

Breeder and Grazier.

Size and Weight of Horses for Breeding.

It is always advisable to select horses for breeding that are a little above the average size, for it has been observed that the offspring are frequently smaller than the parents. This is the case especially: 1, when the young colts receive poor care and insufficient food and protection during the first two winters; 2, in years in which the food has been spoiled or made scarce by unfavorable conditions, such as a very wet season, a long-lasting drought or an extremely cold winter; 3, when the growth of the young animal is retarded by disease. Further, when common native horses have been improved by an importation of blood, that is—by a use of thoroughbred or blooded stallions,—we find almost always comparatively more small and fine animals than large and robust ones. Besides all this, the demand for large and heavy horses, that are also good in other respects, is constantly increasing, and is always much greater than for small animals. Therefore a breeder will generally do well, and will find to his own account to select as horses for breeding (both mares and stallions) none that are of inferior size and weight,—provided, of course, the climate, the physical condition of the country, and the quality of the soil do not only permit, but are tending to promote symmetrical development of a leg and heavy animal.

Where heavy horses, that are also otherwise well qualified in every respect cannot be had, except at a great expense, smaller animals have to be chosen; but the breeder has to endeavor to increase gradually the size of his animals by bestowing upon his broodmares and upon his colts the very best care by feeding them liberally, especially with oats, and by giving them ample protection against the inclemencies of the weather. By doing this, he will succeed in raising considerably the average weight and strength of his horses without sacrificing any other good quality already possessed, which latter is so often the case where size and weight are the exclusive aim of the breeders. It is true this method is a slow one; it will take several generations to make the difference in size very conspicuous; but it has the advantage of requiring only a comparatively small capital to begin with.

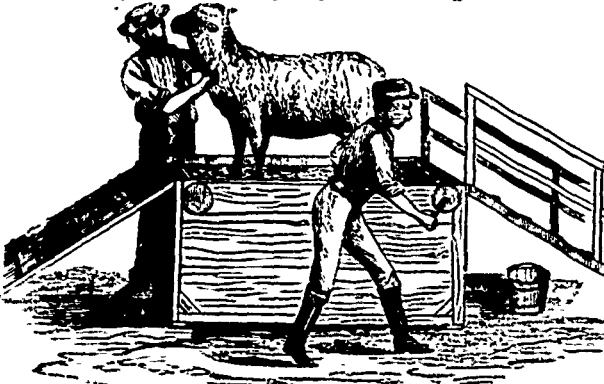
The thoroughbred horse excels above all other breeds by the great elasticity, firmness and compactness of its fibres, by its noble form of body, by the perfect development of its organs of circulation and respiration, and by a very small size of all minor and comparatively unimportant parts. The common horse possesses much less elasticity, firmness and compactness of fibre, has a less elegant and pleasing form of body, and less developed organs of circulation and respiration, but is generally heavier, and to a certain extent makes up in size and weight what it is lacking in intrinsic power and activity; is therefore better qualified for slow and heavy draught, while the thoroughbred is much better fitted for speed and for travelling over long distances. Hence, where the superior qualities of both of the thoroughbred and of the common horse are harmoniously united in one and the same animal,—where, in other words, blood and size or intrinsic power and weight are combined,—we have a horse that may be called excellent, and will answer every reasonable demand. To effect such a harmonious union must be one of the principal objects of the breeder. It is best accomplished by selecting, first, a large and heavy common mare with good mechanical proportions to be served by as large and half-bred a horse with good mechanical proportions, as can be found, and by matching the offspring, if a mare, with a thoroughbred horse. That favorable results cannot be obtained without proper care, liberal feeding and sufficient shelter does not need any explanation. —*Veterinary Cor. Chicago Tribune.*

Braining Horses.

A man who will habitually take a horse through a narrow door knows very little of what a horse remembers, or what is fair treatment to the animal. One single blow of the hip against the sharp corner of a doorway is sometimes sufficient to ruin a valuable horse. But when that blow has been several times repeated, the horse becomes valueless, because he has become a highly dangerous animal. We have seen a horse whose hips were never healed after striking two or three times in passing through a narrow way. Another dangerous practice is the leading of horses out of the barn door, by the sides of loads of hay, grain, etc. A slight blow upon the hip will sometimes so excite a high spirited horse that the person leading loses control over him, and he escapes upon the jump, hanging his shoulders and hips as he proceeds, leaving patches of skin and hair as evidence that he has got through. Many a valuable horse has been ruined in this way, and many a valuable one can be saved by never leading him through a narrow space. —*New England Farmer.*

Dipping Sheep.

There is given on this page an engraving of a tank and appliances for dipping sheep. This is an operation that ought to be performed at this season on every flock, both sheep and lambs. Vermin which infest sheep greatly increase during the winter. Often



TANK FOR DIPPING SHEEP.

cutaneous disorders, as scab, have largely spread throughout the flock. All these have an injurious if not destructive effect on the sheep and their fleeces. Dipping in various solutions, destroys the vermin and cures skin diseases. The improved condition of the sheep's health acts on the growth of the wool, which becomes heavier and of more even staple. The tank shown in the engraving is a water-tight box just large enough to hold the sheep. There is a false bottom, perforated with a number of holes and suspended by cords, on which the sheep is represented as standing. The cords are wound on the rollers seen at the ends of the tanks. One of the rollers has a crank on one end, and each of them has a grooved wheel or pulley around which a cord is passed. When one roller is turned by the crank the other is also turned, and the sheep is gradually lowered into the dipping liquid in the tank. The sheep is led up the gangway quietly on to the movable bottom, there is no plunging or splashing, and when the dipping has been given, the floor is raised and the sheep's fleece is squeezed free from all superfluous dip, which drains away through the holes into the tank again. The sheep is allowed to depart by way of the sloping platform as quietly as it was brought up. As the dip is used up, the tank should be replenished from a barrel near by. The lambs should be dipped after the sheep are shorn, as then all the vermin will have gathered on to them and may be destroyed with ease. —*American Agriculturist.*

