

The Horse.

The Carriage Horse.

The horse large enough and in every way suitable for a carriage horse is at the same time a good horse for the farmer's use, and for all purposes. The carriage horse needs size—1150 to 1200 weight, and with such substance he is a very respectable farm or team horse, and naturally is a good roadster. We glean the following from an article on this subject in the *Kentucky Live Stock Record*:

To gain style, finish and gamey coach teams it is necessary to have a strong infusion of the thoroughbred blood. Many trotting sires scattered through the State of Kentucky possess all the requisites to breed the fine coach and coupe-horse; but we cannot name them for fear of giving offence to some extremely sensitive people. But what is wanted in a sire of coach horses is plenty of substance, well placed, deep and well proportioned body, strong and clean bone under the open knee, sound and tough feet, with fine and keen action, lifting their feet high and ranging in height from fifteen to sixteen and a half hands. It will not be out of place to say that Alexander's Edwin Forrest and his descendants furnish the best specimens of this kind of horse we have had for years. This strain mingled with mares possessing a strong infusion of thoroughbred blood would make a most capital cross, and produce an elegant and stylish coach and harness horse.

The great difficulty in matching horses or finding a pair of good matched horses is well known to dealers. Single horses of some style and finish can be found, but the great difficulty is in matching them. This is owing to the miscellaneous way in which horses have been bred for the last twenty years. A team, matched, sixteen hands high, well made, with style and finish, are hard to find, and command a fancy price; whereas five and twenty years ago any number of such teams could be picked in Kentucky. Another cause of this lack of coachers is the mania for breeding trotters, which have been bred far beyond their demand. If farmers will turn their attention to breeding fine coach horses, they will find a ready market, save the expense they annually incur in developing the speed of young trotters, and do themselves and the State a great profit.

Horses in England.

Mr. R. H. Hillhouse calls attention to degeneration in some classes of horses, in the *London Agricultural Gazette*, as follows: I saw a month ago a lot of buck-skinned, lathy, fiddle-headed horses, on the road at exercise, troopers! quite unfit for campaign, narrow middle pieces, small sheaths, weak necks, weeds! The heads of the departments ought not to overlook the injunction, *Respicere finem*; it is a national question, and one of moment to England. Why should our troopers be mounted on the foreigner's culls? Horncastle is just over, and a sharp trade was done on the export account. Horses are as essential as men in war; i. e. success, *ceteris paribus*, depends on the quality. I like a stiff dock, full sheath, circularity of rib formation—the true indices of constitution. Blood head, thin dock, flat cannons, oblique shoulders, and long quarters—attributes of breeding. Sound feet and legs for work. We send animals of real practical utility to the Continent! We get soft phlegmatic horses and a gorilla in return! As we possess, the sort that—

"When the country is deepest I give you my word,
'Tis a pride and a pleasure to put him along,
O'er fallows and pastures he skims like a bird!
For there's nothing too high, nor too wide, nor too strong,
As the ploughs cannot choke, nor the fences can stop,
Our clipper that stands in the stall at the top."
Let us value our breed and maintain the standard.

Another line by Byron Webber, and I'll say adieu.

"A handsomer colt never danced on the daisies,
That satin coat covers tough sinews. Yet hold!
Let him collar the hill ere you carol his praises,
Base metal will glisten as brightly as gold;
Behold him! He's cut it!! Ears drooping, flag working,
The beauty's a craven! The other runs well;
She's plain and three-cornered, but—has not learnt shirking.
Just remember, my boys, that breeding will tell!!

Blood! speed!! and bottom!!! The true characteristics of the English and Irish horse.

Training Colts.

We constantly see inquiries in the agricultural journals, from farmers, asking for some information as to the best method of handling trotting colts for speed. Without denying the knowledge which comes from experience, of professional

and patience is competent to perform. If the intention is to make a matured horse of the immature animal at two years of age, we acknowledge that professional experience may be required; but we believe that most sensible men are fast reaching the conclusion that the course pursued by some breeders in this connection is a suicidal one, and one not calculated to eventually fill the purse. If a colt is taken up for harness the fall he is two years old, and is driven gently a few miles every day with a light weight on a smooth road, if there is any trot in him he will come to it gradually, and will show by his gait and action what there is in him. If on the contrary he is driven in his suckling form, and is fed and blanketed, and sweated and rubbed, and speeded for half miles and quarters, when he is a yearling or a two-year-old, in nine cases out of ten he will give up, and you will have a useless, over-worked, hot-house animal on your hands. Of course there are many who hold contrary views from these, but we only ask the fair judgment of the average thinking men as regards the two systems of late and early training, and feel satisfied that experience and good sense will sustain us.—*Journal of Agriculture*.

