

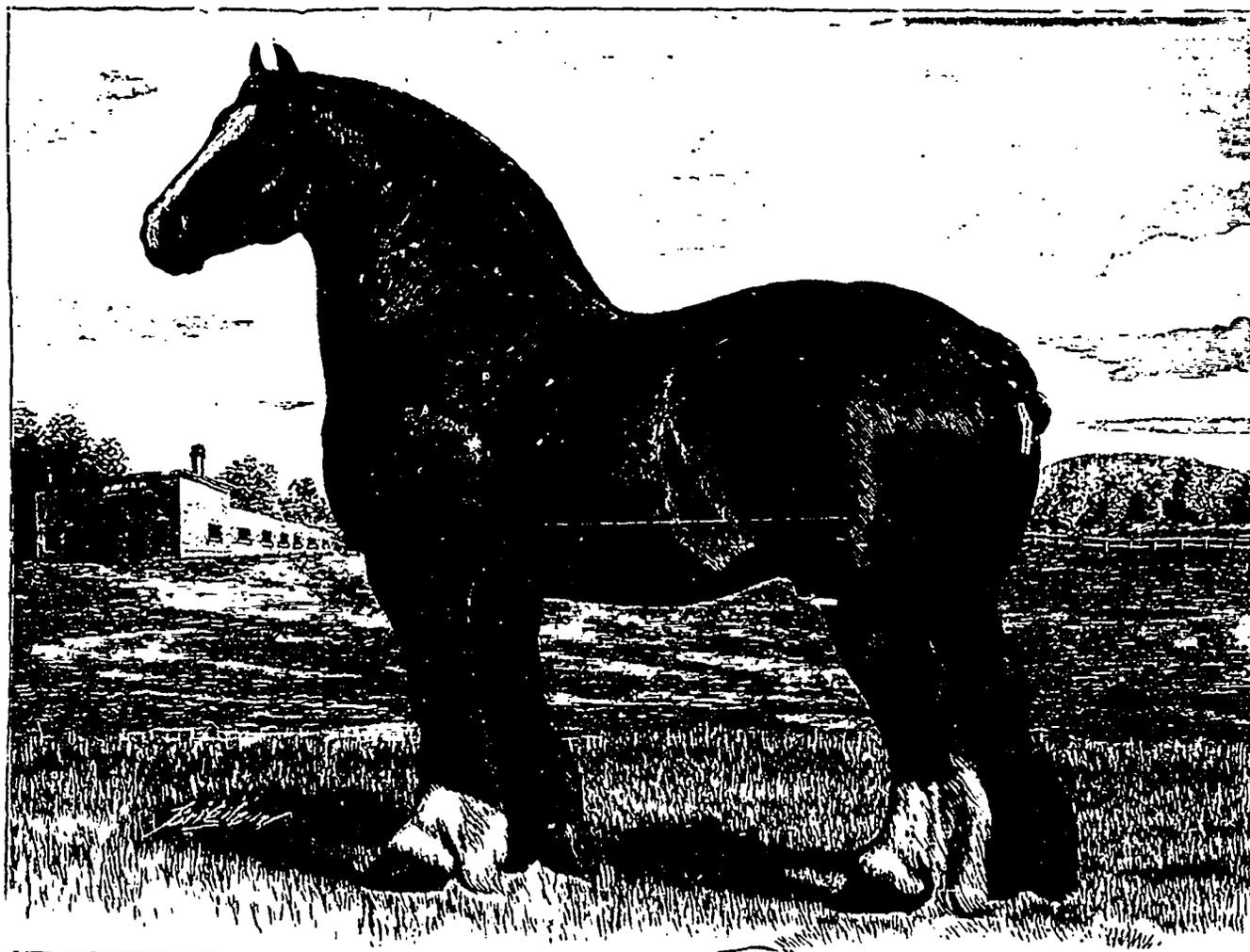
THE CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE STOCK-RAISERS AND FARMERS OF CANADA.

VOL. IV.

