

than any others. The result is that even when a good trotting stallion is brought into Canada there are comparatively few decently bred mares within his reach, and, acknowledging this fact, we recommended our farmers to first try and elevate the standard of their brood mares by breeding to thoroughbred stallions, not in the hope of getting trotters, but to produce good useful market-able geldings for either the Canadian or English market, and at the same time a type of brood mares of which something good might be hoped when coupled with good trotting stallions of acknowledged merit. If this be threshing the same old straw over and over, we shall continue to thresh "the same old straw" till the error is amended, but we are happy to say that such a prospect is not very remote.

As to our being very old or very young, Brother Wallace is out in his facts, as he has been many a time before. We are old enough to remember when the idols before which he bowed as the source of all trotting excellence were Old Messenger and the "Straddling Turk," just as he now kneels reverentially before the "Canadian Mongrel," and we are still young enough to afford us a reasonable hope that we may live to see that venerable and portly form bending low before some new star in his firmament of mythical progenitors of all trotting excellence. We can well remember when, according to Mr. Wallace, Tippoo traced straight back to old Messenger, now he is 'a mongrel of the mongrels.' In those days Grey Eagle, one of our best progenitors of trotters, was also "supposed" by Mr. Wallace to have come of Messenger stock, though it is well known here that his sire was a smallish white stallion (not unlikely of Moorish Barb origin) imported from France by a monastery near Quebec, while his dam was a black thoroughbred mare brought out from England by an English officer and given by him to his servant, who left the service and became a greengrocer in Quebec.

If Brother Wallace would only "sit down" and without any preconceived bias "study the history of horses bred in Canada," he would not be betrayed into making such blunders when writing of them, and he would not find it so easy to trace all trotting excellence to the Canadian Mongrel. As he asks us to do so, however, we shall try.

Our fastest trotter is the brown mare Phyllis, by Phil Sheridan out of a daughter of Tom Sayers. Now, Phil Sheridan was a son of Young Columbus, he by Old Columbus, a horse of whose origin little or nothing is known. And more than this, he himself would have been forgotten ere this had he not been coupled with the warm blood of Black Maria to produce Young Columbus. Of course the worshippers of cold blood will give to the unknown Old Columbus all the credit of such performers as Phil Sheridan, Myron Perry, and any other trotters that Young Columbus may have sired, but people who base theory on facts rather than facts on theory will ask what good trotters trace back to Old Columbus through channels down which no warm blood

flows. But to follow the breeding of Phyllis. The dam of her sire was Plack Fly, a mare that would trot in '40 and stay well for an untrained one. There was some doubt about her pedigree, but it was generally supposed that she was either by a son of Tippoo or by Black Jack (Rescue). Be that as it may, however, here was another reinforcement of the trotting inheritance quite distinct from Old Columbus. Now be it remembered that Phil Sheridan, though very fast in places and a very steady trotter, was not quite a stayer. A mile was rather too long for him, and of all of his get that we have ever seen (and we have seen a great many) we never knew but one even moderately good stayer out of the many that he got out of cold-blooded mares, and that was Dred (afterward Commonwealth). All that can be said of his dam is that her breeding was unknown; while of her only son that was of any account, Commonwealth, the best that can be said is that he was a very moderate stayer. Sheridan got trotters out of all sorts of mares, but it was only when he was crossed with well-bred ones that he got stayers. We now come to the dam of Phyllis. She was by Tom Sayers out of a road mare of Messenger extraction. Tom Sayers was by old Grey Eagle (whose breeding we have already given) and a reputed thoroughbred mare by Tom Kimball out of the thoroughbred running mare, Shepardess, one of Canada's old-time racers. So much for the fastest trotter Canada has ever produced. Now, as to the pacers, it is not necessary to tell a long story. Fuller is far away the best pacer ever bred in Canada, and his sire was Clear Grit, a son of imported Lapidist and a dam that had a goodly dash of warm blood in her composition besides what she took from her grandsire Cock of the Rock (thoroughbred son of Duroc and Romp).

Now with regard to Mr. Wallace's question, "What horse, not a mongrel, was ever brought from Canada that proved himself worth a sixpence for stock purposes?" In days gone by, when the venerable propounder of this question maintained that Tippoo was a grandson of Old Messenger, it would have been easy to answer this question by mentioning Toronto Chief, Field's Royal George, Big-Legged Warrior, and others of that family, but now that he has been seized with a fit of mongrel worship, and therefore attributes all trotting excellence to that source, it becomes a little more difficult to give an answer that will properly accord with his views. We have not sent many well-bred horses to the United States that have been used for stock purposes, while the mongrels that have become distinguished trotting progenitors have become so by being coupled with warm-blooded mares. We can however take the edge off Brother Wallace's conundrum by mentioning the fact that during a very short stay made by Clear Grit in New York State he managed to get so distinguished a performer as Flora F., while it would take some space to enumerate all the good ones the same horse has sired in Canada. The old farmers of north-eastern New York could tell

Brother Wallace that Old Grey Eagle, though he only spent a short time in their quarter, was worth many sixpences to them as a stock horse.

And now a few words as to what Brother Wallace calls "Old Pacing Pilot."

Who knows that this old horse was a pacer? Who knows that he was bred in Canada, and if so, where and by whom? And lastly, who knows how many good ones came from his loins except as the result of his union with the warm-blooded Nancy Pope? Brother Wallace speaks of Old "Pacing" Pilot, and later on he says that "the despised blood of the little Canuck pacer has been brought into contact with the purest blood of the desert a thousand times, and never once failed to 'knock it out in the first round.'" How was it with the union of "Old Pacing Pilot" and Nancy Pope? If Olu Pilot was a pacer, that must have been an instance in which the pure blood of the desert "knocked out" that of the Canuck pacer in the first round, for so good an authority as Dr. Herr, who owned Pilot jr., says that though he trained and handled him, though he had driven the horse at "every rate of speed from a walk up to his highest rate," and though he had seen him in his box-stall, in his paddock, and in races, he never while he had him in his possession saw the least disposition in the horse to strike a pace, but always found him to be a square and resolute trotter. But this is not all that Dr. Herr has to say about the grandsire of Maud S. He says:—"I owned and saw many of his colts, and although he served mares from pacing families, I never saw one of his colts pace. He may have gotten an occasional pacer, but such never came under my observation, as all his colts were square and honest trotters."

Now, in the face of all this, does Mr. Wallace mean to attribute more of the phenomenal speed and staying qualities of Maud S. to one-eighth of the Old Pilot blood in her composition than to the three-eighths of warm blood that she receives through her dam? He says Old Pilot was a pacer; if so, the warm blood of Nancy Pope knocked the "pace" out of the family when Pilot jr. was produced, and then at the back of this comes the union of the latter with the thoroughbred Sally Russell.

We would advise no one to breed to a race horse in the hope of producing a trotter as the immediate result, but we are very confident that if breeders of trotting horses had always believed in the doctrines that Brother Wallace is now propounding, a record of "2.10" would have still looked as shadowy and impossible as it did twenty years ago. We always find the courage, the stay, and the speedy conformation in their highest degree in the thoroughbred. In breeding trotters we have other qualities as well as these to look after, and we must not sacrifice the former in seeking to secure the latter. It is only a few years, comparatively speaking, since we commenced breeding trotters that in the light of current achievements on the trotting turf are worthy the name of trotters, and