

so others are equally noted for being deficient in those necessary qualifications.

In the history of the thoroughbred will be found families famous for possessing speed only for a short distance, and such a feature in a sire is generally transmitted to his offspring. Again, it is equally well known that other branches of the thoroughbreds are famous for their sticking qualities, and in the language of horsemen, "No road is too long for them."

Innumerable illustrations could be presented of particular families that are remarkable for good or bad points, for fine formed or big, coarse heads; for high and well developed, or for low and weak withers; for strong, flat, and well boned, or for spindly weak and ill-formed limbs, particularly in the case of the horse certain shaped limbs are notoriously liable to certain diseases. Thus it is that bone spavins are much oftener met with where there is a disproportion in the size of the limb above and below the hock. Strains of the tendons of the fore-leg where the limb is round and the tendons and ligaments unduly confined at the knee; and navicular disease where the chest is narrow and the toes turned out.

The common disease known as bone spavin is inherent or dependent upon pre-disposition, for you rarely find a horse to be subject to this malady unless he has faulty hocks. The same remarks also apply to ring-bone. Either the pasterns are too light thereby causing too much jar and concussion, or they slant unnaturally and the consequence is a strain of the ligaments, ending often in ringbone and other bony diseases.

"Professor, Dunn, of the Edinburgh Veterinary College, tells us that diarrhoea and colic are to a certain extent hereditary, "inasmuch as they are very prone to attack horses of particular form and constitution, as those with narrow loins, large flat sides, and of what is generally termed a washy appearance. If such animals be overworked (especially soon after being fed, if their food be suddenly changed, or if they be allowed an unusual quantity of fluid, they are almost certain to be attacked either by purging or colic. The tendency to these diseases appears in such cases to depend on a want of adjustment among the different organs of the body, a want of balance among the different functions of digestion, circulation and respiration."

Many farm horses, as well as others without much breeding, are remarkable for consuming large quantities of food, for soft and flabby muscular systems, and for round limbs, containing an unusual proportion of cellular tissue. These characters are notoriously hereditary, of which indubitable evidence is afforded by their existence in many different individuals of the same stock, and when long continued, even under the best management and most efficient systems of breeding. Such characters indicate proclivity to certain diseases, as swelled legs, weed and grease. If horses of this description stand long, the circulation of the blood through the limbs is retarded; for as the contraction of the muscles which materially aid circulation are