HAMILTON, CANADA, DECEMBER, 1887.

No. 50



THE CLYDESDALE STALLION BRAVISSIMO (4876).

Imported by and the property of Mr. Wm. Rennie, Toronto, Ont.

The Clydesdale Stallion Bravissimo (4876).

This noble specimen of the breed, now owned by Mr. William Rennie, seedsman, corner Adelaide and Jarvis streets, Toronto, was bred by Mr. A. Williamson, Sypland, Kircudbright, Scotland, and imported by Mr. Rennie last August. Foaled April 24th, 1884, he is a beautiful bay in color, with ratch on face and near fore leg, and hind legs white. He is a powerful horse of the very best quality, with legs of nice flinty bone and fine feather, so much admired by Clydesdale breeders, and although in very moderate condition, would weigh about 1950 lbs. The longer you look at him, the more you admire him. For a horse so heavy he is a grand mover, with a style of his own and it is a very taking one. He was sired by Belted Knight (1395), by Old Prince of Wales (673); dam Meg of Sypland (444), by Gladstone (333). Sire of dam the noted horse Lochfergus Champion (449), the sire of the still more famous Darnley (222). Bravissimo is therefore right royally bred, which, along with his very fine individual development renders him a very desirable horse to breed from. He was a first prize winner as a foal, was not shown as a two-year-old; as a three-year-old he was much sought for at Glasgow as a season horse, but was retained for his own neighborhood, where he made a good season at a service fee of £4.

Belted Knight (1395), his sire, has been a great

prize winner; was 1st as a yearling at Stranraer, and 5th at the Highland Agricultural show at Perth. As a two-year-old he was second at Ayr, Glasgow, Royal of England and Highland Agricultural Society, and same as a three-year-old. He was engaged for service three successive seasons at Dumbarton, and his success in leaving first-class progeny has seldom been equalled. Nell of Auchtraburn (604), the dam of Belted Knight, was 2d at Ayr as a yearling—a mare that bred May Belle and Zoe, full sisters of Belted Knight, and she still breeds successfully. Meg of Sypland (444), the dam of Bravissimo, is also the dam of Charmer (2014) and other noted horses. This is a grand stamp of a true Clydesdale. He was three times 1st at Kircudbright and once at Dalbeattie, and is after Gladstone (333).

The foals that Bravissimo left in Scotland are of much promise, and he is to be retained this year for service in Toronto and the county of York, with promise already of making a most successful season.

Weeds.

The progress made by this army of invaders is simply alarming. On they come, troop after troop, and squadron after squadron, to take possession of the fair heritage of the farmer. More numerous are they than the hosts of Tamerlane, and probably more destructive in the long run, if not of human life, of human effort. The weeds of the Dominion keep the farmers

thereof spending a large portion of the year in fruitless toil. They are forging for him the bands of a slavery that cannot but be irksome, and, like insatiable devourers, are eating the vitality out of his land.

Some have gone down to battle with the intruders, and with a heroism and perseverance that cannot be too much admired, are keeping them at bay. But, without more systematic co-operation on the part of farmers in each neighborhood, it is a strife that is most disheartening. It is like waging annual war with a countless host of grasshoppers on the border of their hatching grounds, and must in such a case exhaust the patience, if it does not break the spirit of the vigilant defender of his heritage.

Others again, like sleeping sentinels, are taken off their guard. Like the evil spirits of long ago, most dangerous weeds get foothold amongst the cereals of the farm, so secure, that it is most difficult to dislodge them, without the owners of the land being conscious of their presence, for they do not know them at all.

In the hope of assisting these, and of riveting the attention of the farmers as to the necessity of constant vigil and destructive warfare all along the line, we have secured the services of the masterly pen of Prof. J. Hoyes Pantou, of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, to give us a series of articles upon weeds, commencing with the present issue. These papers will be illustrated to aid the reader in detecting the sly intruders. We surely do not require to urge our farmers to make themselves intimately acquainted with all the forms of weed life, to wage against them a never ending warfare.