

he may not be a flashy actor, he will, by virtue of his size, be more serviceable for ordinary purposes.

If the prospective dam has the size and quality we desire, but lacks the speed necessary for her class, and we wish to produce an animal in which speed is not an essential, we have a choice of stallions. We may select a Hackney or one of the heavier classes of coach horses, viz., the French or German Coach horse, or the Cleveland Bay. I think I would, in most cases, prefer the good-sized Hackney with typical action, as he will be more likely to produce an animal with the flash action that the present market demands; but if desirous of producing size, even at the expense of action, one of the larger coach stallions may be selected.

If the mare has size, and probably action, but is coarse, lacks the style and quality we desire, then we have practically no choice of sires. There is but one stallion that will, with reasonable certainty, produce well out of her, and he is the Thoroughbred. He, on account of his prepotency, which has been assured by centuries of breeding in certain lines, has the power to overcome the lack of quality in the dam and transmit in a marked degree his own characteristics to his progeny. No other breed of stallion will so surely stamp quality on his produce out of coarse mares. The produce of this line of breeding, with few exceptions, are horses that excel in the saddle and give good service in harness, either heavy or light. They make combination horses—have not speed enough for the ideal road horse, nor action enough for the ideal carriage horse, but at the same time do fairly well in either buggy or carriage, and, as stated, "excel in saddle."

In the selection of a Thoroughbred to sire our colts, we must not select him simply because he is a Thoroughbred. We should demand fair size, soundness and good temper. On account of the prepotency mentioned, he has a great tendency to transmit to his progeny, both desirable and undesirable qualities, and we often notice that a Thoroughbred stallion that has undesirable points either in conformation or temperament, will transmit them to a much more marked degree in his progeny than they exist in himself, hence the need of care in the selection of a Thoroughbred sire.

"WHIP."

Is Muscling Important?

A reader says: "Which will leave the best colts, a stallion with fully developed muscles or one whose muscles, through neglect of exercise are poorly developed?"

Not long ago we strongly advised stallion owners and breeders of horses to not neglect to give breeding stock plenty of exercise, as it tended to develop size and strength of muscle and this characteristic is transmissible to the offspring. But one must not run away with the idea that because a certain horse has a characteristic better developed than another, he is a better horse as an individual or as a sire. There may be counter-acting influences. Everything else being equal, however, the horse that has the greater development of muscle is by all odds the better horse from which to breed. The habit of giving undue prominence to any particular feature of a horse is one that is all too common, especially among stallion men. We have seen horses with the worst kind of feet lauded to the skies for his strong neck or deep chest or smooth rump. The good horse judge weighs every point and even then will perhaps find himself partial to the horse possessing a certain well marked characteristic. As we noted before, breeders are too prone to overlook the importance of hardness in horses and to treat them as though they were things of ornament rather than animals of toil, and consequently there is a constant tendency among draft horses to decrease in size, strength and firmness of flesh and muscling.

A purity test of Manitoba grown clover seed at the Seed laboratory, Ottawa, showed that the sample submitted and grown by Jos. Russell, Barnsley, was 99.5 pure by weight, containing .08 of seeds, none of which were noxious weeds.

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If only we had an enthusiastic railroad man or two such as Lanigan or Shaw on the Industrial board, the fair might be improved. The Seed Train Special has helped them to realize more keenly than ever the needs of the farmers. Few farmers, farmers' wives and children come to wallow in the filth of a midway and the city fellow with a taste for that sort of thing should not be catered for.

STOCK

The Beginning of Shorthorn Importations.

The first importation of Shorthorn cattle from Great Britain to Canada of which we find record, was made by the Board of Agriculture of the Province of New Brunswick in 1825 or 1826, consisting of four bulls, three of them were from the herd of Mr. Wetherell, of Durham.

