

A Notable Stable

HORSES FROM \$500 TO
\$5,000 IN VALUE SOLD
TO RESIDENTS OF
WESTERN CANADA

Just about fifteen years ago, three bright, energetic business men came west from Ontario and established themselves in Portage la Prairie. Although without much capital at the beginning, by straightforward business methods and ever pushing aggressiveness, they have built up one of the largest business establishments of the great West, widely known under the name of J. & E. Brown. This firm consists of three brothers, James, Edward and Adam Brown.

After a wide and varied experience with western requirements and needs, they saw clearly what an opening there was for a market in standard bred horses and also in the field of clean, legitimate racing.

The question was fully discussed and carefully considered by the brothers, with the result that about three years ago they decided to erect a magnificent racing stable in the spring.

During the fall of 1902 Adam Brown took an extensive trip through the south-eastern states on a purchasing tour, and bought some thirty head of horses, which were shipped to the Portage about Christmas, and this splendid string of horses, with the famous Chestnut at their head, were quartered in the newly-completed stables and became the admiration of all who saw them, and the talk of western horsemen.

Everyone interested in horses throughout Manitoba and the Territories has heard of the palatial stables, and so with this idea of describing them in a comprehensive manner to the many readers of The Western Home Monthly, I went to see the stables, and write down my impressions of what I saw.

The stables are situated at the rear of the Stock Exchange, between Saskatchewan Ave. and Duke St. (Portage la Prairie). The main building is of solid brick, 215 feet long by 50 feet wide, and cost over \$14,000 as it stands to-day. It has a splendid appearance from the outside and the roof is covered with galvanized iron and the inside ceiling is also of this metal, with heavily soldered joints. I entered the stables by walking through the Stock Exchange, and passing into the stable proper through heavy doors of oak and plate glass, found the genial trainer, "Dunc" Bell working away industriously with some racing harness. Telling him my mission, he at once undertook to show me around the stables, so off we started down the

cement-floored passage way, 22 feet wide, running the entire length of the building. On each side are rows of stalls, thirty in all, each 12 feet square.



ROYAL BARON.

2.283, race record over a half-mile track.

These box stalls have walls of fancy stained oak and birch with adjustable steel tops. Each stall has a door with a brass double lock, and, on the top of the iron door pillars are two gilded horses' heads.

As I looked into the fresh, clean



CHESTNUT.

2.074, Canada's greatest free-for-all horse.

stalls and did not notice any of the horsey smell generally so noticeable in stables. I asked Mr. Bell how such freedom from disagreeable odors was obtained, and he showed me the perfect system of ventilation throughout, and the air shaft in each stall. He also explained the drainage system of each stall. There is one and a half feet of sand and gravel, then four rows of tiles running the length of the building, with a centre drain in each stall and a half foot of clay over all. This splendid drainage system adds



INTERIOR OF BROWN'S STABLES.

Showing full length from the front. The doors to the various stalls are seen on each side, with the ornamentation, etc., alluded to in the article.

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greatly to the sanitary condition of the stables.

I looked for the old-fashioned mangers, but saw none, as the hay is fed on the floor. An iron oat box and a salt brick are placed in each stall and a system of waterworks gives an ample supply of water, as there are faucets at every other stall door. Beside each stall door is a towel roller, coat rack and tie straps.

A warm, even temperature is obtained in the very cold weather by a system of hot water pipes, connected with each part of the stable.

The interior of the building presents a bright appearance, as it is gayly decorated with green and white bunting (the stable's colors being green

and white), and with fancy flags, and is particularly inviting at night when the numerous electric lights are turned on. At each end of the building is a space twenty feet long by fifty feet wide, one space being taken up with a large hot water tank, used for washing off the horses after exercise, and a large odorless steam grain cooker. The space at the other end is occupied by harness and boot cabinets, with glass fronts, and grain chests.

Then as I looked around upon the handsome horses resting comfortably in their luxurious stalls, I felt that I could not let the opportunity pass without saying something about them. First of all, of course, comes Chestnut, 2.074, by Glen Arm Jr., by Glen Arm, by Hamiltonian 10, dam by Rescue, by Hanover, the beautiful, sleek-coated chestnut horse that is so familiar to the public who have attended the race meetings for the last two years in Manitoba. This champion Canadian pacer has gone a mile in 2.05 on a mile track, and can go even better. He won the Free-for-All at Winnipeg in 1903, and really broke the record in 1904 by forcing the pace, although he did not win the race. After the Winnipeg races, he was shipped to the States and entered on the grand circuit, where he was raced in seven free-for-alls, winning five firsts, and he lowered the track record at several places. He was raced at Johnstown, Pa., Salem, Ohio, Marsdale and Rockport, Ohio, and on the Valley track at Cleveland. Chestnut is now wintering at home in better condition than ever, under the personal care of Dunc Bell, who enthusiastically states that Chestnut's speed will surprise people next year, and is sure of a great future for him, as Chestnut is only eight years old. He may not be seen much on Manitoba tracks next summer but he will be in the grand circuit and will endeavor to lower his record on the mile track at Memphis.

Regal Baron was the name on the door plate of the next stall, and I saw a beautiful, silk-coated dark stallion. Regal Baron, 2.234, is by Baron Wilkes, by Geo. Wilkes, who has been in the 2.10 list. His first dam

is sired by Me-
ter in the 2.10
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Abbot, 2.034, T
2.06, and Hilda
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around Portag
is only seven
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1903. How
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The beau
stable, Lou
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sweepstakes
Chicago, a
gentlemen's
Adam Brown