

HORSES AND CATTLE.

THE ROYAL GEORGES.

Due to what circumstances and to what commingling of blood will be seen as the narrative proceeds, Ontario can boast two families of horses, founded within her own borders, that are, beyond all question, eminently adapted for the purposes of the hour—the Royal Georges and the Clear Grits.

The Royal Georges are thus described by Dr. McMonagle:—

"The class of horses in Ontario particularly, that have a type of their own, that are firm in their characteristics, that are undying in their habits, and that have always held their ancestral heredity in spite of all opposition, are the Royal Georges. They originated in the Tippoos, coming through Black Warrior, and contain within themselves characteristics that cannot be destroyed. They have size, form, velocity, longevity, and a type that leads to permanency in the family; a type that makes good carriage horses, and has of late produced some valuable trotters—that trot close to twenty—campaigners, and winners. I have thought it possible that they could be the basis of a class of horses strictly Canadian, which, coupled with appropriately selected thoroughbreds, would produce the essential desideratum of the present day—the park or coach horse. The Canadian Royal Georges stand well on their limbs; they are large, muscular, have good, sound constitutions, and doubtless originally, in ancestral distance, had a pacing root."

The origin of these horses is given as follows:—

"The Tippoos and Royal Georges are, emphatically, a Canadian stock. They originated with Isaac Morden, of Prince Edward county, near Belleville or Napanee, in 1816 or 1818. The original founder was Tippoo, styled 'Old Black Tippoo.' He was the produce of a mare that was brought to Canada, it is said, from the United States, by a preacher, Mr. Howard. She was in foal when Mr. Morden obtained her from Mr. Howard, and she produced this black colt in the spring of 1817. The sire of Tippoo was never known, though it has been claimed, without proof, that he also belonged to the United States.

"From Tippoo we had Warrior. Warrior was a direct descendant of Tippoo. Warrior's mother was an English-bred mare belonging to an officer of the army, in the 1st Royals. She was of the Warrior lineage, and was brown, although the Tippoo family were black, and from her we have a brown horse, which is known as 'Black Warrior.' His owner, Mr. Johnson, in 1840, intended to take the horse to Michigan, but on his way he got lame, and was traded to a Mr. Barnes, living twenty miles south of London, who kept him until he died. Many of his get were pacers.

"From the veins of Warrior we have Royal George, and from the loins of Royal George we have the best breed of horses that ever lived in Canada. He produced Lady Byron, 2:28; Lady Hamilton, 2:30; Tartar, 2:28½; and Toronto Chief, 2:24½ (saddle); also Royal Revenge, and others that have produced trotters going as low as 2:20½, and selling in the market at as high as \$10,000. His family also include Caledonia Chief, 2:29½;

Byron, 2:25½; Fred Hooper, 2:23; J. Ellis, 2:20; Lucy, 2:20½; Belle of Toronto, 2:30; Neli, 2:27; John S. Clark, 2:30; Mike Jefferson, 2:20½; Fanny Jefferson, 2:28½; Thomas Jefferson, 2:28; Commodore Nut, 2:29; Ben Flagler, 2:26½; Geo. F. Smith, 2:28; and many others not included in the 2:30 lists. The greatly dreaded old-time trotter, Tacony, with a mile record of 2:20, and a two-mile one of 5:2—the winner of more than twenty hotly contested events—the conqueror of Flora Temple in two set races, was Canadian bred, by Sportsman, a son of old Tippoo. Another son of old Tippoo, the Sager horse, got the fast mare, Crazy Jane, 2:27; another, a grandson of old Tippoo, got J. H. Burke."

The descent of Royal George, on the dam's side, is thus referred to:—

"An early descendant of Messenger, Harris' Hambletonian, sometimes known as Bristol Hambletonian, produced two daughters, which Mr. Billington, of Middlebury, Vt., was taking to Detroit, and while travelling near London, Ontario, the off one permanently injured herself by getting her foot through a corduroy bridge, and became crippled for life. She was sold to Mr. Barnes,

Of the Royal George family, two stallions, available for stud service in Ontario at the present time, are prominently mentioned in the evidence. One of these, "Wm. B. Smith" (represented in the accompanying illustration), is owned by Mr. Wiser, M.P., of Prescott, and his services can be had at a moderate fee; the other, "Erin Chief," also available at a most reasonable charge, is the property of Messrs. A. & R. Wells, of Aurora (Yrk). Of "Wm. B. Smith," Mr. Wiser says in his evidence:

"The horse I speak of is a descendant of Royal George, out of an imported mare. His name is Wm. B. Smith, and he was sired by Thomas Jefferson, a trotter with a record of 2:28, who, in turn, was sired by Toronto Chief, and he by Royal George. On the side of his dam, he is out of imported Heather Bloom by Tallyho. He is one of the kind of trotting stock from which I propose to breed our farm horses—those for lighter agricultural work. He is also of the kind to cross with the Messenger stock, so as to get the park horse, if we ever are to get it. He stands sixteen hands high, and is a bright chestnut colour. On my own track he has showed me a mile in 2:35, and a half-mile in 1:16."

