

HORSES.

CLYDESDALES: PAST AND PRESENT.

What are the leading points of a Clydesdale horse, according to current standards, and in what respect has there been modification during the past thirty years? is a question propounded by the Editor of the Scottish Farmer, and his answer is: Much in every way. At the begin-

and perpendicular, and his hind legs moving in line, with the points of the hocks inclining inward, rather than outward. The Ivanhoe-Time o' Day, thick, short-legged type is not fancied in the young horse, and the growthy, upstanding, stylish youngster is credited with the prospect of thickening sufficiently when his growth has stopped.

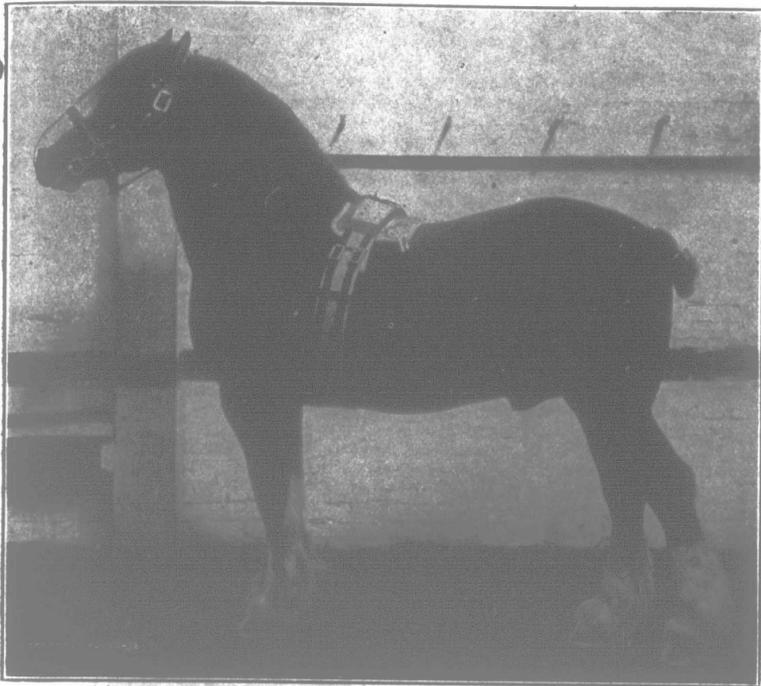
Should anyone misdoubt this account of the development of Clydesdale type during the past thirty years, let him compare the sketches published in the Merryton catalogues of 1875 to

1880 with the portraits of Clydesdales published by ourselves during the past 12 years. Let it be granted that some of the Merryton sketches may not have been true to life, in the sense in which photographs are, it will still be admitted that they represented the ideal in the mind of perhaps the best judge of draft horses in Scotland of his time. Put Mr. Drew's sketch of Lord Harry or Prince Imperial alongside the authentic photographs of Baron's Pride and Hiawatha, and the contrast is at once seen. In the Clydesdale of the present day there is as much substance and weight as in the horse which Mr. Drew aimed at producing, while there is far greater and more general uniformity in the quality of the bone, and much greater style and character. The change did not take place in a day. As we have already observed, the breed is the same; the material wrought upon has been moulded

idea after the animal is well up in his 'teens, and to a certain extent it is guess-work after nine years. After that age the differences looked for year after year become harder to distinguish, and are not as regularly present as in younger animals. Still, the changes appear with sufficient regularity to enable a person who has given the subject considerable study to avoid grave mistakes.

The horse has two sets of teeth, viz., the temporary or milk teeth, and the permanent or horse teeth. The temporary teeth differ from the permanent in being much whiter in color, much more constricted at the neck, and smoother from side to side, there being an absence of that depression or furrow noticed extending the whole length of the visible tooth in the permanent. The adult male animal has 40 teeth, classified as follows: 12 incisors, 4 canine or bridle teeth, and 24 molars. The female, with rare exceptions, has only 36, the canine teeth usually being absent. The incisors number six in each jaw; the pair in the center is called the central; the pair, one on each side of these, is called the lateral; and the pair, one on each side of these, is called the corner teeth. In male animals the canine teeth are seen in the interdental space (the space between the corner incisor and the first molar in each row); a small space exists between the corner and canine teeth. The molars are arranged in four rows, one on each side of the jaw, and are numbered 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th from before backwards. At birth the colt sometimes has four temporary incisors, the central pair in each jaw, but usually these do not appear for about 14 days, the laterals at about 9 weeks, and the corners at about 9 months. He always has 12 molars at birth, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 in each row, and he never gets any more temporary molars. At one year old the first permanent molar (which is No. 4) should be well up and in wear. At two years the second (No. 5) should be present. At three years Nos. 1 and 2 (temporary) should be shed and replaced by permanent ones, which should be well up; and at four years No. 3 (temporary) should be shed and replaced by a permanent one, and No. 6 should be seen well up and in wear. Hence, at four years old a colt should have a full set of permanent molars, and until this age is reached the appearance of these teeth will aid in determining age when any doubt exists. After about nine months old, at which time he has a full mouth of temporary incisors, no change takes place in these teeth, except that they become larger and the wearing surface gradually wears down and the hollows become less marked, until he reaches about 2½ years; between this age and three years the central temporary teeth are shed and replaced by permanent ones; between 3½ and 4 years the laterals are shed and replaced by permanent ones; and between 4½ and 5 years, the corner teeth are shed and replaced by permanent ones, and the canine teeth appear in males. Hence, a horse should have a full mouth at five years.

