

too loose in the loins, or to narrow in the chest, he should choose a stallion to which to put her as strong and as perfect as possible in those parts which in the mare are blamable. The transmission of external shapes is as yet a mystery, and probably ever will continue so. No one can say whether the stallion or the mare has the greater share in giving structural form or constitutional disposition to the young animal. Indeed, there seems reason to believe that there is not any invariable rule on the subject; but that some dams and some sires possess an extraordinary power of impressing their own forms and stamping their own images, in the greater degree, on the young. The general rule, however, and that which it is wise to observe is that *like begets like*. Therefore, the practice should be always, where one desires to breed from a mare slightly defective in one point, or more than one, of symmetry, to select a stallion as excellent as possible in that defective point, and if one be resolved for any cause to breed from a stallion of whose blood, or beauty, or performance he is particularly enamored, and that horse be weak in any point or points, to put to him whatever mare one may have in his stud most excellent, where he is weakest; but in no case, even if he prohibit one from breeding from that horse at all, to put him to a mare which is faulty in the same part. The second ordinary object of breeding-up is, where mares of some highly valued strain, possessing some degree of pure blood engrafted on an inferior stock, have degenerated in size, in height, strength and size of bone, to breed them to such horses as shall, without deteriorating their blood, improve them in size and bone. This is a far more difficult question in breeding, and before it can be answered it will be necessary to know of what blood is the impure portion constituted, and in what proportion does it exist. If it be distinctly of cold blood, as of Cleveland bay, Suffolk Rench, Conestoga, or common cart-horse, and if the proportion of thorough blood mixed with it be inconsiderable, it may at once be pronounced useless to take any pains about it, as the results will not, it is a thousand to one, repay the trouble or expense. If the proportion of pure blood be considerable, but remote, and the stock have been long *in bred*—as, for example, is the case with the Morgans—the only possible way to breed them up is to stint the mares to the very best and most powerfully made short coupled, broad chested, strong loined, short legged, thorough bred stallions that can be found, of a totally distinct recent strain of blood, if the blood of the mares can be ascertained, although it will not be the worse if, some ten or more generations back, the both run into the same line. In this case the stallion, in the first cross, should not be taller or larger than the mare, except in strength, size of bones and muscular development. The fillies in the second generation will be larger in all ways than their dams—since improvement of strength, health, symmetry and development implies improvement in size. These fillies may be again put to horses of exactly the same stamp as that last described, but just so much larger than her dam. This will in all probability achieve the desired end. This is fact what is known among breeders as breeding up, in the true sense of the word. If, on the other hand, the mares, degenerated, have been crossed with pure English blood, but remotely and not recently, on Canadian or imported Norman stock, there will be no objection to crossing them back once to Canadian or Norman stallions; and the breeding back will often in that case so far reinvigorate the race that the fillies produced by that union