

FOOT.—Of medium size, rather round, with good, strong and moderately deep wall; Sole rather concave; Frog well developed and strong; Heels broad and strong and not too deep; there must be an absence of any appearance of hardening or thickening of the lateral cartilages; must not turn toes either inwards or outwards when standing; must stand straight, with feet firmly planted, not too wide apart nor yet very close together; Feet must be of equal size...	10
HAUNCH.—Strong and heavily muscled, thick through ham; Quarters broad and strong...	4
STIFLE.—Compact, strong and well muscled...	2
GASKIN.—Muscles strong, and prominent and extending well down the limb; Bone large and substantial; Hamstring prominent and strong...	4
HOCK.—Large, strong and well developed in all directions, an absence of coarseness and puffiness; Point well developed and posterior border straight; must stand with hocks fairly well together and straight...	5
HOCK TO FOOT.—Cannon Bone broad, flat, strong and rather short; Ligament and tendons well developed and strong; not pinched in below the hock; an absence of beefiness; Skin lying close to bone and tendon; Limb must be well feathered on the posterior border with a reasonable quantity of hair of good quality, the same as the fore limb; Fetlock joint large and strong; Pasterns rather short and moderately oblique...	10
FOOT.—Smaller, narrower and more concave in the sole than the fore foot; Wall strong and moderately deep; Frog well developed and strong; Heels broad, strong and not too deep; Feet must be of equal size...	10
COLOR.—Bay, chestnut, brown, black, gray, with reasonable modifications; reasonable white markings not objectionable...	3
SKIN.—Soft, mellow and loose, not like parchment...	4
TEMPERAMENT.—Energetic, docile, not nervous...	4
STYLE AND ACTION.—General appearance attractive; Movements firm, smart and elastic; must be a good walker, all joints moving freely; Knees and Pasterns and Hocks and Pasterns well flexed, showing the soles of feet plainly; must not roll or paddle with fore feet, but, lifting them smartly from the ground, fetch them forward in straight line and plant them firmly; must not go wide with hocks or hind feet, nor yet close enough with the feet to interfere; in the trot these movements to be carried out in a more marked degree...	10
WEIGHT.—Say 1,700 lbs. upwards...	6
HEIGHT.—Say 16 to 17 hands...	6
SYMMETRY.—All points well proportioned and general conformation massive and graceful...	10

Perfection.....143

The desirable points in the mare or gelding of these breeds differ from those of the stallion only in the absence of the masculine appearance noticeable in the head, neck and general physiognomy. The head lacks this appearance, which is more easily recognized than described. The neck is not so massive in general, nor the crest so highly developed; the withers not so broad nor so heavily muscled. In temperament there is more docility. The weight is usually less, and the action not so heavy. "WHIP."

Note.—"Whip," in a private note, states his opinion that the best individuals of the two breeds, Clydesdale and Shire, are so nearly identical in character and purpose that one standard fairly applies to both. The standard given is claimed to be original and may be open to criticism, and horse breeders are invited to freely express their views on this subject, or any other horse topic, through the medium of our columns. —Ed. F. A.

#### Cresceus at Home.

Cresceus arrived home at Toledo, O., Jan. 8, and in answer to an inquiry as to whether or not the stallion king had trotted his last fast mile. Mr. Ketcham said: "I am not fully prepared to answer that. If I find that the horse is in good condition along about the middle of next August, I do not think it unlikely that he will be allowed to give a few exhibitions at different places. Until that time he will be kept busy at the farm." Mr. Ketcham said in addition to this, however, that Cresceus would, under no consideration, take part in another race. His days of battling against other horses are over. He has met and defeated them all, and the only opponent that he will ever fight again will be the watch. It is evident that his owner has not yet given up hope of reaching the long-sought two-minute mark, and it is quite likely that he will be seen making the attempt next fall if his condition is satisfactory to Mr. Ketcham.

#### Judging Clydesdales.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—Being always willing to do what I can to help along the horse interests of our country, I wrote an article on what judges have to contend with, which appeared in your Dec. 2nd issue. I see a reply in your Jan. 1st number by some unknown E. J. I have always been taught to believe that when anyone shoots at an opponent from a hiding place, he is either a coward or has no confidence in his own criticism, but I hope I am mistaken this time. By his positive "I say nay, sirs," his "you don't know," his theories of English and Scottish judging, and his dictation to export breeders of age and experience, we must suppose him to be an expert of no mean experience of some new school, and one who at least thinks he "knows it all." I will not waste much time or space on any theories unless I know the author to be an authority, but will just answer two or three of his misconstructions. In the first place, it seems he has never seen or heard of two different types of Clydesdales, possibly in the same ring: one of the true characteristics of the breed, the other, although of the same breed, yet of entirely different type. Where has he come from? Surely he is no native of our country, or has not used his eyes! I suggested, in order to encourage more size in the model Clyde, as he is now recognized the world over, to give special prizes to the large type that might be useful to cross with certain mares for a certain purpose. E. J. is seemingly up in Thoroughbreds also. A Thoroughbred is a Thoroughbred the world over, having a fixed type as such, and they are judged as such, but an association may and sometimes has, and sometimes has not, adopted the plan of selecting an animal of specially large size for some special purpose, but he is a Thoroughbred all the same. That is my suggestion with regard to the Clydes. Now, Mr. E. J., whoever you are, I want you to understand, as you say fairs are supposed to be educators for the people, that when people go to fairs they expect to see a finished article, and remember also when a judge is sent before the people to judge Clydesdales he is expected to judge them as such, and not as Shires or any other breed type, and they expect him to select the finished article characteristic of that breed. If I understand E. J. rightly, he is not only trying to throw dirty water at the judge, but also at the parties who own superior stuff. It may be himself or some of his friends who feel disappointed because they could not compete against their superiors. Any schoolboy ought to know that an animal of fair average size of the breed, of first-class quality, can win over a brute with perhaps a little more weight but with legs that would take a long blade to cut through what they call skin, and hardly know when they reach the bone, because it is not much harder than the hide. If fair boards cannot select judges to suit this E. J., he might suggest something that would suit him, say that they send in their weighmaster and scales to do their work quickly—highest weight, highest honors. Let E. J., before beginning to educate and dictate to England and Scotland how to judge horses, get his little A B C book on horse lore and read up. Remember, I like a good-sized horse as well as anyone, but I am Scotch in my views,—quality first, with as much size as is necessary to constitute a first-class horse for draft. Perhaps E. J. had better go over and give Mr. Hollaway also a lesson before he goes to Britain. Has his kind, that have beaten everything on both continents, bulk and not quality? Prince of Carruchan, known as the unbeaten Prince of Carruchan, has he bulk and not quality? I might name scores of world-beaters of that stamp, but when you go over you may see them yourself. You say our importers cannot get your kind. No, not easily. That kind that has nothing but bulk to commend them are played out long ago. Our importers have better sense than to bring them, if they could find them. I repeat, the last of your kind was selling about thirty years ago, when I saw them first, for less than geldings. You say they are importing Shires. Success to them, although I never owned but one Shire since I began importing, thirty years ago. I am going to disappoint you badly, for I am just going to get all the quality I want, with a touch of the best of your bulk. When I produce a few Princes, Darnleys, Princes of Avondales and others of that kind, I will send you a sample. Happy New Year to you, E. J., hoping when the weather gets warm you may be able to crawl out from under the barn and show yourself in daylight, so that we, who are always open for education, can learn from your experience on horse matters.

