

Ponies and Pony Breeding.

For many years ponies of the various breeds have been imported into Canada, but the number brought has been restricted because of a duty of 20 per cent. charged by our Government. As yet they have not been admitted free as other animals for breeding purposes are. Why those in authority thus discriminate against this class of stock, which is now so rapidly growing in favor, is something we cannot understand. Doubtless the duty will remain as it is until a Canadian Stud Book for ponies is started. Breeders can then demand their free admission.

Ten years ago a pony and cart was quite a novelty in nearly all Canadian cities. This condition of things is fast passing away. The pony and the pony cart is the best and cheapest means of locomotion, especially for ladies and children's use, or for any kind of light driving in villages, town or cities or for similar country use. Many persons are under the impression that a pony can do but a very limited amount of work. This is a great mistake. Messrs. John Miller & Sons, Brougham, Ont., who have imported a great many ponies during the last twenty years,

hands high is considered the result of some degenerate foreign cross of the ancient Exmoor breed. From the above we learn what is considered a pony in their native home, Britain. At one time, and even by a certain class now, very small ponies were and are considered more valuable than those of a useful size. This is certainly a fallacious fancy, and if continued in will injure pony breeding in America. What is wanted is a useful, stylish, gentle pony, possessing high hock and knee action and not less than twelve hands high or more than fourteen hands. Anything much smaller than twelve hands is too much of a toy to be useful. Anything above fourteen hands should certainly be looked on with suspicion concerning the purity of its breeding as a pony.

One of the most difficult things to get is a really good

PONY CART.

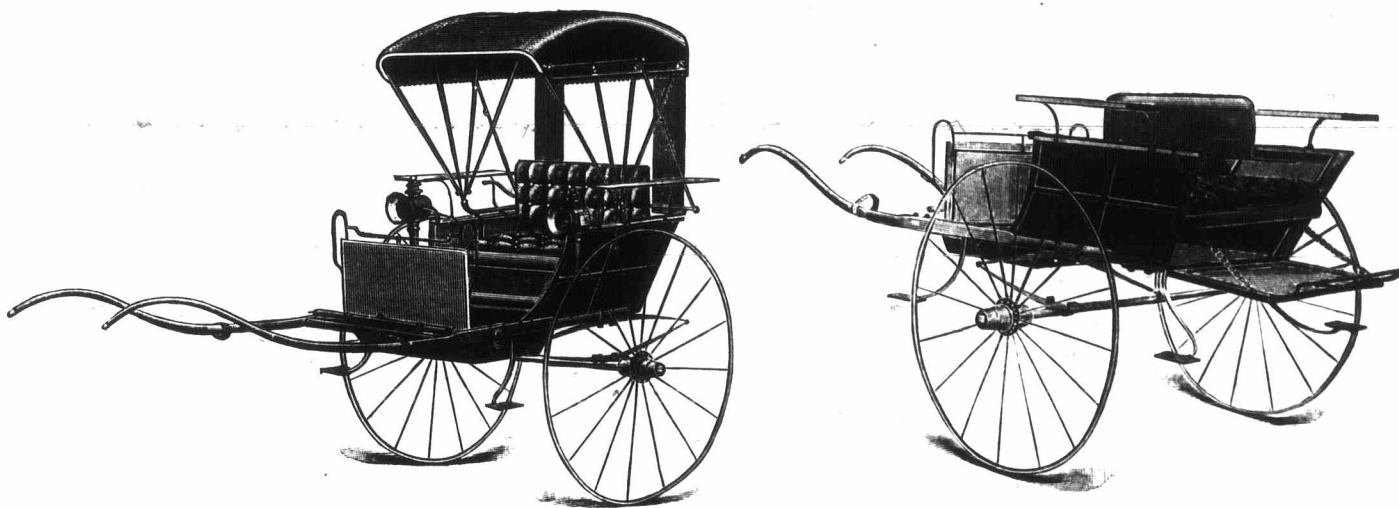
Many of those made in Canada are poor in workmanship and tiresome to ride in. Mr. Wm. Newport, Whitby, Ontario, some years ago introduced an English pattern. His carts, both single and double, large and small are very desir-

and safe for children to ride or drive. The large-sized pony is the most useful, although at present the smaller they are the more valuable they are considered. We would recommend the raising of good, strong, useful ponies, as in the future they will be in more demand, and if crossed with a blood horse bring good, strong drivers that are very desirable. We know one now that is doing as much driving as any horse in this part of the country and standing it well. She is bred from an imported pony and sired by a blood horse. Upon the whole we are very well satisfied with importing and handling ponies, so much so that we intend to keep a few always on hand.

