

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

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Stanchion for Breeding Ewes.

Editor of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

We have had some trouble, in common with others, in getting a ewe to take a strange lamb when she had lost her own, and more still to get one that has only one lamb, with milk enough for two, to take an extra one. No doubt every person who has handled breeding sheep to any extent has noticed that if a ewe cannot see or smell the lamb while it is sucking, they are not so much worried about it. We have made a very simple device, which worked so well that in nine cases out of ten proved successful. It is by making a stanchion of boards, well smoothed where ewe's neck works in, and a bit of sheepskin with wool on might be nailed outside to prevent chafing, having close boards for about a foot on each side of her head. She cannot see or smell the lamb while it is sucking, and soon becomes quite used to and contented with it. Generally a day or two is all that is necessary to keep her in the stanchion. This will be seasonable now, as the lambing season is now on with the general farmer.

JAMES BOWMAN, Guelph, Ont.

Our Scottish Letter.

The past three weeks have been the season of the horse carnivals alike in England and in Scotland. The Shire horse fanciers had their week of it in the second last week of February, the Hackney men had their turn on the last days of the month and in the first few days of March, and the hunting men and fanciers of Thoroughbreds were enjoying themselves in London in the week now ended, while yesterday the Scottish Stallion Show was held in Glasgow.

Shires were a good lot this year, but the judging was not quite in Scottish form. The champion, Bury Victor Chief, is a wonderful horse in many ways. He is short in the back, short in the leg, deep in the rib and closely coupled. His feet and legs are not what is wanted in the North, where he would not awaken much enthusiasm. The third prize horse in the big class of aged horses at London, Dunsmore Willington Boy, is a great animal. He, to our view, was far and away the best horse at the Shire Show of 1894, but somehow Englishmen do not take him that way. He is as big as the best of them, and has fine quality of bone, with good feet and good action. There is Clydesdale blood in his veins, both his sire and his dam, we understand, being descended not remotely from the well-known horse Young Lofty 987, which, as the property of Mr. Tagg, travelled for many years in Derbyshire. The feet and limbs of Dunsmore Willington Boy are uncommonly good, and he knows how to use them. His owner is Mr. P. M. Muntz, one of the members of Parliament for Warwickshire. His place is near to Rugby, where also will be found Mr. Parnell's place of Rokeby, the owner of the champion Shire mare at London. She is named Rokeby Fuchsia, and was in the same place a year ago. She is a first-rate Shire, perhaps not so sweet about the feet and limbs as is wanted in Scotland, but a great, solid, massive grey specimen of the draught mare. Mr. Parnell is one of the most successful breeders of Shires in England. He bred the young champion Rokeby Harold, and must have a good selection of mares about him. I do not think, on the whole, that the Shire Show of 1894 revealed much advance on that of 1893, so far as the quality of the stock is concerned. That the breed has been improved within the past ten years, in respect of soundness and superior quality of feet and legs, is, I think, beyond dispute. With it, as with the other breeds, one or two sires eclipse the run of horses in producing high-class show stock. The Calwich stud horse Harold, owned by Mr. Duncombe, at Calwich, Ashbourne, Derby, is the champion of the breed at present. He is sending out many prize winners, and breeding first-rate stock from a Shire judge's point of view.

The Hackney Show was a lively and interesting meeting, and, in their own way, the Hackneys fairly captivate the horseman's fancy. The champion of 1894, Ganymede, and his son Goodmanham Squire, the junior champion, are a pair of remarkable horses. Ganymede is the most handsome Hackney on which we have up to this date cast our eye. He has weight with style and gaiety, and his walking gait is as perfect in its own way as his trotting action, and the latter is faultless. Seldom have we seen a horse of any breed which could walk to match him. The most successful exhibitor at the recent Hackney show was Mr. Harry Livesey, a gentleman who owns a splendid stud at Rotherfield, in Sussex. He owned the champion mare Orange Blossom, and bred her most formidable opponent. He holds a sale during summer, and his phenomenal success at the recent show should help to secure its pre-eminence. Hackney breeding is progressing in Scotland, but much has to be done before it will be at all popular with breeders of horses in general. They are afraid that the Hackney is simply a fancy horse, and that no money is to be made by attempting to breed them in the North. The two largest studs with us are those at Gowanbank, owned by Mr. Alex. Morton, and at Gilfoot, Carlisle, owned by Mr. William Scott. The blood in these studs is of the first rank, and Mr. Morton has done more than any other single individual to make the Hackney popular in the West of Scotland. He held a very successful sale last year and is going forward again to another. Mr. Scott has a choice stud. His mares are first-rate examples of the breed, and their beautiful quality and breeding are apparent to the most casual observer. He will hold a sale next year, and if it be not a record it will be surprising. Yorkshire blood is most fancied by the gentlemen whom we have named, and horses and mares with quality are much in request with almost all who fancy Hackneys in Scotland. The champion sire among the nags is Danegelt 174. At London, a week ago, he was the sire of more prize-winners than any other horse. Four first prize winners claimed him as their progenitor, namely, the champion Ganymede, General Gordon, the reserve champion, Saxon, and the brood mare Lady Keyingham. Altogether he was sire of seventeen prize winners, next place on the list of sires being occupied by the famous champion horse Rufus 1343, which had no fewer than eleven prize winners at his credit, but only one was a first, namely, Lady Ulrica, a handsome mare owned by another Scottish fancier, Mr. C. E. Galbraith, Ayrton Castle, Ayrton. Connaught 1153, another London champion, promises well as a breeding horse. He had four winners, and two of these took first prizes.

