

was only six days old, and had weighed but fourteen pounds when born. What it lacked in size it certainly made up in energy, as its capers, upon its first introduction to the sunshine and the glad light of day, were inexpressibly funny.

The Exmoor ponies being larger in size than the Shetlands, are consequently of more use, a span of them making the distance to Toronto from their home in two hours.

"I have twenty-five Exmoors," Sir William went on, "all of which were imported or bred from imported Exmoors. The Exmoor is, in figure, a miniature thoroughbred, having all the beauty and other characteristics of the thoroughbred except size."

The Exmoor sire was, without doubt, a very handsome creature.

"There's nothing else like that in Canada," his keeper said, as he led him into the stall. "He's worth a farm, he is."

"So large a stable suggests abundance of stock. Have you many cattle?"

"Not now."

"You once had a fine herd of Shorthorns, I believe."

"Yes, but I disposed of them as our American market became of no avail."

"Surely there is no duty on thoroughbred stock?"

"No, and at one time there was a good market in the United States, they entering, as now, duty free. This privilege, however, has been neutralized by the ingenuity of United States Shorthorn breeders."

"There is, in the United States, a Register of Thoroughbred Shorthorns, and an American buyer of Shorthorns requires all his imported Shorthorns to be entered in the American Register. To shut out foreign thoroughbreds, a fee of one hundred dollars, for the privilege of registering any imported Shorthorn, is exacted. This fee is just as prohibitory to the importation of Shorthorns as if it was a customs duty, because a breeder outside the United States cannot pay the \$100 fee for registration and compete with the American breeder, who is exempt therefrom."

Returning through the grove of walnut trees, we paused to admire the straightness of their trunks, the tint of their foliage, and the leafy lightness of their fimbriated shade.

"How did you accomplish so satisfactory a result?" we asked.

"I'll tell you all about it, then you will know how to do it the best way yourselves. In 1883, being



A Charming October View from Sir William's Top Verandah Looking West.

anxious to grow black walnuts, and to get big trees as soon as possible, I purchased a number of large-sized trees from a nursery in Markham, thinking the larger trees I began with the sooner I should have results. Every one died. The following year I purchased a second lot, a size smaller. All but two of them died. Being doubtful as to whether they would live through the winter, I made no further trials until 1887, and up until then the two in question, though alive, made little growth. I began experimenting in raising them from nuts,

and got a bag from James Fleming, M.P. for Peel, which were planted in a little field. They grew and, when two years of age, all but about fifty of them were transplanted. Those fifty are, to-day, large, flourishing trees, some exceeding fifty feet in height and fifteen inches in diameter. Those that were transplanted have made comparatively little progress, and the two trees referred to that survived transplanting are not now any larger than those grown from the nut when they attained the age of six years."

"Is the reason for the difficulty in transplanting known?"

"It appears that the black walnut has a particularly large tap-root; transplanting involves the cutting of that root, and the tree has difficulty in surviving so serious a surgical operation."

"The trees certainly form an exceptionally beautiful shade-grove, but was there any other object in raising them?"

"The timber is very valuable, of course, but my object was to demonstrate the fact that black walnuts can flourish in this climate. Long since, the original trees grown from the nut have been bearing nuts, and those nuts have been growing trees."

"It suggests a gay time for the squirrels. Have you plenty on the farm?"

"Not many. I thought to restore Black Squirrels, they having become almost extinct in this vicinity, so purchased quite a number of both black and grey ones, and domesticated them around the premises. They multiplied, but not so fast as vandal boys could shoot them. A few are still around the grounds, but mostly they have been shot off by trespassers or have retired to less accessible districts."

"I hope you caught some of the rascally youngsters?"

But as usual when Thoughtless Youth enters the field of action, Wisdom and Law must needs shake a sad head.

Walking toward the house, it was impossible not to become influenced by the beauty of view in every direction. Nature and art had joined hands and had converted the twenty-five acres of home-grounds into vistas of loveliness. A rustic summer-house in a clump of young cedars being a new feature, we wandered toward it.

