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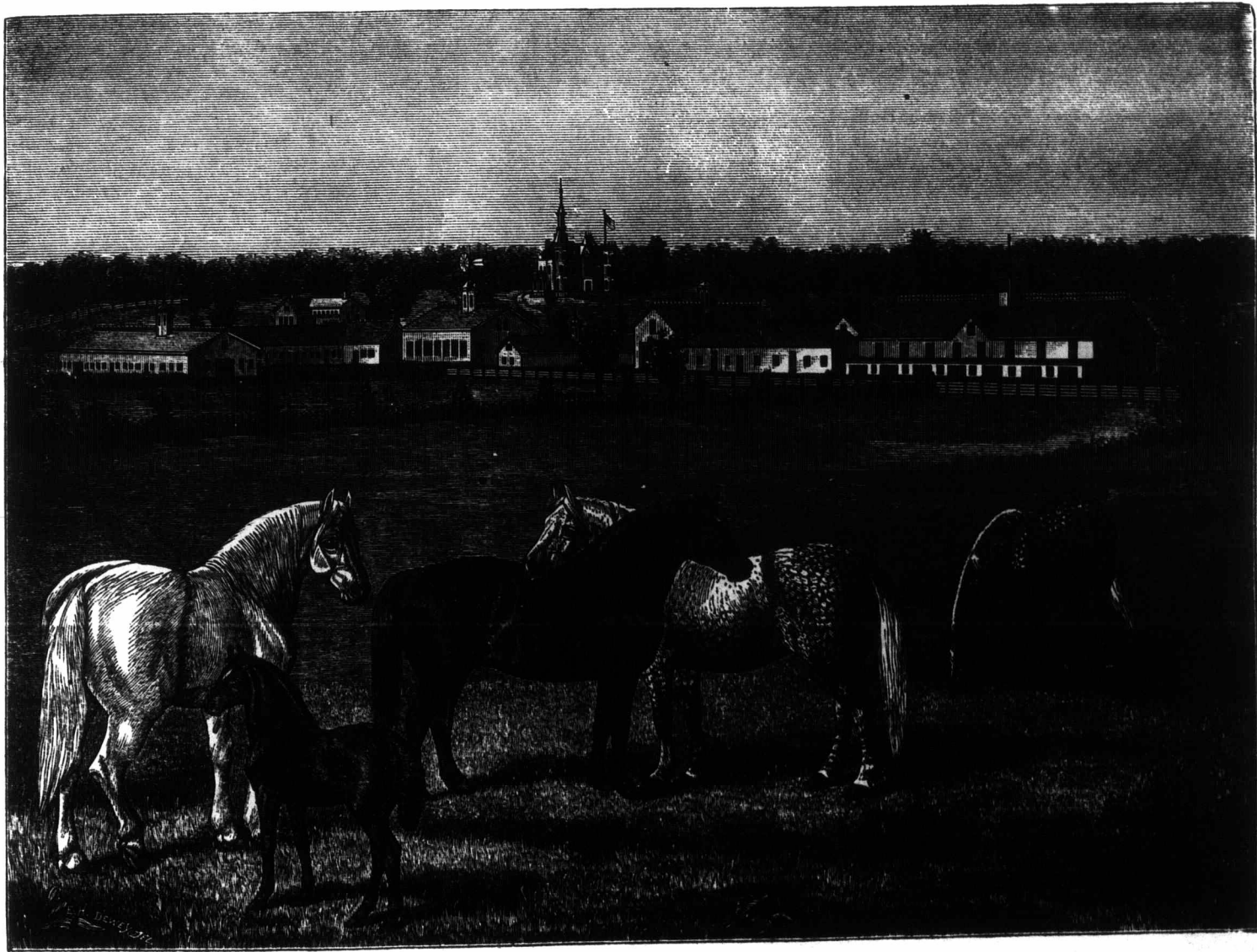
Oaklawn.

This is the name of what we consider the most remarkable farm we ever visited. It is located in the prairie, 32 miles from Chicago. Wayne is the name of the railroad station, and is just opposite to the main entrance to the farm. A fine graded gravelled road, flanked on each side with rows of evergreen and deciduous trees, leads one past the farm buildings to an oak grove, by the side of which stands

passed over it, and we were astonished at the great improvement.

We also find here the largest and best lot of horse stables and barns that we have yet seen; here we find draining done in the best manner; here we find an artificial pond supplied with water by an improved windmill only. Further we find that all this has been made from the farm, and by a farmer, in a few years. How could this have been done? may well be asked. Mr. Dunham, the proprietor, is but a young man, and by his discernment, by taking the opportunity, and by fair

produced fine horses. He imported largely for a number of years, and was able to supply im-ported stock at good prices, or half-bred Percherons to those who wished cheaper animals. He has hundreds of stallions on his farm at all times to supply the demand, and has an oppor-tunity of knowing wherever there is a good one to be procured. He has his purchasers in France, and a thoroughly organized staff of officers and servants. When we were there the order was given to bring out stallions of different ages. A regiment of grooms im-me-diately marched to the proper stable, and in a



OAKLAWN.

PROPERTY OF M. W. DUNHAM, WAYNE, DU PAGE CO., ILL., U. S.

the finest palatial residence that we ever saw or heard of erected by a farmer, either on this continent or on any other. All the latest improvements of art and skill have been utilized in the construction and furnishing of this mansion. We will not particularize, but the following should suffice: Gentlemen from Chicago informed us that no citizen there had a finer residence. Mr. Simon Beattie, the great stock importer, informed us that there was nothing at all to compare with it in Scotland, unless it was Balmoral Castle, the Queen's residence. We never entered any farm residence in England, France or Canada to be compared with it. It is well worth a journey to see. We at one time thought but little of the prairie country when we first

transactions, this colossal establishment has been erected and maintained. Twenty-five years ago the voice of the public was in favor of pure-blooded stock; the English thorough-bred was then considered the only pure horse. The cry was for more speed, greater endurance. The blood horse was in demand, and farmers were getting a lot of light horses throughout the country—horses that might go their 2-40; the country was getting full of light breeds, and heavy horses were scarce. Mr. Dunham commenced importing Percheron-Normans, and they produced the change required, namely, a good heavy draught horse. The sires that Mr. Dunham imported produced such an immediate effect that the offspring was in good demand and commanded high figures, as the first cross

few moments the driving yard was filled with 20 or 30 horses of one age; a lot of another age was called out, and after the stallions had been shown, the mares and colts were exhibited.

This visit took place at the time of the last Fat Stock Exhibition at Chicago. Mr. Dunham had invited representative men from the different States, Canada and Europe, who were assembled there. A special train was engaged and all were invited to the mansion to partake of a luncheon, which was served in excellent style. Mr. Dunham, through his agency, has now established in France and America a Herd Book, to protect purchasers of the Percheron-Norman horses from fraud. He has also formed a company to breed this class of horses on a great scale, in the West.