

THE FRENCH-CANADIAN HORSE.

HIS EARLY HISTORY.

The old-time French-Canadian pony, as he was called, was admitted to be a little horse of iron. Though there are no records to prove it, he could probably develop and keep on developing more power per hundred pounds of his weight than any other member of the equine family. This is explained by the fact that the first animals of this breed were sent from France to Canada by Louis XIV, who liked to do things in great style and who had given instructions to his minister Colbert, the latter very much interested to see the new colony prosper, to pick out the best specimens in his country. These horses, which remained the property of the King for three years, were distributed amongst the gentlemen of Canada who had most helped colonization and farming.



FRENCH-CANADIAN MARES.

With their short back and strong loin, they have great endurance.

Afterwards, there was the natural selection, by the survival of the fittest, which eliminated, through the cold climate and the deep winter roads, whatever did not have enough vitality and endurance.

The qualities of the French-Canadian horse were so well known that he was used in forming certain families of the Morgan and of the Standardbred. Thus his blood is flowing in the veins of some of the gamest and fleetest horses in America.

HIS ENDURANCE.

A disinterested party, Mr. J. W. Ingham, of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, wrote as follows in the *Breeders Gazette* (Chicago) of March 19, 1914: "A lumberman bought a Canadian horse not weighing over 1,050 pounds and worked him beside a horse weighing 200 pounds more on an even whiffletree. The Canadian kept up his end at all times and never showed as much weariness as his larger mate. After they had worked together two years, the big horse died. When asked what was the matter,