

Hampshire crosses. The argument was that unless this was done there was no inducement to exhibit others. An interesting illustration of the value of such a cross is shown in the Oxford-Downs. This breed, as is well known, was produced by crossing Hampshires with Cotswolds. It is an instructive fact that another cross of Hampshires upon Oxfords produces splendid results, as are often shown in the prize rings of the great shows.

"The report of the Birmingham show that appeared in the "American Sheep Breeder" for January 1897, states that Cross-breds were a fairly good class, Mr. H. Rush being in the front with his usual cross—Oxford tup and Hampshire ewes."

"This fact is of the greatest importance to the country at large, and it cannot be too forcibly presented to the owners of the immense numbers of American sheep who need the best blood for crossing upon their flocks.

"While all this and very much more can be truthfully said about the Hampshire cross, it cannot be too strongly impressed upon sheep owners that a cross-bred ram should never be used upon any sort of ewes. When this is done the value of prepotency is lost. Heredity is like a composite photograph, in which the exposure of a dozen or more persons are made upon one plate, and the result is a face that combines all of them in itself. So with heredity. The hundreds of ancestors in the various lines have their characteristics focused into one animal. If those lines are pure in type and character the characteristics are stamped with force upon the progeny."

The Horse.

THE HORSES THAT SELL WELL.

The remarks in these columns from time to time in regard to the scarcity of really first-class horses of nearly every type has been confirmed from many sources. Last week Mr. Geo. Williams, Secretary of the Illinois Horse Breeders' Association, in a

letter to the "Rider and Driver," confirms them in a very striking way. His letter is so much to the point that we give it in full as follows :

"During the talks I have inflicted upon the farmers, I have tried to impress upon their minds that we are now using up what may be called the last full crop of foals, that of 1894, and are spending our reserve fund of horses. As the foals from mares this year will take about six years to become marketable horses, they may well look forward to a scarcity before they are ready for it. I have also tried to sound a note of warning that they must profit by their former mistakes and not breed in the haphazard manner that they formerly did ; that if they breed for their own use or for the markets, it will repay them amply to breed for a type of horse that will sell well in the city market, if they are at any time lucky enough to have a surplus to sell ; to those who are breeding the American trotter to breed to the stallion that begets large and handsome colts, and not for speed alone ; to try and get the horses on their farms of one type, so that they will match up into teams more than they have in the past ; that the great nursery studs that breed for speed are not the ones to copy after, but that the general breeder must breed for size, style and beauty, and they will find ready market for their stock even if it has not speed enough for the track. By persistently and consistently following out these lines, they will be able to hold the markets of the world that now are open to him. If in the "boom" days we would be in better shape to stand the strain of the shortage of good horses that is now upon us, and if in the past we had made size, style and beauty an object, instead of trying for speed, the breeders could now be getting good prices for their animals fit for coaches or the road."