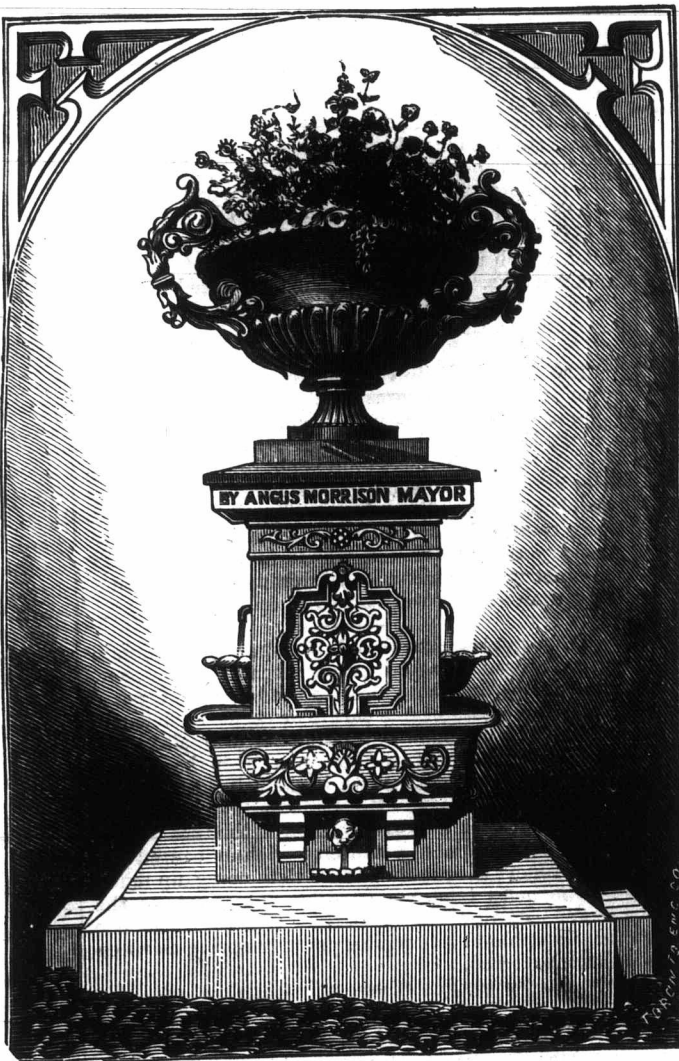
A Worthy Example.

When in Toronto last summer we noticed a handsome drinking fountain erected on the market. Horses, dogs and men were refreshing themselves at the different founts. The day was hot; one poor horse left his stand and took a drink, without the knowledge or consent of his owner. This fountain was presented to the city by the Mayor of the city. Such a gift stands as a memorial of use, and an example to the wealthy or benevolent. Our corporate bodies might with advantage erect drinking fountains on many a thoroughfare. The temperance organisations would do a great deal of good if they would expend their collections in erecting drinking fountains; they might save many a poor thirsty person from entering saloons. We hope many may follow the example set by Mr. Angus Morrison, and that every weary traveler may be able to get a drink of good, refreshing water fearlessly. We were so much pleased with the fount and the idea, that we instructed our artist to make a cut of it. It would be well to have a drinking fountain in every market square.

Horses in Europe.

Russia leads all other nations in the number of its horses. In 1876 she had 21,570,000 horses, or more than all Europe beside, and 60 per cent. more than are owned in the United States. Compared with other countries, Russia has one horse for every three and a half persons, Austria one for every ten, Prussia and Great Britain one for every eleven, France one for every twelve, and Italy one for every twenty-seven. Far back into the history of Russia the rearing of horses has always formed a notable branch of national industry.

The Government of Russia devotes special attention to the encouragement of horse-breeding. There are no less than twelve imperial studs, nine of which are in Europe and three in the Caucasus; there are also fourteen Government depots and country stables spread over the empire, each having from 60 to 150 stallions for public use, besides which are about 2,500 private studs that own 6,500 stallions and 69,000 brood mares. The Government offers prizes and medals at races and exhibitions for improvement in the various breeds. Over 400 horse fairs are held annually, and at fifteen of the most important of these from 2,000 to 10,000 horses are offered for sale, while in all some 300,000 change hands at these fairs. During the period from 1870 to 1875 Russia averaged an annual export of horses exceeding in number 25,000.



BY MAYOR MORRISON'S FOUNTAIN.

trainers, we would warn the casual breeder of the fact that nine-tenths of those who pretend to be "trainers" are nothing else than ambitiously disposed robbers, who with brazen effrontery have pushed themselves to the front, with no more right to the title of trainer than the veriest cowherd that ever followed his kine to the field. A little common sense and the average amount of patience will train a colt at much less cost and quite as well as your would-be professional trainer.

When a horse has reached maturity and gives promise of speed, it is time enough to call in the assistance of the professional whose greater experience will be of service. But upon what score do we look to a trainer to handle a colt? Can't we halter him, and bit him, and teach him to lead as well as ourselves? and if so, why do we seek the services of a man who robs us of from thirty to fifty dollars a month, for the performance of a duty so simple? If a colt is handled gently when a suckling, and is taught to "love, honor and obey" his master at that age, as he should be, his after-handling, until he is four years old, is something which any person of ordinary intelligence