Huron Co., Ont.

ALEX. INNES.

#### Surprised and Delighted.

Allow me to express myself as delighted and surprised with the Christmas number of your magazine. I had no idea it was gotten up so nicely, and I consider it second to none of its class in Canada. The illustrations are excellent.

York Co., N. B.

H. F. ALBRIGHT.

#### STOCK.

##### Early or Late Calves: Which More Profitable?

The general opinion prevailing among breeders of cattle of both beef and dairy breeds appears to be that it is more profitable to have the bulk of the calves come from September to December. There is little doubt that with dairy cows this is preferable, as in winter butter brings the highest price and good cows pay well for the extra feed required to keep them in condition, while the calves can be conveniently and well grown during the winter and go out to grass in the spring, finding for themselves. The breeders of pure-bred beef cattle who make a practice of showing calves at the fall fairs aim to have them come early in the fall in order to have them large and well-developed to show as under a year old, and there are generally a good many breeders ready to buy good young bulls at that age in order to have them ready for service about the end of the year or when they are about 14 or 15 months old. The impression also prevails that breeders plan to have their best cows produce their calves in the fall, in order that their calves may be shown to advantage at the fairs, and that as a rule the best of the young bulls in the country are brought out to the fairs. A little reflection, however, may upset this theory, since it is known that not all the best breeders or best herds are represented at the fairs, many having made their reputation in that way years ago and having retired from the show-ring, and many others being first-class breeders and extensive importers who have never made a practice of showing their cattle at the fairs. Moreover, the best cows frequently do not stand to the early service, and for this or other reasons produce a calf in the spring. And there are advantages in having a part of the cows calve at that season. The heifers that were born in the fall months will be about the right age to produce their first calves in the spring when 2½ years old. If bred to calve in the fall at 2 years old, they are too young, and if to come in in the following autumn, will be three years or over, which in these days of demand for early maturity may be considered older than is necessary. These heifers, and the same may be said of cows, can be wintered well on cheaper food when not milking. A prominent breeder of pure-bred beef cattle some time ago remarked that he found February, March and April calves most profitable, and on being asked for an explanation of the reasons why, replied in substance as follows: "Cows winter cheaply and well when carrying calves. Calves go to grass with dams in May. They come in in October, healthy, vigorous, and with well-developed stomachs and muscles. They thrive immensely on good feed up to, say, January or February. Buyers come wanting bulls 'not less than 12 to 20 months,' but I sell these younger calves to them. They usually have heavy, glossy coats of hair, and they look big. I have invariably made my best prices on late calves. I seldom have a late calf remain over with me. I frequently sell July calves among the early sales. I price the older calves to bring customers, when I know that it is the younger ones they will buy when they see them. Not one bull out of three looks well when 14 or 15 months old, and I count it ruinous to have to feed after they are 14 months old. If buyers won't give my prices when the bulls are young, I just take theirs. I count that bulls do not make any money, on an average, if kept till two years old. Some are not salable and some barely pay expenses. Others make big prices, but only a few. I like to let some one who needs them pay for the feed and take risks." There is much sound sense as well as shrewdness in this presentation of the matter, and while all may not be so situated that they can successfully raise the calves by pasturing them with their dams, owing to shortness of grass land, it cannot be disputed that the free exercise secured in this way makes the best possible foundation for a strong and vigorous constitution in the youngsters, and the practice is economical both in regards to labor and feed. The comfortable conclusion may then be arrived at that if it is not more profitable, it is at least no serious misfortune to have a percentage of late calves.

##### What It Means.

I have taken the "Advocate" for the third of a century. I do not know that I can interpret the meaning of the cover of your Christmas number any better than this: That the picture of King Edward VII. means that the "Advocate" is a royal paper; the maple leaf, that it is loyal to the King and Canada; the stars mean that the "Advocate" has been illuminating the world for 35 years and will continue to do so for all time.

Yours truly,

WM. LINTON.

York Co., Ont.