

also familiar with physical training as taught in Canada, and in English and Swedish training colleges, which I believe to be splendid. I am heartily in favor of everything that will develop the body, both for boys and girls, but I still think that work in the fresh air of the farm stands ahead of them all, for there we have the satisfaction of having accomplished something. Still, if it is impossible to work out of doors, the gymnasium is the next best place.

There are two distinct sides to a soldier's training, the military side and the gymnastic side. The latter is given to counteract the stiff positions of the former. By all means, let us have physical culture (and gardening) in the schools, but why add the rifle to it and call it military drill? That is the part to which I object, for it is the first step to conscription and the banishment of liberty from a free country.

"Military-drilled Farmer" says that military drill will make boys better citizens. Listen to what Lord Wolsey says in his "Soldier's Pocket-book": "If a soldier is to succeed in spy-duty, he must lay aside the belief that 'honesty is the best policy' and that 'truth always wins in the long run.' These pretty little sentences do well for a child's copy-book, but the man who acts upon them in war had better sheathe his sword forever." The Reverend J. P. Gledstone, missionary to soldiers at Aldershot, England, says: "The soldier's life is also injurious to chastity, and for proof of it we point to the shocking immorality of all military centers." Rudyard Kipling confirms this. One has only to read his story, "Black Jack," which paints the army as morally bad.

Last year, when forty-one hundred militiamen were encamped near Kentville, the Kentville Advertiser said: "The effect of Aldershot on Kentville the last fortnight has been no credit to the town or to the soldiers. The town authorities are not getting proper hold of the situation in enforcing the temperance laws or in preventing rowdiness, drunkenness and free fights in our streets. The soldiers, all through camp, made our streets a place where respectable people would not care to be found. Stores were rifled and thieving went on night after night. A fight which nearly cost the life of a harmless fellow, the attempted burglary of the jewellers, and the kicking out of a plate-glass window were but a few of the scenes which the soldiers enacted while here."

As I saw fighting and drunkenness on the drill ground, it has only strengthened my opinion that military training is not right. The aim of military drill in schools is to draft more boys into the militia, where there are many young men from the best families in the country. But the pleasant life under canvas also attracts the idle and bad boys; can these latter come in contact with the cream of the country without tainting it? No!

From my own experience, camping out is delightful, but why go to the militia for that pleasure? Is it not a sad statement of "Military-drilled Farmer's" that, after all these centuries, since the first Christmas, "Farm boys live a whole year to go to camp" (where they will be taught the latest methods of killing men?).

As for military drill making children obedient to their parents, that is hardly possible. If parents cannot exact obedience from a child during its first six years, it is almost hopeless to expect it later.

Like Ontario, Nova Scotia is very go-ahead in the profession of farming. We also have our agricultural and horticultural institutions (from one of which I received my diploma). If "Military-drilled Farmer" could attend some of the agricultural meetings and shows of frequent occurrence, he would find that we have just as few "moss-backs" and "hayseeds" as they have up in Ontario. (What this has to do with military drill I do not know, except that the men who belong to the militia are usually made conspicuous at the farmers' meetings by their absence.)

Statistics taken from the Glasgow (Scotland) Police Force show that the man who is a reservist is less trustworthy than the man who has not been through the army; but, in fairness, I must say that we have had ex-soldiers in our employ whom I believe to be thoroughly trustworthy.

A soldier is a parasite. He produces nothing, and lives on the produce of the workers. As a means of defence, I do not think that military drill in schools will be of much value. Other countries will try to get one step ahead of us, and we shall be just where we were before, only our purses will be lighter, and the ore which should have been beaten into plow-shares will have been turned into swords.

According to "Military-drilled Farmer," it seems to be correct to wind up with poetry. Instead of quoting the "Arsenal at Springfield," I will ask him to take down his Longfellow and read it, while I congratulate him on being germ-proof, and thank the editor for his space.

King's Co., N. S.

EUNICE WATTS.

UNSIGNED INQUIRIES.

At least a dozen letters of inquiry received at this office during March have been tossed into the waste-paper basket because unaccompanied with full name and address. Since January we have been fairly deluged with inquiries of all kinds. It taxes our energies to attend to the bona-fide communications from correspondents who conform to the rules, and some of these have been unavoidably deferred in some cases for a week or so, awaiting the attention of an industrious staff. Under the circumstances, it is nothing short of imposition for subscribers or others to bother us without strict conformance to our rules, which appear regularly in the standing announcement on the second page of reading matter of each issue. It is not necessary that the name be published, but it must be attached to the inquiry as an evidence of good faith. We are aware that some new subscribers may overlook the rules, and some older ones occasionally forget them, but nature exacts the same penalties for ignorance as for willful transgression, and in this matter nature's principle is ours.

HORSES.

EXPERIENCE WITH DRAFT AND CARRIAGE HORSES.

Contribution by Archie Bell, Huntingdon Co., Que., to the Horsemen's Experience Contribution.

