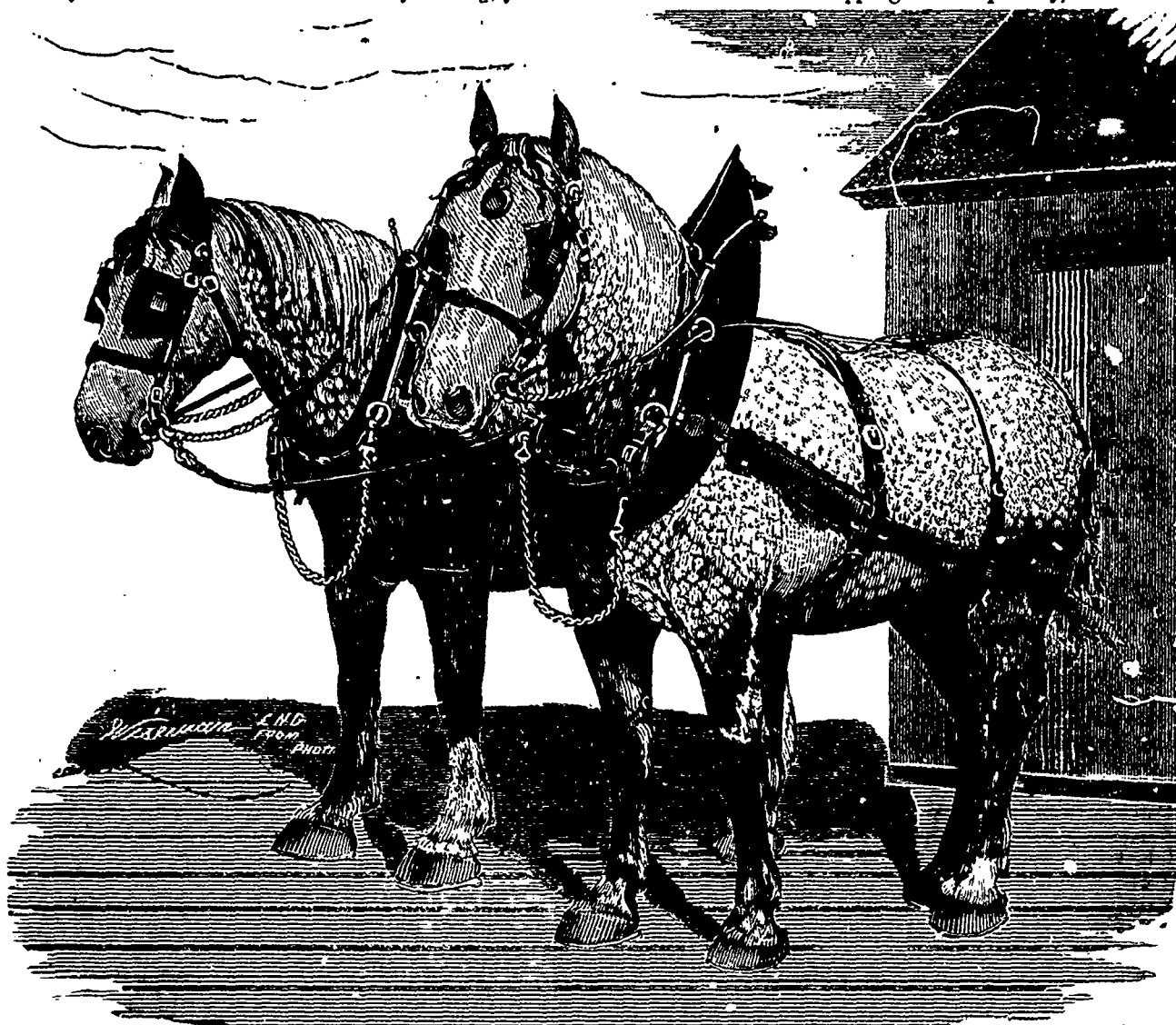


an interest in our work, and many a little fruit meeting, debating some point of nomenclature, was held among these, our fellow horticulturists.

On the west bank of the Volga and to the south of Kazan, 700 miles north of the city of Montreal, there are villages where apples are grown in quantity, sometimes to the value of \$50,000, for the markets of Nijni and Kazan. In this, the coldest orchard region in the world, we find apples borne in quantity upon bushes rather than trees grown in clumps of 2 or 3 together, and these clumps 12 feet apart each way. We saw these orchards in heavy bearing, yet the

To examine carefully the peasants' orchards in these little peasant villages in these out of the way districts, is not an easy task for these who know nothing of the Russian language. Fortunately, we were accompanied on this journey by a member of the forestry staff, a gentleman who kindly gave up his time, shared our discomfort, and slept on a bundle of hay when necessary. Such kindness is not soon forgotten.

At Simbirsk, farther south yet, in latitude 54°, where it is quite as cold in winter as in the City of Quebec, we found the same varieties of the apple grown in quantity, and also



HEAVY DRAUGHT HORSES, 1st PRIZE AT THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION, 1882.

thermometer went down to—40° last winter. In 1877 for a day and a half, the thermometer stood at 58° below zero, Fahr. and yet these trees show no signs of having been injured at that time. Yes! there is a race of the apple of the "Annis" type hardier than the "Duchess" family or the "Alexander" family. They are slow, crooked growers, such as nurserymen hate to grow, and hate to sell after they have grown them, but they bear, young and abundantly, fruit of fair size and of really fine quality, and fruit that keeps at least till mid-winter. One would expect this apple tree to be a fair success on Pembina Mountain, in Manitoba.

many thousand pear trees. Many of these are of wild form, and unfit for eating either raw or cooked. Yet to us, most valuable as a stock upon which to top-graft less hardy varieties. Several varieties of the Bergamot, and of other types are sweet, free from astringency, and worthy of introduction. The plum in the northern regions, here, is a new race—from Moscow to Kazan and southwards, it is grown to a fair extent, and is plentiful in the markets in all the towns. This I did not expect. The improved varieties of the wild plum of the North Western States is probably the best plum for colder sections of Canada. Yet these Russian plum bushes