

WE come back again to the subject of our article on "Army Remounts" published in the September issue. We have been reminded every day since that matter was written that it is going to be "A long way to Tipperary"—a longer way round than some of us had figured on at the outbreak of hostilities.

But far from being discouraged, this prospect of a longer scrap than we had counted on presents some very reassuring features. With the fact steadily in view that it is to be a fight to a finish—that there will be no letting up while the "enemy" shows a head above water, it is very satisfactory to find that the purpose of the allied command seems to be to save men's lives, to reach the great end by attrition rather than by homicidal attack.

No one can preserve his cake and eat it too. If nervous impatience demands that it shall be "all over by Christmas," then possibly that might be accomplished at a sacrifice of human life that posterity would never forgive no matter what the terms of peace might be.



The Right Sort.

We have settled down with belief that it will be long, strong, steady plodding on the defensive for the greater part, and that being so, our remarks as to the breeding and training of horses for army "transport" purposes takes on increased significance.

In last article we did not typify the sort of beast that will be acceptable. We are now glad to take advantage of the splendid contribution made by New Zealand which conveniently offers the very best possible object lesson to Western Canada.

Accompanying the 8,000 men of New Zealand's Expeditionary Force, 3,775 horses go to the moving equipment of the artillery and mounted infantry. The same difficulty would confront our New Zealand cousins in the selection of these animals that will be experienced in Canada.

The ideas of some people as to what constitutes a suitable troop or artillery horse have been proved to be primitive in the extreme, and in view of the present condition of affairs the following criticism by a well informed observer will be read with interest.

The Fit and the Unfit in Army Remounts

"Those who have watched the trend of light horse breeding during recent years have not failed to notice a deterioration of the general purpose horse. There have been a good many contributing causes that have led not only to a loss of style, but also a loss in number. It may be said

Western Canada, some of them excellent but many have had to be rejected and the opinion has been freely expressed that the government vets were too strict. It is better however, that the officers erred on the side of caution than to accept unsound animals.

In New Zealand a few dealers



A Fine Team—Artillery Ammunition Column.

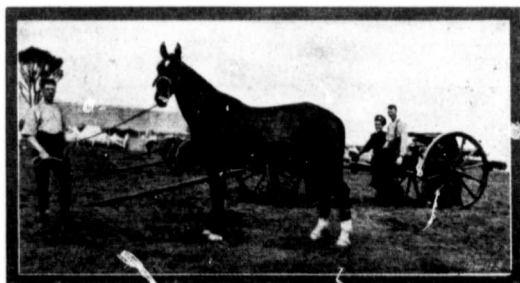
that the quality and stamina of our light horses fit for remounts is a long way below what it should be.

We have a lot of horses but what sort are they? Pretty well all the mixtures under the sun and it is difficult even at a show when the best of the light horses are supposed to be seen to find anything approaching evenness of type in a class of only half a dozen entries. Breeding light horses has drifted in so many directions by reason of the more restricted demand for any one type of animal."

The writer from whom we

tried to work points on the purchasing officials but they didn't succeed. It is said that in more than one case a horse got turned down at one place and afterwards was presented as a suitable candidate at half a dozen other centres in succession, each time under different ownership but in the end the unsound animal was still unsold.

This is no time (if ever there is a "time") for double shuffling. It was pointed out in our September issue that there is now a magnificent opportunity for a large number of men in the West whose holdings give them every facility



"The Pride of the Battery"—A Typical Artillery Horse.

quote goes into considerable detail as to what has happened from breeding fast track horses to the wrong material in mares and goes on to say: "When it comes to analysing the worth of these stallions as the sires of useful general purpose animals, one has only to look at their stock to be satisfied that for cavalry horses the trotter is a round peg in a square hole."

Recently a number of horses have been submitted to the Imperial Government officials in

for raising in considerable numbers the very thing that is being sought for. It is a big paying job for the men who have the ordinary "horse-sense" to handle it.

From the illustrations here given together with the specifications which may be had from the Department or any of its representatives, there can be no trouble in arriving at what is of use and what is useless. While breeding to type cannot be carried out on a sufficient scale and in time to meet the wants of

the next two or three years, it will be found at the end of that time that those who have the foresight to go ahead now will find no shrinkage either in the demand or the price when their offsprings are ready for shipment.

In the meantime we suggest that a very great deal can be done by some enterprising men who are conveniently situated to collect and put in condition those units and small bunches that are scattered around, the makings of excellent material but lost to sight and their legitimate place as horseflesh for want of a little enterprising oversight and training.

A friend of the writer's made what most farmers would call a small fortune during the Franco-German War of 1870-71 by canvassing every likely farm and market in Scotland for the "frameworks" of the type that was then in demand. There was no time to breed to supply the frightful wastage of that campaign, but this man knew a horse when he saw it. He was an honest fellow with a lot of energy. He bought at a satisfactory price to the man who sold and after he



A Rejected Gift Horse

had put his collections into condition, he sold at a price satisfactory no less to the experts who were buying for the French War-office than to himself. Can't some good money be made in Canada in the same way in these times?

As we go to press, large contracts are being made by the French Government for the type of horse we are urging our readers to interest themselves in.

In Texas alone a purchase of 20,000 horses and mules has just been concluded representing a sum of \$2,600,000. Cannot a little energy and enterprise in Western Canada do a bit of money making in this way, too, and so take part in what is at the same time a real act of patriotism?

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Mr. Subbubs—My dear have you any idea what became of those choice seeds I brought home the other evening?

Mrs. S.—Why yes, I fed them to Jones' chickens.

Mr. S.—What on earth did you do that for?

Mrs. S.—To save the poor things the trouble of scratching them out of our garden.