

from the fact that perhaps I was too hard to please, but nine years ago a noted horse dealer of Huntingdon County, Quebec, brought from the County of Simcoe, Ontario, a beautiful German Coach mare, four years old, which struck my fancy as being as near perfection as was possible to obtain.

He mated her as closely as he could, and disposed of the team to a Montreal gentleman at a handsome figure. Six years later, having her still in mind, I visited Montreal, and she became my property. She stands sixteen hands high, weighs twelve hundred and fifty pounds, jet black color, star on face, small white marking on off hind foot. She has excellent action, with true movement, with an exceptionally intelligent appearance, carrying head up gracefully, with beautifully long, clean-cut and well-arched neck; body is well rounded and smooth, girth measuring six feet four inches; her muscles well developed in forearm and stifle, constituting great stability and breeding properties; her limbs are wide, clean, hard, flat, with exceptionally smooth curb and spavin joints; pasterns clean, of medium length, well set; nice round plump feet of good quality; altogether, in my opinion, a typical carriage mare.

I bred this mare to a blood stallion three years ago last June. She raised a beautiful mare colt, which I sold when one year old for two hundred dollars. I have since bred her to a French Coach stallion that is owned by a syndicate in New York State, costing three thousand dollars. She raised me a fine horse colt, now rising two years old, which I value at five hundred dollars. She raised a beautiful mare colt last year that I value at four hundred dollars, and she is with foal again to the same horse. The sale I made and the quality of the progeny owned yet, give me encouragement to believe that my investment will be of a profitable nature.

My belief with regard to brood mares of any breed is that too much attention cannot be given to selecting the best, and as to temperament, this is a strong feature which should not be overlooked, and a point of excellence in the mare above described which makes her a grand assistant in performing work of the farm, and a pleasant companion in any team. This valuable quality of excellence is well developed in her offspring, as they are all of a gentle and winning disposition.

I will not enter into horse breaking, but would say this: Start to handle and harness colts when rising two years old, as they are much more easily handled at that age, and not so apt to contract bad habits.

My method in breaking horses is to be kind and firm with them. Be sure to make them do what you ask them to do at first—they will not be looking for favors afterwards—but be sure to clap them after you have conquered them.

My cure for all cuts, bruises and bunches, bathe well with warm salt water as hot as the horse will stand it, rub till perfectly dry with dry cloth, then rub on some liniment. I use cold water and ice for sprains. As colic seems to kill more horses in the country than all other diseases, I will give you my cure: Dissolve in one quart of warm water one pound of Epsom salts, one pound of coarse salt; add to this one pint of raw linseed oil, one-quarter pound of ginger. After getting that down him, give half a cup of soda dissolved in water. If this does not give relief in one hour, repeat the dose. When first noticed sick put two blankets on him; keep moving around slowly if he will stay on his feet. I never yet had to give the second dose, and always got relief in half an hour or less, and I have cured some very bad cases. He will steam up warm, so be careful not to let him cool down too fast. Feed and water lightly for a few days; take the cold chill well off the water. You may think this a strong dose, but I want to tell you a bad colic is not to be trifled with, and it takes a powerful dose to check it. The dose given is for heavy draft horses, so use your own judgment as to lighter horses.

As it is quite a task for farmers to give a horse medicine, the best way is to back him into a corner where he cannot run back, put a hamestrap into his mouth, buckle it on top of his nose, tie another strap or rope into it, throw the rope over some beam or pulley, pull his head up high enough so that he cannot spill out the medicine. Do not pour it down too fast, so as to choke him and get it on his lungs. It is well to let his head down so that he may get his breath for a little at times.

In conclusion, my opinion is the average farmer on heavy lands would be better to breed heavy draft horses, as they will do heavy work younger, go to the market younger, are more easily broken in, not so easily blemished as light horses, and will generally give a good profit. There is no doubt the man who is capable of breeding, fitting and handling the right kind of carriage horses will be well paid for his work, as the cities must have them, whatever they cost.

PREFERS A 32-CALIBRE REVOLVER.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I noticed in your issue of February 20th last, a paragraph on killing a horse, the writer saying that he did not like Dr. M. Horace Hays' ways or methods of despatching old horses. I think that if the writer had seen many killed with axe or gun he would readily agree with Dr. Hays. He also thinks that a 22 or 32 calibre gun is not heavy enough. I have had a good deal of experience with both axe and gun, and find that the gun is the most effective. I think that when the writer saw his father's horse killed he must have been somewhat excited, as well as the man with the gun. To kill a horse successfully, I take a 32

calibre revolver and place the muzzle within two or three inches of the horse's forehead, and press the trigger, and I never have had to fire the second shot. Will say in conclusion, that a man does not need to have any experience to kill a horse or any animal successfully if he has a gun, but with an axe he needs considerable nerve and experience, because a horse comes down harder than a beef, and I have seen able-bodied men who could not bring a horse down with an axe.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE HACKNEY IS POPULAR.

