

Breeding Stables, put at the disposition of Mr. Maillard, of Coesme, near Belleme, his Arabian studs to cross with his mares.

Besides the fancy for the big horse, there was at that moment an enormous sale of horses, and this depopulation nearly annihilated the breed. Odolent Desnos, first Sous-prefet of Montagne, who was one of the principal historians of the Perche, wrote, in the year 1801, that it was to be regretted to see this breed disappear, so precious by its courage, strength, longevity, excellent hips and good hocks. It seems that he was very sorry to see this.

A little later, in 1838, the Abbe Fret (another local historian) states the same thing. He says: "The horses have this in particular, that they cannot be used for riding and hunting. Named Percherons, they were used for the Post and Messagery Service. Their courage, strength and longevity rendered them extremely precious, and, though they rarely exceeded 4 feet 9 inches in height, they were good for all kinds of work. To their excellent constitution was added perfect legs and unwearable feet, but the fault of the Government Stables would have completely annihilated the breed if, since several years, the surroundings of Nogent-le-Rotrou had not begun to breed a few colts. The Government, who found out how the extinction of this breed of horses would affect the country, has consented to send to the Government stables some stallions that are placed at Nogent during five months. These good measures contribute a great deal towards the improving and the keeping of the Percheron breed."

A few years later, the same author writes that the stable of stallions established in the old monastery of St. Denis, of Nogent-le-Rotrou, has greatly improved the breed. We are obliged to believe him, having no other information on this question. The local historians were far from being so numerous as now, and they did not control so scrupulously the facts that they recorded.

At the same date was established at Nogent-le-Rotrou, under the presidency of Le Comte de Bussy, an agricultural committee, who assembled each year to improve the agriculture, in encouraging the breeders and farmers by distributing prizes to the proprietors of best breeding mares. The Percheron breeders were evidently pleased with these encouragements, for it was from that time that dates the real renown of the Percheron horses. However, it must be said that about 1820, in the same stables of Coesme, near Belleme, which we have already mentioned, were introduced two Arabs of the Government stables, Godolphin and Gallipoly, which gave tone and revived the Percheron breed, fixing the color at a dapple gray. It is in this way that each center had its specialty of Percheron horses. It was at Mondoubleau that were the best mares; at Bazoches-sur-Hoëne, the purest bred; at le Mesle-sur-Sarthe, the best stallions; at Moulins-la-Marche, the best work horses; at Regmalard, the best male colts. The surroundings of la Loupe, on the outskirts of the Perche, Verneuil, Chateaufort in the Thimerais, Courville and Illiers in the Beauce, formed the country of transition where the colt stays from thirty months to three years to form itself by laboring. It was also at that time that were organized those well-supplied fairs that were at first the only real center of the horse trade, and that still have a lot of importance. They take place in Orne at Alençon, Belleme, Longny, Laigle, Le Mesle-sur-Sarthe, Mortagne; in Eure-et-Loire, at La Bazoches-Gouet, Bonneval, Chartres, Chassant, Courtalain, Courville, La Loupe, Nogent-le-Rotrou, and Senouches.

Amongst the Percheron horses that have left a big name in the country, we can quote, in the first place, the famous stallion, Jean-le-Blanc, that excited the admiration of his contemporaries, and who was a direct descendant of Gallipoly, the Arabian stallion. He was the strongest element of Percheron perfection; he originated from Mauves, and died in 1836. One of his sons, Mignon, born in Eure-et-Loir, was the father of Coco, and the ancestor of Vieux Chaslain and Coco II. The latter produced, during ten years, most of the horses foaled around La-Ferte-Bernard. As well as these, we must mention the famous Toulouse, belonging to Mr. Cheradame, of Ecouche; then, Benvernitto, stallion of Le Pin, that was given to make the Government accept him as son of an English stallion, but who was really the progeny of a Percheron stallion and mare of near Belleme; La Ferte, who in 1892 won the grand prize at Chicago, and who was born at Nogent-le-Rotrou, French-Monarch stallion of first order, of which the products were remarkable. During these last years we can mention, Brilliant d'Amilly, of Louis Perrot; Bayard, of Ernest Perrot; Superior, of Mr. Fardouet, Sr.; Favori, said the good horse of Amilly; Pyramide of Amilly; Prosper, belonging to Louis Perrot; Jupiter, of Mr. Tacheau's; Briolant, of Ernest Perrot; and Brilliant, of Mr. Ducoeurjoly, of Brunelles. We are passing over many and of the best, but if we had to mention all the renowned stallions, we should never finish, the Percheron not only serv-