Of Erin Chief, the following account has been obtained:—

"Erin Chief is a golden chestnut, 15½ hands high, weighing 1,200 pounds, with fine trotting action, requiring neither weights nor boots. He is a very bright, intelligent animal, and of a particularly docile disposition. He was got by Howe's Royal George, whose sire was Field's Royal George, son of Royal George, the founder of the family, who was consequently grandsire to Erin Chief. His dam was Erin Queen, daughter of imported Charon, a horse of distinguished pedigree."

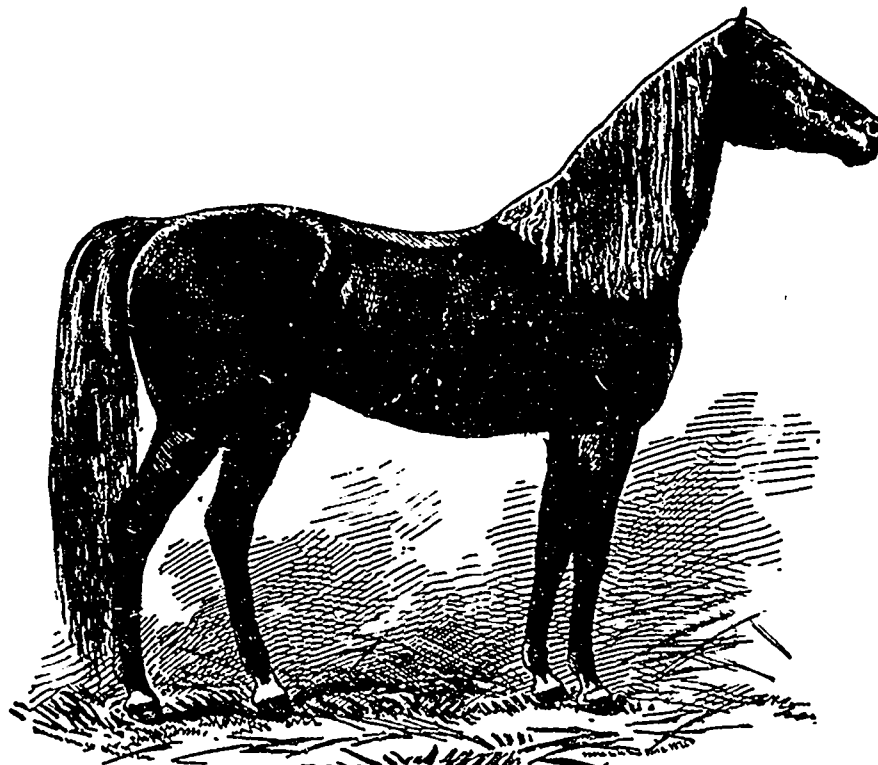
Erin Chief has been nine years serving as a stud horse, having in that time sired no less than 400 colts, which show his characteristics in a remarkable degree. He has had very little training, but can, it is said, trot a mile in 2:30, or better. A considerable number of his progeny are stated to be able to show three minutes or better in their three-year-old form. Five or six that have been trained have done 2:30 on a first-class track. No less than forty-six of his progeny were exhibited at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition last fall.

Mr. Williams, deploring the rapid disappearance of Canadian families of horses, remarks that the Royal Georges are going in the same way. It is much to be hoped that such a result may be averted, and a family of horses so well qualified to give reputation to the horse-breeding industry of Canada be carefully encouraged and maintained.—From Ontario Agricultural Commission Report.

BREEDERS SHOULD BE FARMERS.

We have more than once emphasized the fact that general farmers are properly to be classed as breeders. For some of our readers it is worth while to emphasize the kindred fact that breeders are also farmers.

The difference between fair profit and heavy loss from a stud of horses, or herd of cattle or pigs, or flock of sheep, may lie not alone in questions of good selection of animals, good pedigrees, and sound principles of breeding, but also in



"WM. B. SMITH"—(ROYAL GEORGE).

the then owner of Black Warrior, and became the dam of Royal George.

"This was a dark bay or almost brown horse, fully sixteen hands high, and well proportioned. His head and neck were good, his body deep and round, joints large and strong, and legs and feet without fault or blemish. When Royal George was three or four years old, Mr. Barnes sold him to James Forshee; hence the 'Forshee horse.' During this period he was looked upon as a large, strong, handsome business horse, and a remarkably fine traveller, but nobody dreamed that anything fast would ever spring from him, or that he would found a Canadian family. Mr. Munger bought him from Mr. Forshee, and sold him to Mr. Dougherty, of St. Catharines, for \$400. It was Mr. Dougherty that gave him the name of Royal George. In 1858, W. H. Ashford, of Lewiston, N. Y., bought him and kept him there and at Buffalo two or three years. I think he was again repurchased by Mr. Dougherty, and died at St. Catharines in 1861. There is no tradition of his ever being in a race except once, and that at Hamilton, on the ice, in 1852, in a contest for a very considerable wager with the famous 'State of Maine.' Royal George won easily, and was not extended beyond a 2:50 clip."