The most interesting and popular of Harness classes at leading horse shows, not only in America, but in Britain and several other European countries, are the Hackneys, which, for style, conformation, constitution and disposition, are unequalled by any of the lighter classes. A writer in the Live-stock Journal, commenting on the display of Hackneys at the late London Show, says:

Two of the chief of these features was the almost international character of the entries, and the remarkable number of foreign visitors who were among the keenest of spectators of all that took place in the ring. In the galleries, around the ring-side, and among the horses' boxes, could be heard the varied speech of France, Germany, Holland, and many other European countries, mingled with the unmistakable accent of the American and the now-familiar tones of the Spanish-speaking Republics of the South. It is at the Hackney show that they are the most in evidence. The cause of this widespread interest in the Hackney is well worth a few moments' consideration. Why should it be, for instance, that the Hackney, more than any other breed of horses, should attract to our shores the representatives of the foreign Governments, besides those directly concerned with the horse-breeding industry of other nations?

The answer is not difficult to discover. No other country possesses a breed of horse that can in any way compare with the Hackney for the purpose it is intended to fulfil, and no breed is so well adapted to the requirements of the age for

the past seventeen years, no less than 6,331 horses have been submitted to the rigid veterinary examination enforced by the Hackney Horse Society at its London Show, and of this number, only 301—or about 5 per cent.—have been rejected for unsoundness. What other breed could come through such an ordeal so creditably?

One occasionally hears the detractor of the Hackney complain of its artificial action, of its wasting energy in lifting its feet to its chin and never getting over the ground. Such an accusation can only come from those who are ignorant of the history of the breed. For 200 years, at least, the Hackney has been known as a distinct breed, a breed that, although tracing back to the same ancestors of the Thoroughbred, has for generations been selected for its capabilities as a trotter, just as the Thoroughbred has been chosen for the saddle. Widely as the two branches have now diverged, the taproot of both remains the same, and just as the canter is the natural gait of the Thoroughbred, so is the trot the pace that comes by instinct to the Hackney.

But all this is perhaps beside the mark, since no apologies need be made for a breed which can attract, as the Hackney has done, representatives from most of the principal countries of the world, for among those who have lately surrounded the ring at Islington have been visitors from Europe, Asia, Australasia, and both the Americas. More than this, during the past year Hackneys have been shipped to Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chili, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, the United States of America, and Uruguay. So long as the records can show such a trade as this there need be no fear that the Hackney will cease to be chosen as the means of traction by all who still appreciate the pleasure of sitting behind a good trapper, or by those desirous of imparting to other breeds some of the many good qualities of which the trotting horse of Britain has shown itself to be the possessor.

ADVANTAGES OF CLIPPING.

We have never been quite able to satisfy ourselves that clipping horses is an unqualified advantage.

It seems unnatural, and reflection suggests an uneasy suspicion that, like some other things that appear beneficial at first, the ultimate disadvantages may offset the obvious benefits, especially where repeated with successive generations. However, where clipped horses are properly cared for, and carefully blanketed, they do not seem to suffer any perceptible injury, but rather to gain in condition, health and energy. The argument on behalf of clipping is very well presented in the subjoined article, reproduced from "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal," of Winnipeg:

The chief advantage of clipping is that it lessens the tendency to sweat, and makes it easier to keep the skin in a clean, open condition, and the coat dry. A horse that has had his heavy winter coating of hair taken off before he goes out to the strenuous work of the seeding season will feel

more fresh and vigorous, fuller of vim, and less easily tired by the labor, than will a horse put into heavy work after a winter of idleness, with a full growth of heavy hair filled up with dust and dirt, the pores of the skin clogged up, and the animal dull, lifeless, out of condition, lacking in energy and vigor. It is surprising the difference a thoroughly-clean skin makes in a working horse, the ease with which he performs his work, the increased activity which he displays, and the increased amount of work which he can do on the same quantity of feed.

Sweating is one of nature's means of maintaining the temperature of a horse's body at a point most favorable to life. Sweat glands are situated in various parts of the body which exude perspiration, to a certain extent continuously, but in increased amounts as the temperature of the body rises. The evaporation of this perspiration into the atmosphere reduces to some extent the temperature of the skin, and unless the horse is required to perform abnormally hard work, will maintain his temperature below the danger point. Now, the condition of the skin plays an important part in the quantity of sweat exuded. If it is clean, and the pores open, the sweat glands require to secrete and pour out



Copper King (7764).

Hackney stallion; chestnut; 15.3; eight years old; sire Mathias. First in class and grand champion, London, England, Hackney Show, March, 1908. Breeder and exhibitor, Alfred Benson, Surrey.

a speedy and yet showy animal that possesses the stamina, courage and action of the king of harness horses. This being the case, the Hackney is assured of a place in the world's markets as long as the breed can be kept up to the high standard that it at present occupies; and this in spite of the opposition with which it meets in some quarters in which its qualities are still unrecognized, and in spite of the rapid increase and popularity of the mechanically-propelled vehicle.

It has sometimes been urged by the opponents of the Hackney that the breed is lacking in those qualities which go to constitute the perfect harness horse; that it is soft, wanting in courage, and capable only of showing exaggerated action in the show-ring. To such as these, one may point to the demand that at present exists for the breed by nations that have seen its worth as a cross for the battery horse, and even for the mount destined to carry cavalymen. It is not European nations alone that have found the Hackney suited to military requirements, for even Japan has been, and continues to be, a buyer, while each year sees more of the breed exported to South America and elsewhere. As to soundness, few breeds can show such a record in this respect as does the Hackney of to-day. During