ing for the reproduction of its own breed, but for the improving of secondary breeds.

(Continued next week.)

LIVE STOCK.

Do not produce a lot of scrub ewes. They are neither wool nor mutton sheep.

There is nothing like live stock to sustain the producing power of the land.

Cull out all the runts, scrubs, diseased and defective animals from the breeding pens. They are a large factor in showing a balance on the wrong side of the account book.

The hog pays a much greater profit from a lot of rough feed consumed than could be obtained if this feed were sold off the farm; and, besides increasing the cash profits, returns valuable fertilizer to the soil.

A small covered shed in the corner of the calf paddock will be appreciated by the calves now that the nights are becoming cool and frosty. A liberal supply of good clean bedding also adds to their comfort.

The time for stabling the stock is near at hand, and wet days and spare time can be very

furnishes the first feed for him, and if he is to get a liberal supply of nourishment, his dam must also get a good ration, or her constitution will suffer by being drawn upon to support her offspring.

There should be a vast difference in the feeding of the young stock intended for breeding purposes and that destined for the butcher's block. Both must be induced to make rapid growth, but the former's vitality or fecundity must not be injured by excessive feeding of fattening food such as is necessary in the production of early-maturing stock for slaughter.

Do not shut the weaned lambs in a bare stubble field, and expect them to grow and develop. They must have an abundance of green feed. It is also surprising the amount of water they will drink. Too many beginners with sheep seem to have an idea that they do not need water. Lambs, after weaning, will usually take a considerable quantity of it, and it should be within easy access at all times.

Scouring is the bane of the stock-feeder. It should be carefully avoided. A single day's laxness may cut off a week's gain. Overfeeding, unwholesome food, or some fault in the combination of the ration are frequent causes. It requires study to ascertain just what a steer will stand. Different animals require different amounts, and the feeder must be ever on the watch.

The stockman who depends on grass alone to keep his live stock in good condition during the

autumn months, insuring that they go into winter quarters thriving well, is likely to be disappointed in the result. Fall is one of the seasons when it is most difficult to keep the animal from losing flesh, unless extra feed is given. Corn, rape and roots are greatly relished by stock, and, wherever possible, some of this material should be fed regularly during the time just prior to stabling.