The permanent incisors are wide from side to side and shallow from before backwards, and the external surface of each presents a groove running the whole length of the tooth, the bearing surface shows a thin rim of a hard white substance called enamel, outside; internal to this is a portion of a darker substance called dentine, internal to which is a second ring of enamel, and within this is a hollow which shows a substance which becomes dark and is known as the mark. At six years the marks should be worn out of the central



Prince of Mayfield (imp.) (12289).

Clydesdale stallion; bay; foaled May, 1901. Sire Royal Stamp (10442). Winner of second prize, Ontario Horse Show, Toronto, 1907. Imported and exhibited by Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ont.

ning of that period the popular horse was a thick, round-ribbed, short-legged animal, with a round, open hoof, but not too oblique in the pasterns. It was necessary that he should wear a considerable growth of hair on his limbs, to secure which "blistering" was regularly resorted to, and straight movement in front and in rear was called for, but a good horse otherwise was not objected to if his hocks were set wide, provided he did not twist the points of the hocks outward when walking or trotting. In 1875 and 1876 the best horses at the Glasgow Stallion Show were, respectively, Time o' Day (875) and Darnley (222). In 1878 the best aged horse was Ivanhoe (396), and the best three-year-old Strathclyde (1538). Between these horses and Hiawatha (10067) there is a great gulf fixed. Between the type represented by all of them, except, perhaps, Darnley, and the type represented by quality horses, like Revelanta (11876) and other sons of Baron's Pride (9122), which in recent years have figured prominently at the stallion show, there is almost nothing in common, yet all belong to the same breed, and the later type has been evolved out of the material of which the earlier formed part.

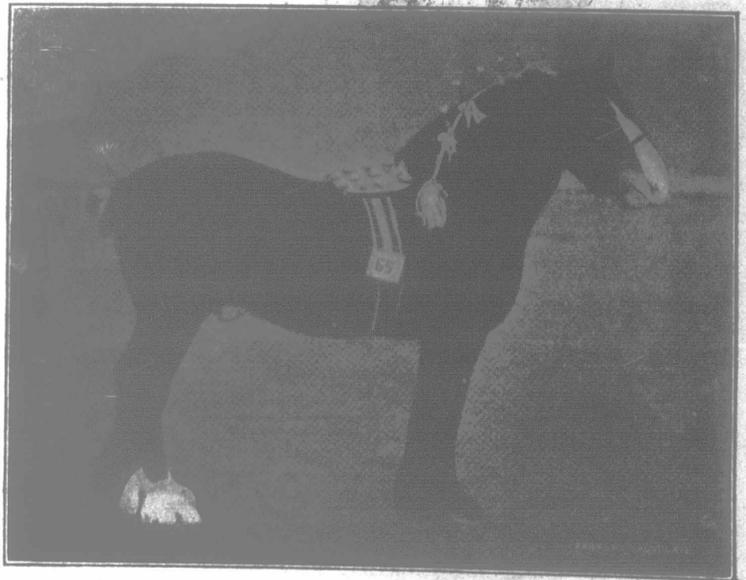
In the earlier days one often heard of "foundered" stallions. Laminitis was a common disorder among highly-fed horses, and show mares were also frequently victims of the disorder. Today, although laminitis is not unknown, it is seldom heard about, and a stallion which, in common parlance, "puts down his heels," is rarely seen in the show-yard. This means a big increase in the health and soundness of the breed. The great demand among fanciers now is for a horse which moves straight. Quality, which means durability and wearing efficacy, is above all things desired, and a term is in use as a recommendation to a young horse which the men of a generation ago would never have listened to. That term is "slender." It is not regarded as a qualification in a growing animal that he should be matured and "set." If we see a lad of eighteen "set" and built like a man who has reached manhood, we scarcely expect to see a man who will be handsome when he is matured. So with the horse. A young horse is thought highly of if his limbs are sharp and broad above feet well-shapen and well-grown; if he moves straight, with his fore legs planted well beneath his brisket,

through a gradual assimilation of the idea that wearing qualities are the only desirable attributes of the ideal draft horse.

JUDGING A HORSE'S AGE BY HIS TEETH.

A subscriber in Hants Co., N.S., asks us to print a rule for telling the age of a horse. We cannot do better than republish the excellent article by "Whip," which first appeared in April, 1902:

Dentition in the horse is more regular than in other animals. Still, it is liable to variations; and while deviations from certain rules are not common, we must recognize the fact that they occur, and even in a young horse the age cannot always be positively determined by the appearance of his teeth. In order that a person may become tolerably expert in judging the age of horses, it is necessary for him to pay particular attention to the appearances of the mouth at different ages. He should carefully examine the teeth of animals whose age he knows, and observe the general and special appearances and compare mouths of different ages. He must also note the differences that frequently exist in mouths of the same age; for while, as already stated, dentition is tolerably regular, it is not at all uncommon to observe several months' difference in dentition, especially in horses under five years. The student must not depend upon charts or lectures—he must have actual experience, and be able to recognize in the actual mouth what he has read or been taught to expect. Some people profess to be able to tell definitely a horse's age until he is thirty or over, but experience teaches us that such is not possible, and that the most expert can only arrive at an approximate



Baron Kitchener (10499).

Clydesdale stallion; foaled in 1897. Sire Baron's Pride. Winner of the Cowdor Challenge Cup, at Glasgow, 1907.