

## The Horse.

### **HORSE BREEDING FOR THE MARKET.**

#### *Selection of Foundation Stock.*

I take it that everything is in shape on the farm to receive stallions and mares, or the latter alone, for the breeding of carriage horses; the machinery for farming operations, and such other live stock as will go to make the farm's inhabitants a pleasing whole. It will not do to keep horses alone on a farm, for the reason that every farm does better if a variety of animals is kept on it and the profits are correspondingly better. According to the size of the farm, good milking cows in sufficient number should be bought, pure breeds most certainly, as they are invariably the most useful, as well as the most ornamental. It always pays to keep the best, no matter what sort of live stock is concerned, and if the farm owner chooses wisely, he may turn many an honest penny, by selling the produce for which there is always a fairly remunerative demand. Milk, the rearer of horses, must be available all the summer and fall, and the breeder had far better draw it from cows that produce annually calves that may be sold for \$50, than from cows whose calves only bring a tenth of that sum. If the owner prefers Jerseys or Guernseys, he may keep these breeds to good advantage; if he prefers beef breeds, he will find Shorthorns or Galloways give plenty of milk and produce calves for which large prices can be obtained. Besides pure bred cows look so much better than scrubs, that they are to be preferred if only on the score of the appearance. Then a few mutton ewes may be kept. They will supply the owner's table with choice joints and they will clean up the fence corners and grant a bounteous return on the small amount of money it takes to buy them. Here again it pays to buy pure breeds. It is surprising how much good a few sheep will do on a farm, and what they eat in winter will not be of great cost. Though an old fashioned idea, it is nevertheless a very good one to give a nannit-goat the run of a horse farm. A well bred Angora nannie is by no means offensive to the eye, and while there may be nothing in the belief that the presence of a goat in the stable keeps disease away from the horses, it does not cost anything to keep her nannieship, and she might as well be installed as a free commoner. It pays to select every animal for the farm with the very greatest care, giving strict attention to procuring only excellent individuals, true to type, and of the early maturing kind. The greatest gains are made by animals in their earliest days, hence early maturing qualities are absolutely necessary to success.

Pigs, a few, should be kept to eat up the odds and ends and scraps from the house, and supply meat both for the house and help. A pig-stye may be kept as clean and neat as a stable; of course a pig will wallow in the mud and return to it, but there need not be any mud hole for him to wallow in, and he need not be permitted to root up the pastures.

Pigs pay well for the food which is given them, and no farm stock is complete without the "gentleman that pays the rent."

Having supplied himself with the above, the farmer now starts buying his mares. Obviously, he may buy his mares first if he chooses. In buying mares which are to be used in the production of carriage and coach horses, several things must be borne in mind. The mares must be absolutely sound. Blemishes from accidents, may, of course, be passed over, but care should be exercised to see that the blemish was not primarily induced by some fault in conformation. Curbs, spavins, sidelones, ringbones, and the like, should be rigorously excluded, such unsoundnesses come fast enough without trying to perpetuate them. Even though no unsoundness appears, if the formation is