

price for a horse that was grand champion at some of the leading shows. This stallion was a magnificent animal and the owner looked forward to a very busy and prosperous season. A large number of mares were bred. Time passed on, and the mares began to come back, not once, but twice, and it began to dawn upon the owner that his horse must be "off" and that he was out some money.

A test was made of the horse, which was found to be sterile. Some forty mares were covered, but not a colt resulted. Mare owners were disappointed, and the stallion owner went out and bought another horse at a long price in order to keep up his business.

Prospective buyers should avoid purchasing horses that have been on the show circuit and have been fitted up several times for show. Excessive fattening is injurious, particularly to the generative organs. This holds true, not only with stallions, but also with mares. Really, the safest plan is to select a rugged young horse, say a two- or three-year-old.

A good disposition is something that can not be emphasized too strongly in selecting a stallion. Disposition is determined to a great extent by the size and clearness of the eye, size of nostrils and width between eyes. A small, sunken eye, and a narrow face are usually accompanied by a treacherous disposition and lack of width of body in general.

The throat should be clean cut, the neck should be well crested, and the neck should blend smoothly and snugly into the shoulders.

A stallion should by all means possess a short back, well-sprung ribs, and a strong, well-muscled loin. The rump should be long, not steep, broad, and the muscling carried well down to the gaskins. Good depth of body is important, insuring plenty of lung space and ample room for the digestive apparatus.

Feet and legs should next be considered. A horse should first of all stand squarely. The fore legs should be set well apart, but not too much, on the outside of the body, for then the horse will have a rolling gait. Toeing in, or toeing out, should be avoided. The hind hocks should

neither bow in or out, but set straight and well apart.

The legs should be clean. By this I mean free from meatiness. The bone should be fine, wide and flat, with the tendons well set out from the bone. A curby conformation common to the hind legs should never be tolerated.

The feet should be set true to the legs, as the set of feet determines to a great extent the action of the horse. The foot should be high at the heels, broad and long on the sole. The height, width and length should be as one, two, three. Fine texture of hoof is desirable, also a fine frog.

Many men disregard action in buying stallions, but this should not be. Before a long price is paid, the buyer should demand an animal with a good walk and a long, easy, straight, true stride when trotting.

Johnson Co., Ill.

W. H. UNDERWOOD.

Notwithstanding the increasing use of all sorts of motor vehicles, the horse business continues to thrive. The proprietor of a leading Toronto horse exchange reports that last year they had sold more horses than ever before, in their history.

LIVE STOCK.

Light and Ventilation.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Six years ago I built a cattle barn as nearly modern as I knew. This building was placed on a slope of, say, 4 feet in 40. The site was on an excellently drained knoll. No water is visible at any time in my yard, and the nature of the soil is such that it stayed hard. The north wall was levelled to top to furnish approach to barn above, giving south front to allow windows in wall and each end. The most important thing about stabling is light and ventilation. These two important factors are absolutely essential in

my opinion in any stable. Where cattle and horses are fed dry feed, feed which contains no water, as in the case of silage or roots, I do not think they require frost-proof stables so much as the ones fed on succulent foods, but we must admit it cheaper to keep up body heat by warm stabling than foods high in fats and carbohydrates. I do not recommend stables so warm that the water runs down the window panes, but just warm enough that no frost is present or the water, if you have such inside, will freeze.

As to light, about one-third the area of the three walls of my stable, is windows, so that at any time of day during the colder weather the sun can shine in stable. These windows are divided in center by a mullion, so every other sash falls back 2 inches at top to admit fresh air and they are never closed except in extremely cold weather. The outlet is similar to that of the King system, taking the impure air out at each stall about 2 feet from floor. These air shafts join mains and lead up to cupolas on top of barn. My walls are stone, two feet thick and floor cement. As regards walls, a cement block wall is A 1, but probably most costly. The cost of wall must be governed by the material most convenient and most easily placed on spot.

If suitable gravel is convenient, a one-foot cement wall is most neat, and probably as cheap as stone, but if plenty of hard heads and flat stones are handy I would use them, as they make a good substantial wall.

The cost is according to convenience of material. Many are the plans for convenient stabling, but one thing I would like to recommend—that is, a good-sized drop behind cattle, 15 x 8 inches is all right, and nothing less, in my opinion.

As regards stabling on the level in wooden structures, I have seen many good stables and warm, too, but I prefer all stables below, that the whole barn may be utilized for hay and grain.

I think what applies to horses will also work with cattle, and vice versa, only I plank over cement in horse stalls.

CARMEN METCALF.

Prince Edward Co., Ont.



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"Evening—Île d'Orleans."

From a painting by Horatio Walker.

A sense of weariness pervades this picture. The horses are ready to be relieved of their harness.