Clydesdales are not booming. The gilt is off the gingerbread, and in these times we just contrive to subsist and keep our head above water. The show held yesterday was a fairly good one, and the general quality of the stock was well up to an average. However the numbers were greatly less than they used to be, and we miss the American demand. Horses are as well brought out as ever, and many first-rate animals were found in the cattle market, Glasgow, yesterday afternoon. In the short list of aged horses was Mr. George Bean's well-built horse Prince Baldwin 9359, a son of Prince Lawrence. He is a sweet, stylish horse with good quality of bone, and was third at the H. & A. S. last year. Of sons of Prince of Wales, there were no fewer than six in the short list, namely, Prince of Carruchan 8151, owned by the Messrs. Crawford, Eastfield, Dumfries; Prince Romeo 8144, of identical breeding and owned by Mr. Wm. Hood, Chapelton of Borgue, Kirkcudbright; Prince of Kyle 7155 and the Royal Prince 9053, owned by Mr. James Kilpatrick, Craigie Mains; Prince of Garthland 9828, owned by Mr. Matthew Marshall, Stranraer, and Gallant Prince, owned by Mr. Riddell. The other horses selected were Mr. William Taylor's Rosedale 8194, a typical Clydesdale which has always been a good one; the Summit 9442, owned by Mr. Spittal, Kenmuir; Tollcrop, a son of Sir Everard 5353; Lord Colmin Edwin 9280, a son of Prince Gallant 6176, and out of the dam of Lord Erskine 1741; Mr. Alex. Scott's Lawrence's Chief 7190, a bay son of Prince Lawrence. He and the last-named competed strongly for the Glasgow travelling premium, and Lawrence Chief won. Both are grand big horses of excellent quality. Mr. Riddell's horse, The Diamond, a son of Bonnie Prince, was also drawn, as were also Mr. John Pollock's horse, Sir John Maxwell 9415, Mr. Walter S. Park's fine horse, Gallant Poteath 9638, a son of Top Gallant, which was first almost everywhere as a three-year-old, and Mr. Dunn's beautiful horse, Master Robin 8040. Prince of Carruchan was placed first, with Prince of Kyle second and Gallant Prince third. The Summit was fourth, Gallant Poteath fifth, Rosedale sixth, Lawrence Chief seventh and Lord Colmin Edwin eighth. The whole of the horses in this list were above the average in respect of merit, and a powerful lot of animals they were. Some fine horses were found amongst the three-year-olds. Mr. David Mitchell's Prince of Millfield 9650, which stood first as a two-year-old, repeated his performance, and once more was reserve for the Cawdor cup, which was won by Prince of Carruchan. Second place in the class, as well as the Glasgow district premium, were taken by Mr. W. S. Park's handsome and gay young horse, Prince of Erskine 9647, a son of Prince of Albion and a Darnley mare, with the dam of Lord Erskine for his granddam. The third prize horse was Knockovally 9565, a big, solid horse, got by Eastfield Stamp 6723, and out of an Old Times mare. Mr. Alex. Scott was fourth with a promising horse named Prince of Fortune 9626, which stood reserve for the Glasgow premium. The Marquis of Londonderry was fifth with Sir Thomas 9681, a heavy black colt got by Castlereagh, and Colonel Stirling, of Kippendavie, was sixth. Prince of Fife 9648, a son of Prince of Albion, Primrose Prince 9635, another son of Prince of Albion, owned by Mr. Wm. Taylor, Mr. William Renwick's Prince Grandeur 9638, Mr. W. S. Park's Royal Reward, Mr. Wm. Montgomery's Macandrew, a big, solid, imposing horse with grand feet and legs, Mr. R. C. Macfarlane's Goldmine 9540, Mr. Morton's Height o' Fashion, and the Messrs. P. & W. Crawford's Scottish Standard 9674, and Royal Warrant 9664, were also in the short list. The two-year-olds were a strong class. The first four in order were, Mr. Wm. Clark's Royal Eastly 9844, Mr. Wm. Park's Prince of Brunstane, the Marquis of Londonderry's Carthusian 9722 and Mr. Richard Dunn's Cock Robin 9725.

SCOTLAND YET.

Kerosene and Animal Parasites.

I tried an experiment during last August with our ordinary coal oil. I saw a number of my hogs were not doing well. They were continually rubbing against the fences. I put one gallon of oil into my knapsack sprayer and walked out to the pen, and gave them an excellent covering of oil very finely put on by the said sprayer. My neighbors said, "the hair will come off;" others said, "it will blister." I awaited results. Next morning, on examining their backs, I found great, loose scales of dirt and mange, and under these were thousands of dead lice.

Result:—My hogs are smooth and slick, lice all gone.—E. H. KERN, in Insect Life.

The season for breeding your mares will soon be at hand; it will be well to use more than ordinary judgment in mating them, now that horses are so low in value. Bear in mind that good horses, whether heavy or light, are still in demand at living prices, but they must be good. You probably have some mares that have never produced a respectable foal even from a first-class horse; would it not be well not to breed such mares again? Select only your very best mares, and breed them to the very best stallions in your district, of whatever breed you conclude will best "nick" with the mare. Be sure the stallion has a registered pedigree. Don't breed to a "scrub" nor even to a good-looking "grade."