

tall, powerfully built, bony animal, rarely falling short of 15½ or exceeding 16½ hands. The chest and withers are almost invariably good; the head bony, lean, and well set. They are sound, hardy and active, with excellent capabilities for draft and good endurance. Their general trotting speed may be estimated at from six to eight miles an hour."

After the stage coach passed away, the farmers, to meet the requirements of the gentlemen, inter-bred these horses with the blood horse, and by this means reduced them in size. From this course of breeding has descended a very superior class, which have developed into the family now found throughout Yorkshire, and more or less in the midland counties, as the farm, riding and driving horse of the farmers. They are highly valued in England, the Continent and Australia, and are certainly destined to become very popular in America. We do not for a moment suppose they are going to supercede the Clydesdales or other families of draft horses, the breeding of which will always be profitable. They have their place, so has the Cleveland, which will be the general purpose horse in many sections, the gentleman's heavy driver, coach and bus horses. We would not advise our farmers to breed them to high grade draft mares, but to snug, compact Canadians and natives. Such mares, of good weight, will give us fine stylish horses, possessing many, if not all the good qualities of their sire, and the depth and substance belonging to their dams; bred on our smaller mares, we may expect handsome light drivers, when not too leggy, but in any case they will be showy, yet very kind and tractible; bred on our large, loose draught mares we would expect a lank, raw brute of little beauty or value.

The St. Louis Republican, speaking of the Clevelands, says:—"English buyers have hunted our horse market through repeatedly for good coachers, and seem happy if they manage to secure half-a-dozen head in two weeks, without stopping at price. The scarcity is due to the want of stallions of the proper class, and it is as well to be frank at once and say that neither the thoroughbred nor the trotting stallion will, by crossing, give the desired result. If we want a real coach horse, we should look for animals from 16 to 16½ hands. Whole colors, bays and browns, are most desirable, and these can best be raised from ordinary good-sized mares, crossed with a Cleveland Bay stallion. As we are now practically without a coacher, and as London, Paris and New York horse dealers will give almost any price for large, well matched carriage horses, the Cleveland Bay is the horse to which all the London and Parisian dealers look for coachers, and the home of this horse is Yorkshire, where they have been bred for ages. As youngsters, the colts of this breed are slow to mature, and at two years old rather leggy, but a year later they begin to fill out, and at four years old are superb. For steady return a farmer cannot do better than dip into this blood, by securing a good full blood stallion, either imported or home-bred. They cross well on almost any kind of trotting stock or fairly well-bred running, provided the mares given are not too small."

Barrett Brothers have been very enterprising breeders for upwards of twenty years, and in that time have imported and bred a large number of very fine Clydesdales, Shire horses, Morgans and standard-bred trotters.

Among their recent importations is the famous trotting horse Kentucky, also Master Morgan, a superb horse, and the Clydesdale stallions Brachead (3456) and Lord Morton (5190), both very good horses. These gentlemen do not feed as high as most of our importers, but keep their stock in good growing condition, and by close attention to business and the strictest economy in all departments, they are enabled to sell first-class animals at very reasonable prices.

### Farmers' Clubs.

#### Dominion Farmers' Council.

[The Dominion Farmers' Council meets in the city of London, Ont., on the third Thursday of every month, at 2 o'clock p. m. All communications should be addressed to the secretary, A. LEHMANN, LONDON, ONT. This Council has now on hand pamphlets containing its Constitution and By-laws, with an account of its origin, objects, etc., also a form of Constitution and By-laws suitable for Farmers' Clubs, which will, on application to the Secretary, be distributed free to all parties having in contemplation the organization of clubs.]

The regular monthly meeting of the DOMINION FARMERS' COUNCIL was held on the 15th ult., ex-President Leitch in the chair.

#### NEW CLUBS.

Moved, seconded and carried that the "Fitzroy Maple Leaf Farmers' Club" be amalgamated with this Council.