Speaking of transplanting trees, here was a case of great success. The cedars were from ten to twenty feet in height, and there were twenty-five of them, all of which had been moved during the winter. Of that number only one had died.

"And here you see the secret," he explained.

Around the circumference of each tree, some two feet from the trunk, were three tile drain-pipes, placed in the ground at an angle so that moisture from the surface of the lawn would drain toward the roots of the tree. Also, the opening of the pipe was sunk some two or three inches below the surrounding level of the ground.

We were now approaching the front of the farm, and the part visible from Yonge Street. The flower-beds were opalescent with asters, and the porch-boxes were effulgent with nasturtiums, among which a vibrant little humming-bird was wont to poise and dart.

But from the distance came the drone and honk of motors and the roar of trolley-cars, and we remembered that still the world was daily whirling by. We realized that we, too, would go home and say, "What a beautiful place Sir William's is!"

Young Trees Should be Planted

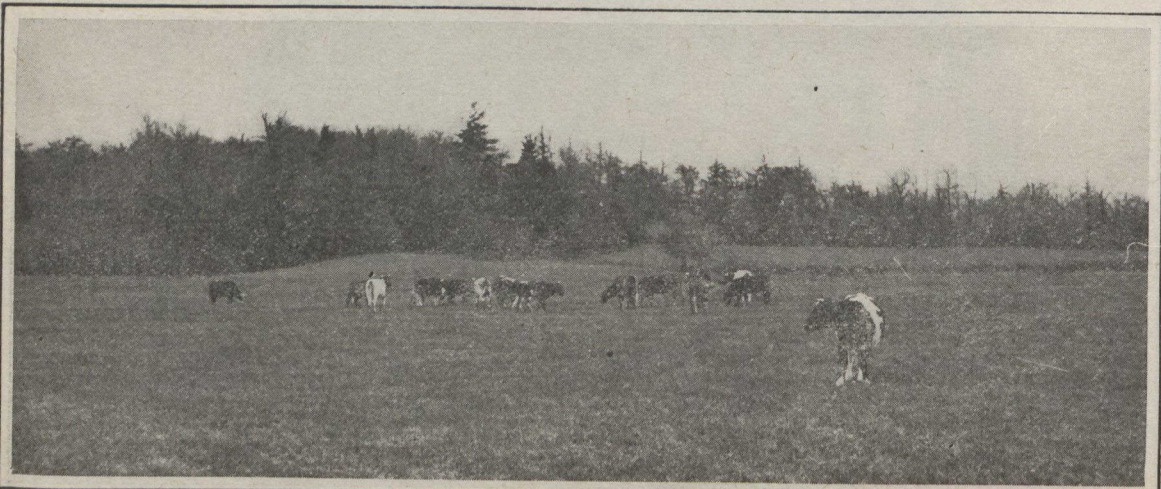
NO matter where the garden may be—in Europe, in the Dominion or elsewhere—old trees when lifted rarely recover, unless the most expensive methods of transplantation are adopted.

The well-known Canadian nurserymen—Stone and Wellington—point this out in their annual catalogue. "We cannot too strongly recommend," they write, "young trees, especially for orchard planting. They can be taken up with more perfect roots, are more likely to live, and will become more quickly established in a new location. They can also be more readily trained to any desired shape. The largest and most successful planters invariably select young, thrifty trees."

The best distances for planting are, it is mentioned: for standard apples, 30 feet apart each way; standard pears and strong-growing cherries, 20 feet; Duke and Morello cherries, 18 feet; standard plums, apricots, peaches, nectarines, 16 to 18 feet; dwarf pears, 10 feet to 12 feet; dwarf apples, and quinces, the same; grapes, rows to be 10 feet to 16 feet apart, 7 feet to 16 feet in the rows; currants and gooseberries, 4 feet apart; raspberries and blackberries, 4 feet by 5 feet; strawberries for field culture, 1 foot by 3½ feet; strawberries for hill culture, 2 feet apart each way.



Sir William's Barns with the Shetland Ponies on the Left and the Exmoor Ponies in the Field on the Right.



Sir William Prides Himself on his Beef Cattle. These Particular Animals will make Christmas Beef for the Epicures of Toronto.