withers and immediately behind the ears, denoting long-staying and weight-carrying power."

N. B.—*Alezan brûlé* is the French for dark chestnut. Such names for colours, as blond, *brun castor*, &c., are known only to French Canadians.

*Vim*, not *vis*, is the term used by Americans. Of course it is incorrect, as far as latin goes, it is the horsy expression in use among them. B.

#### Extraordinary Potatoes.

A priest, a great lover of agriculture, has brought us a sample of potatoes, of its own growing, the sets of which cost him \$4.00 a bushel. These potatoes are excellent in every respect. We have had some of them cooked and can testify that they are of the finest quality. Their shape is perfect. In fact this new variety, which will be designated in future as *Syndicate No. 1*, may be considered from all points of view as a most valuable acquisition.

This variety yielded 400 bushels an *arpent*, on two arpents planted, and without any unusual cost of cultivation. We are convinced that in a good potato-year, this yield may be increased by taking every possible care.

In order to increase the diffusion of this excellent variety, we have made the necessary arrangements for its distribution at a dollar a bushel, sack included, delivered at Quebec. Our correspondent will address them properly, and put them on the cars or steam-boats going to Quebec, without additional charge. Orders may be addressed to us, *with the price by post-office—or registered letter*, and we will take up in ourselves to see to their despatch.

Orders will be executed as soon as navigation opens; but we advise those of our readers who wish to try this new variety to give their orders as soon as possible, since the quantity for sale is not large. First come, first served.

(From the French). ED. A. BARNARD.

#### Choice seed for sale.

We request our correspondents who have choice seed for sale—of any description—to have the kindness to send us samples; and to give us all necessary explanations about them, in order that we may give our readers due notice of where they are to be obtained.

(From the French). ED. A. BARNARD.

#### Tree dealers and their methods.

The methods adopted by dealers in nursery stock are not so conducive to the spread of the science of horticulture as

(1) Hence our word for a foray: "Raid."