Some time ago there died a large number of horses in Nordheim, Germany, from inflammation of the intestines, the true cause at first not being known. At last it was assigned to the hay, in which, upon close examination, an immense number of microscopic animals were found. —They belong to the genus *ascaris farinaria*, to which genus the mites living on dry fruit and in cheese also belong. In times of horse diseases it might, therefore, be proper to microscopically examine hay and straw, since even the best fodder, if stored in a damp place, is very likely to be invested with those and other parasites. —*Ec.*

SHORT-HORN INTELLIGENCE.

Mr. Cochrane's Sale of the Duchesses.

From *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, we have the following particulars of Mr. Cochrane's recent sale to Lord Dunmore of 10 Short-horns for \$32,500:—

"We can now, on the best authority, give publicity to a transaction, rumors of which have lately been floating about the air, and the importance of which, to lovers of Bates blood in this country, can hardly be over estimated. The exportation of the Duchesses from Wetherby to Canada was a source of no little regret to many Short-horn breeders; and it is therefore with much gratification that we are able to announce their re-importation into this country this summer. It will be in the recollection of most of our readers that they were sold by Capt. Gunter, with a stipulation that they were never to return. Capt. Gunter has now most handsomely withdrawn that stipulation, and made an exception in favor of Lord Dunmore. The only means his Lordship had of securing the Duchesses and Sixth Duke of Geneva, was the purchasing from Mr. Cochrane of his entire Bates herd, as Mr. Cochrane had previously refused to sell Sixth Duke of Geneva, or any of the Duchesses, either singly or collectively. The Dunmore herd will, therefore, be augmented by the following:—viz., Duchess 97 (dam of Duke of Hillhurst sold to Col. Kungscoote, and Second Duke of Hillhurst sold to Col. King, of Minnesota); Duchess 101 (dam of Lord Dunmore's Duchess 103rd and his Third Duke of Hillhurst); Duchess 103rd (dam of Lord Dunmore's Duchess 107th), and Sixth Duke of Geneva, whose reputation as a stock-getter stands so high on the other side, that a well-known American breeder offered Mr. Cochrane 3000 gs. to keep him in the country. The remainder of the herd comprises one Waterloo heifer, and five of the Wild Eyes tribe, the cows of which are in calf to Sixth Duke of Geneva. Duchess 103rd was due to calve to this celebrated sire on the 26th of March, and we believe the result will be "cabled" to Scotland. This is one of the four births expected from the Dunmore Duchesses during the present season. We may, therefore, not only congratulate Lord Dunmore upon obtaining so valuable an addition to his herd, but also the breeders of Bates cattle in having no longer to run the risk of an Atlantic passage when in want of a Duchess bull."

The Preston Hall Herd.

The sale by auction of the Booth portion of Mr. H. A. Brassey M. P.'s herd of Short-horns, also came off last month at Aylesford, Kent. The cows and heifers sold were as follows:—

Welcome Lass, roan, calved May 15, 1865..	\$225
Wave Nipple, roan, calved March 16, 1866;	
Mr. Thomson, Canada.....	315
Water Snowdrop, white, July 26, 1866..	525
Bull calf.....	100
Waterloo Plume, red and white, July 30, 1866; Mr. W. Torr.....	420
Bright Halo, roan, July 10, 1868; Mr. T. H. Smith, Australia.....	1,496
Roan bull calf.....	173
Welcome Dawn, roan, July 2, 1868.....	315
Bright Diadem, red, August 25, 1868.....	1,575
Wave Elf, roan, October 28, 1868.....	325
Weal Bud, red and white, January 18, 1869	577
Bright Cherry, red roan, December 19, 1868	294
Warrior's Crest, red and white, April 24, 1869.....	787
Wave Rise, red and white, May 31, 1869..	656
Bright Ringlet, red, July 14, 1869.....	2,152
Water Crocus, roan, August 18, 1869.....	840
Waterloo Banner, roan, October 12, 1869.	840
Welcome Maid, red and white, October 30, 1869.....	577
Wave Queen, red and white, January 6, 1871	971
War Song, roan, January 15, 1871.....	268
Bright Duchess, white, June 2, 1871.....	341
Waterloo Cherry Duchess, red, August 26, 1871; Mr. J. Thomson, Canada.....	300
Wild Wave, red and white, November 9, 1871.....	200
Brilliant, red and a little white, November 26, 1871.....	400
Brumette, red, December 18, 1871.....	314
Wild Spray, red and white, January 18, 1872	395
Wassail, roan, February 16, 1872.....	405
Watchful, roan, March 3, 1872.....	290
Bouquet, roan, May 17, 1872.....	364
Wreath, red and white, September 20, 1872	604
Wind Wave, roan, November 23, 1872.....	136
Bridesmaid, red, January 18, 1873.....	210
Whirlwind, red and white, February 4, 1873	79
The Bulls sold were as follows:—	
Bright Duke, red, January 25, 1872.....	368