I give you herewith my experience with horses from the time I commenced farming for myself, about twenty years ago. I will first give my experience with Clydesdales, then with carriage horses.

I began by buying a first-class registered Clydesdale

had been keeping them in nights. I not being at home that day, the hired man put them in as usual in box stall. After getting home I noticed they were both sweating badly; the night being warm I turned them out; night turned cold, colt got chilled, died next morning. It was a dear lesson to me, for I valued it at five hundred dollars. I think that had it not been put in that evening and got sweated it would have been all right. She bred another good horse colt and another good mare colt which turned out well.

This mare I have been writing about was shown many times, never coming out without a prize, very often first, including taking first prize and diploma at Montreal for mare and two of her progeny in the year 1892. Two years after at same show she took the twenty-five dollar prize offered by the association for the best imported or Canadian-bred Clydesdale mare, and also bronze medal and diploma. This time she had no foal; she was in fine shape; her weight was seventeen hundred and sixty pounds; girth, seven feet five inches.

She was chosen the following year by the Quebec Government to go to the World's Fair at Chicago—the only Clydesdale mare chosen in the Province. She had a foal by her side when going there. I went with her to look after her. It was a nice trip for me, as the Government paid all expenses. I learned a good deal about horses of all kinds there.

Understand, I always bred this mare to the best registered Clydesdale horse I could find.

Horses got so cheap that I, like hundreds of others, became discouraged, stopped breeding them for a time, and went into dairying.

After having considerable experience showing at exhibitions, I would not advise everyone that breeds good horses to follow the shows, as there is a lot of hard work and expense attached to it.

My advice is, breed good horses, feed them well, and you will always get sale for them at a good paying profit.

With my experience a low-set, broad, heavy-muscled mare bred to a good large horse will raise better draft stock than a big rangy mare will.

I will outline what I consider a good draft stallion to breed from: The head should be medium in size, clean and bony, broad between eyes; eyes large and bright, with a courageous appearance; ears medium length, set well apart; neck good length, well arched, strongly-muscled cords at the collar; shoulder well sloped back; breast full and strong, well filled with muscles; forearm strong, well muscled, going well down the leg; knee broad, flat, straight, not inclining either forward or back; knee to fetlock, short, wide, flat; fine hair on back of leg; pastern clean, medium length, well set to grip the ground; feet large, round, deep, close grained, dark steel color; back short, broad, with a strong muscle running along both sides of the back—

bone right into the coupling; ribs well sprung out from back; barrel deep and round; coupling broad, hard, well filled in; hind quarters broad, coming well forward into coupling, going back gradually rounding, gutter on top between quarters; tail well set up in the rump; stifles broad, heavily muscled, running well down; hock wide, flat, clean, smooth outside and inside; hock to fetlock short, wide and thin; fine feather of hair on back of leg; pasterns clean, medium length, well set; foot large, not so round as fore foot. As to action, it is very essential that a draft horse be a good walker, so as to gain time, as he is seldom put to the trot at heavy work. It is very essential that a stallion should stand square, and walk and trot square on all his feet.

When standing or moving the hock should incline to turn a little in instead of out, so that he will not travel too wide behind; a good, long, strong, solid stride at both walk and trot, showing the sole of the foot every time.

I think we can apply this standard to the mare as well, with perhaps a milder appearance of disposition. It is difficult to get all this combination in one horse or mare, but we can try for it as near as possible. There are many other points I might have mentioned, but I give what I consider some of the most important.

CARRIAGE HORSES.

With regard to carriage horses my experience along this line has not been so extensive as in heavy drafts,



Floshend Princess (imp.) [13788].

Clydesdale mare; bay; foaled 1904; sire Prince Tom, by Prince Thomas (10262). Third at Toronto Industrial and first at Ottawa, 1907; first and champion, Ontario Horse Show, Toronto, Feb., 1908. Imported and owned by Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ontario.

filly foal, for one hundred dollars, which when a year old took first prize at our county fair. Bred when two years old, she had a nice horse colt at three. I fed them some crushed oats on the grass. He was a great colt when brought into stable; weaned him in December; fed him green clover and timothy, crushed oats, bran, oil-cake meal mixed, twice a day; let him run in large box stall. When sixteen months old he weighed thirteen hundred pounds. He was sold for six hundred dollars to a firm in Lachute, Que. Mr. Robert Ness, the well-known importer, said he never saw a yearling fitted like him in Scotland.

The mare missed one year, having another horse colt when five years old. The same parties offered me four hundred dollars for him when six months old. I held for five hundred. That was one of the times I made a mistake, for after keeping him till three years old I sold him for less money. The following year the mare had another horse colt, for which I was offered two hundred and fifty dollars at six months of age. I held for four hundred, and missed it again. After coming into the stable he got one hind leg hurt. We had to castrate him, and when three years old sold him for less money. I made up my mind when I got a good offer for anything again I would let it go. Next year another horse colt came. I traded it when a year old for a pure-bred filly foal. The following year had an extra fine mare foal about September 1st, but lost it when ten days old by a bad mistake. We