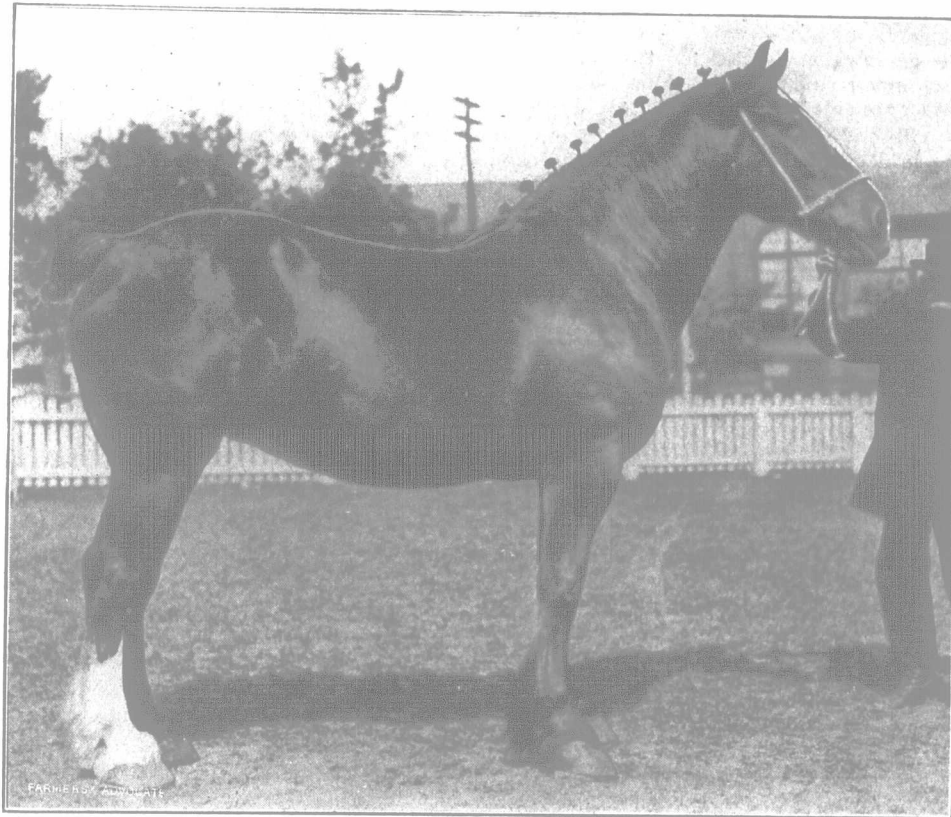
Cattle intended for finished beef, to be placed on the market early during the coming winter, should be commenced on stall-feeding as soon as possible. If they are allowed to graze, without any extra feed, they will lose, rather than gain, in flesh; and as, with cattle failing in flesh, much

time is usually lost in getting them to thrive again, it is much more profitable to begin feeding early. The finished product is also often higher in price in early and midwinter than during the spring season.

Does Salt Hinder Breeding.

A Missouri correspondent of the Breeder's Gazette, E. B. Hyde, in giving a matter-of-fact account of several years' experience, puts forward the claim that salt is injurious to breeding animals, being the cause of premature birth, and returning in season after service. His attention was first called to it through two mares losing fetus three months after service, by getting access to a barrel of salt. Then, in a large number of cases he tried giving salt to heifers and sows after being bred, with the result of their almost invariably coming in heat again. In case of feeding salt and ashes to breeding sows, many litters were lost. Mr. Hyde, who is a stallion-owner, also relates the experience of a horseman who kept about 28 brood mares, who declared that he had never bought a barrel of salt in his life, as it was "poison to horses," causing them to be hidebound and unhealthy.

On referring the foregoing point to Prof. G. E. Day, Animal Husbandry Department, Ontario Agricultural College, "The Farmer's Advocate" received the following comment:



White Heather [14617].

Clydesdale mare; bay; foaled 1907. First in class (non-importers), Toronto Exhibition, September, 1911. Bred and exhibited by A. G. Gormley, Unionville, Ont. Sire Fullarton (imp.).

profitably spent in preparing the stables for the winter season. Repairing and cleaning are necessary every year.

It should always be borne in mind, in connection with fattening animals, that they remove very little fertilizing material from the farm in their fat carcass, and that by far the greater portion of this material present in the feed consumed is voided in the excrement, and remains on the farm for the use of future crops.

The handling of live stock is a business which requires more administrative ability than does the growing of cereals. This being true, it reasonably follows that the returns from the live-stock business, provided it is properly managed, would be larger than from the growing of grain.

Do not expect the sow that is nursing a litter to live on beechnuts and whatever she can pick up on the stubbles and in the pastures. The feeding of the growing youngsters is a great drain on her vitality; and for the good of the litter, as well as for the sow's future usefulness, liberal feeding is necessary. A pig is a "hog" from the time he is cast into the world, and he should be treated as such and fed accordingly. This does not mean overfeeding, but the feeding of a ration as large as his constitution will stand. The sow