One of the first importations, if not the first, to Ontario was made by Mr. Rowland Wingfield, of Guelph, who brought out in 1833 six cows and heifers, and the white bull Young Farmer—275—. About 1835 Hon. Adam Ferguson, of Waterdown, Ont., imported from England the bull Agricola and three cows, including Beauty, by Snowball (2647), who proved very prolific of a very useful class of dual-purpose cows, her name still figuring in the pedigrees of many excellent cattle in Canadian herds. With her came Cherry, by a son of St. Albans (2584), and the bull Agricola (1614).

In 1837 Messrs. Geo. and John Simpson, of Newmarket, Ont., brought out a bull and two cows, one of which, Lady Jane, by Sir Walter, left a large family, which has descendants in many herds.

In 1845 Mr. Ralph Wade, of Port Hope, imported the roan cows Adeline, Clarentine, Fisher Roan and Snowdrop, and the bull American Belted Will, imported in dam. The cow Fisher Roan is the ancestress of an extra good breeding family in the herd of Hon. John Dryden, from which family he has bred many successful show animals, including the grand red yearling bull, Bertie's Hero, winner of the first prize in his class at the International Show, Chicago, in 1905.

During the years 1854 to 1856, Messrs. Geo. Miller, Markham, and William Miller, Pickering, brought out the first Scotch Shorthorns imported to Canada. They were principally of the good thick-fleshed families bred by Mr. Robert Syme, of Redkirk, Dumfriesshire, and they and their descendants for many years held a prominent place in the prize-lists of Provincial fairs, winning perhaps more first-class honors than any other one family. With one of these importations came the noted bull, Baron Solway—23—, selected by Simon Beattie for Mr. John Snell, of Edmonton, Ont., (now Snelgrove). This bull, a massive roan, with grand handling quality, bred by Mr. Syme, was a sweepstakes winner at Provincial exhibitions, and a capital sire.

From 1854 to 1856 Mr. F. W. Stone, Guelph, made six importations, comprising many excellent cattle from noted English herds, and for many years afterwards Mr. Stone imported extensively of cattle, sheep and Suffolk horses.

The first Cruickshank cattle to come to Canada were imported in 1859 by Mr. Neil McGillivray, of Williamstown, Glengarry County, Ont., who brought out two bulls and two cows, bred by Amos Cruickshank, Sittyton. They were said to be excellent cattle, but were given no special attention and were soon scattered and lost sight of.

In the year 1867 Mr. Geo. Isaac, father of Mr. John Isaac, Markham, and his brothers, who had emigrated from Scotland in 1842 and settled near Cobourg, Ont., began importing cattle from the herd of his brother-in-law, Mr. Sylvester Campbell, of Kinellar, Aberdeenshire, and for many years Mr. Isaac and his sons imported many excellent Kinellar-bred cattle, principally the get of Cruickshank bulls. The importations of the Isaac brothers, some of whom are yet in the business, have done much to improve the cattle of this country. The noted herd of Messrs. J. & W. Russell, of Richmond Hill, which made such a splendid record at the World's Fair, at Chicago, in 1893, was founded on stock bred at Kinellar, and imported by the Isaac brothers.

In 1870 Mr. John S. Armstrong, of Eramosa, near Guelph, made an importation of excellent cattle, drawn from the Uppermill herd of Mr. W. S. Marr, one of which was Missie 23rd, belonging to the tribe of that name which has been very popular in recent years. In 1871 Mr. Armstrong made a large shipment, mainly from Uppermill, a number of which were sired by Heir of Englishman, a bull that influenced the Marr herd for good to nearly as great an extent as did Champion of England the Sittyton herd.

In 1864 Hon. David Christie, of Paris, Ont., made an importation of magnificent cattle from the herd of Mr. Douglas, of Athelstanford, which included the great show cow, Queen of Athelstan, one of the most perfect specimens of the breed ever seen in this country. These were very

successful show cattle in Great Britain, and were in very high condition when imported. In 1868 Mr. Christie, who had great faith in Booth blood, brought out from England the bull Knight of St. George (8472), bred by Mr. Carr, of Yorkshire, a strongly-bred Booth bull, but his progeny from the Douglas cows was no great success, except in the case of his son, Crown Prince of Athelstan 2nd, out of Crown Princess of Athelstan, purchased when a calf by Mr. James I. Davidson, of Balsam, in whose herd, bred to some of his best Cruickshank cows, many exceptionally good animals were produced.