#### THE FRUIT INTERESTS OF CANADA.

The following paper was read by Mr. A. G. Deadman, an experienced orchardist, who has at present 15 acres in orchard:—

I trust after 30 years experience I may offer some hints and instructions that may assist in successfully growing of fruits. There was a time when growing apples to a large extent was considered by many the greatest folly, and I was told by several, when I planted my orchard about 30 years ago, that I was crazy, that I never could dispose of my fruit after it came into bearing, and that I was occupying the best land I had, which would pay better in farm crops. But I may say my anticipations have been more than realized, and my neighbors now regret that they did not plant more fully when I did. At that time there was no shipping demand, save for our home market, which was limited. But for a series of years we have realized paying prices. The change is now noticed by many who begin to see the bright prospects for those who enter into the cultivation of the apple with intelligence and care. There is no farm production that can approximately yield the same profit. Some seasons may be unfavorable, or the crop may be so abundant that a glut occurs at home; but now we have the assurance that the foreign markets take all we can produce, if we grow the right varieties for shipment—those that will keep longest and are most in demand both in the United States and England. Last year has been one of the most profitable to the fruit grower; the crop was excellent and good prices were paid, and the acknowledged excellence of Canadian apples will surely cause it to continue to be a most valuable crop in the future. Many say we are going to plant too much, and will overdo the market, but the apple cannot be successfully cultivated everywhere; and the great Northwest is going to be our future market, increasing year by year, even this year some thousands of barrels were shipped there from Ontario, diminishing the export to England by nearly 100,000 barrels. They will never be able to grow apples to any great extent, except in the far

west in and favored localities. Besides, the West India Islands and Cuba will be a good market as soon as steam communication is opened up. I saw a quotation of American apples at \$16 per barrel at Cuba. With rapid transit and cheap freights our fruits will be shipped to all parts of the world.

I do not expect we can greatly improve on many varieties we now have, except by a chance seedling that may prove more hardy for northern culture. I think no one can complain of the quality of the kinds we now grow, nor of their beauty. What we must do is to keep them from deteriorating, as many kinds have done, and are not now worthy of a place in the orchard.

First then let us cultivate those kinds that are of good color and quality, and that realize the best prices in the English market. Of these I would name, Golden Russet, Baldwin, King of Tompkins, Blenheim Orange, Northern Spy, Fallwater and Canada Reds, for winter shipment; and Cayuga Red Streak for late fall and early winter; a few for home market in addition to the foregoing, Red Astrachan, Duchess of Oldenburg and Snow. But in any locality where any particular kind does well, those varieties should then be selected, as we all know certain soils and location suits some kinds better than others. I have realized more from the Golden Russet than any other for shipment, and Northern Spy for United States and home markets. The great trouble and failure in profit has been from planting too many worthless varieties, not good for shipment, glutting the home market.

The apple will grow in any well-drained soil, provided it is not too mucky or too heavy clay with a retentive subsoil. In the latter case trees should be planted near or on the surface, and well ridged up after planting by two plowings; have the land dressed with lime or ashes and old manure, making good surface drainage between the rows. But to grow good fruit the tree should be planted in a strong loam, or loamy clay, with a calcareous or limestone subsoil, but a sandy loam with a gravelly subsoil will grow excellent fruit and healthy trees. They should be planted 35 or 40 feet apart according to the variety of tree, and where there is plenty of suitable land not less than 40 feet, so that in after years there will always be plenty of light and sunshine to the roots. We planted ours 30 feet, the usual distance, but they are nearly touching each other, and altogether too close. If planted 40 feet the land can be easily worked for years and crops put in with very little inconvenience from the trees, and the tillage will be beneficial to the trees. We have always cultivated our orchard, and manured it occasionally with stable manure and ashes. Under any treatment a yearly growth of not less than one foot on leading limbs is necessary, or your orchard requires more stimulating manures; but never let your trees become stunted by neglect or by being too long seeded down, or any other cause. Our trees have made a growth of more than one foot the past season, notwithstanding the great drought we experienced and the heavy crop of fruit they matured.

Next in importance is pruning, and I am sorry to observe such ignorance and want of common sense shown by those who, by reading and observation, ought to know better, but as long as newspapers will continue to insert articles giving advice to prune at any time when convenient, it