PONIES IN BRITAIN AND CANADA.

BY G. W. ROBINSON, KINGSTON, ONT.

The value of ponies in Canada is from \$100 to \$150. Some old ones sell for less, and I have sold several for \$200 each. They are very valuable in cities, as they will do as much running around as the majority of people do with their large horses; they are stronger, according to size, than a large horse, and it is no trouble for a good 11 to 12 hand pony to start off on a good trot before cart or buggy with two grown people



TWO STYLES OF THE NEWPORT CART.

have owned many that did a great amount of work. One of their importation was sold to a leading grocer in a country town and was used for upwards of twelve years in his delivery cart, and was at the end of that time, to all appearances, a good sound pony. Mr. Miller has now a grey pony mare which his family has driven for upwards of twenty years and she is still sound and active and a remarkably good traveler. Mr. Robert Miller, sr., owns and drives a pony which has few equals as a driver, either among ponies or horses. He stands about thirteen hands and is very handsome. Mr. S. Sidney, in his famous work, The Book of the Horse, on page 211, writes thus of the pony:—"Next to, or even before the brougham horse, comes the pony, which is a sort of equine servant-of-all-work; that on which the boys and girls learn to ride and a ready resource in any emergency." The question, What is a pony? is somewhat difficult to answer. In Yorkshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire anything under 15 hands 2 inches is called a pony. In Suffolk, famous for its horse breeding, the height of a pony is settled at 13 hands 3 inches and under. In Nottinghamshire anything under 14 hands 2 inches is called a pony. In Devonshire and Somersetshire a pony over twelve

able in every particular—durable, handsome and most comfortable to ride in, and considering the workmanship they are cheap. We have three of them now in use and like them very well indeed. We have seen very flattering reports received from parties in various parts of the Dominion, written by parties who have used these carts. The following are the views of well-known men concerning the usefulness of ponies:—

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK FOR PONY BREEDING.

BY R. MILLER, SR., PICKERING, ONT.

We would say we have imported a great number of ponies and have also bred quite a number. They have given us good returns for money invested—equally as much as other branches of stock raising. We consider them valuable for city use, as they can be kept so much cheaper than a horse, and for a light load, short driving on good roads they are equally as good. From present prospects we think the demand for them for city purposes will rapidly increase, as all those who have handled them like them. If raised by farmers to a limited extent I think they would have no trouble in disposing of them at good prices. The cost of raising them is never noticed on a farm. We have found them, without exception, quite active, prompt drivers

in. The vehicles also that are used are generally low, making them very desirable for ladies going calling or shopping. For Young Canada what could be nicer than to see several youngsters with ponies out enjoying themselves in the park or on the road. In Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland, also London, England, ponies are used by all classes of people and for all purposes—butchers, bakers, huxters,—pulling loads that would surprise Canadian people, while everywhere could be seen ladies and children driving wonderfully little creatures. In Hyde Park, London, one morning I counted over 100 ponies and turnouts with ladies, children or invalids. Six years ago I bought my first. Since then I have raised, bought and sold over 200. All my driving, which is considerable, is done by ponies. I have a team forty-seven inches high that I can drive right along eight miles an hour—have done so many times for thirty miles at a stretch. Last summer a team of my ponies, forty-five inches high, was driven fifty-five miles in twelve hours, including stops, in a four-wheeled trap carrying two grown people. I can feed three ponies on what one horse will consume. They will eat almost anything. I can safely say a Newfoundland dog will cost more to keep than a pony. I had no idea the work that could be