Mr. Joseph S. Thompson, of Whitby, Ont., one of the best judges of his day, made an importation in 1870 that fairly entitled him to the credit of having first brought Cruickshank cattle into prominence in America. In this shipment were two daughters of Champion of England, Sylvia and Christobel. They were the first specimens of Sittyton breeding exhibited at the leading shows in Canada, and created quite a sensation at the Provincial Fair in Toronto as yearlings, where they were placed first and second in strong competition. Mr. Thompson made a larger importation the following year, including the noted show cow, Violet's Forth, bred by Mr. Cruickshank, and sired by the grand show bull, Forth. She was a light roan cow, of great substance, quality and character—one of the best ever imported. Another grand cow brought out by Mr. Thompson, from the herd of Mr. Sylvester Campbell, Kinellar, was the roan Golden Drop 1st, sold at Mr. Thompson's auction sale, in 1874, to John Snell & Sons for \$1,000, in whose hands she won first prize and sweepstakes at the Provincial fair at London the following year, and at the executors' sale of the Snell herd the next year, owing to the death of Mr. Snell, senior, she was sold for \$1,225, and her yearling daughter, which she carried when purchased at the Whitby sale, brought \$1,000, the purchasers of both being Messrs. Day of Iowa.

Mr. John Miller, of Thistle Ha', Brougham, Ont., son of Wm. Miller, sr., of Pickering, made his first importation in 1870, which included the roan show cow Rose of Strathallan, bred by Lord Strathallan, and sired by Mr. Cruickshank's Allan. She was a first-prize winner in Scotland and at Provincial fairs in Canada. Her son, Lord Strathallan, which she carried when imported, a red bull, developed into a grand show animal, and was sold to Mr. Lockridge, of Indiana, for \$2,500 and a daughter, Rose of Strathallan 2nd, sold to Messrs. Snider, of Waterloo County, was a sweepstakes winner at Provincial Fairs, and one of the most finished cows of the breed ever seen in this country.

Mr. James I. Davidson, of Balsam, Ont., father of John, of Ashburn, and James I., of the home-stand, still in the business, made his first importation in 1871, selected from the herd of Mr. Cruickshank, of whom he was a close personal friend, and of whose cattle he was a most consistent and enthusiastic advocate. Mr. Davidson was, for many years, the principal importer of Sittyton cattle to America, handling large numbers of them, the greater part of which were sold to United States breeders, but many to Canadians as well. From 1881 to 1887 he had practically a monopoly of the handling of the surplus stock of Sittyton for the American trade.

In 1871 Hon. John Dryden, of Brooklyn, Ont., made his first importation of the bull Stanley and five females, bred by Mr. Cruickshank, including the red three-year-old cow Mimulus, by Champion of England, the dam of the noted prizewinning and breeding bull Barmpton Hero—217—, a roan, born in 1878, and sold when a calf to Messrs. J. & W. B. Watt, of Salem, Ont., in whose herd he was used until he was thirteen years old, proving the progenitor of more high-class prizewinners at principal Canadian shows than any other bull imported or home-bred, that has ever figured in this country. He was sired by Royal Barmpton, a bull bred at Sittyton, and imported in 1873 by Mr. Dryden. As proof that much more depends upon the quality than the length of a pedigree, it may be noted that the pedigree of Mimulus, as it appears in the Herdbooks, shows only four crosses of recorded bulls, and is, perhaps, the shortest of any of the Scottish cattle of that decade imported to Canada; but these were bulls of exceptional individual merit, though only one, Champion of England, was bred in Scotland, yet her first calf, Royal Duke of Gloster, whose sire, Grand Duke of Gloster, was more than her half-brother (being also by Champion of England, both being out of cows by Lord Raglan, a thorough-bred bull), was used freely in the Sittyton herd, and was the sire