

by the famous breeding and show horse Lochfergus Champion.

Last of the stallions comes Macneilage; his massive form has often been described, and yet not enough said in his favor. We don't like to particularize. First at Toronto Spring Stallion show in 1890; first and sweepstakes at Toronto Industrial Exhibition; first and sweepstakes at Whitby Show; first and sweepstakes at Markham Show, and at New York National Horse Show he won first in his class, also the champion cup given for the best draught horse any age or breed. He is in quite as good form as we have ever yet seen him, and, better than all, his produce are coming to the front as winners.

The last importation of stallions was supplemented by a beautiful selection of fillies, for which we have not space to particularize. They are full of the Clydesdale character that breeders of this British sort are looking for, and consist of the two-year-olds Effie Macgregor, by Macgregor, and Daisy, by Belted Knight, both of which are likely to be heard from in the show ring. Eight yearlings of capital form, and bred as follows: Miss Weir, by the Duke of Hamilton's horse Almondale; Maid of Dalbeatie, by Strathdee. The balance are sired by such sons of Macgregor as Macpherson, Mackay, Macdermot and Marmion.

Among those sold are a grand lot gone to form a new stud for Mr. Robert Davis, of Toronto, a gentleman, by the way, who has draught horse breeding at heart, and who full well knows what is required in this line, his business being immediately connected with employing heavy teams for city work. Those purchased by him were the three-year old stallion Gilroy, a son of that capital breeding horse Master of Blantyre, by Darnley.

The mares include the Darnley mare Bessie Bell, sweepstakes at Toronto Industrial, and the following mares and fillies that won in their respective classes at the same show: The three-year-old mare Lady Dunmore; two-year-olds, Barr Bell and Edith; yearlings, Lady Muir and Sweetheart. In addition to these, Mr. Davis purchased the two four-year-old mares Nelly and Sally and the yearling Sally, and the five-year-old mare Harriet that won in the team.

Second Choice, by Chastler, won first place in the two-year-old stallion class at Toronto and Chicago, was half brother to First Choice used in the Queen's stud. He and Lady Muir, the first prize yearling filly at Toronto, were sold to Mr. B. P. Clarke, St. Cloud, Minn. The Old Times horse St. Leger was sold to Mr. Steele, Richmond. The above were all included in the first of the three importations made during the season.

Although Messrs. Graham Bros. have been many years before the public as importers of the very best types of Clydesdales, it is only of late years they have paid attention to that English light harness horse, the Hackney. They fully realize the growing popularity of this sort, and have brought over several good ones of this class of late, and the last importation is Sea Gull 2261, by Donegault 174, he by the prize-winning Denmark 177. Sea Gull is three years old, a dark chestnut of true Hackney type. He has grand feet, neatly turned ankles, capital bone, breedy head and neck, capital back, and has true Hackney action.

Taken as a whole, the present stud displays much care in selection. They are large in size, and exceptionally well colored, there being a number of the most beautiful browns and bays. A glance at Graham Bros.' catalogue will show their breeding is in the most fashionable lines.

"Down in Ole Kentucky."

THE HOME OF GEO. WILKES.

A few miles out of Lexington, on the Frankfort Pike, is situated Ash Grove Farm, the property of Mr. Geo. Wilkes Simmons, and known all over America as the home of the Wilkes family of trotters. As it was very late, and a nasty stormy evening when we reached Ash Grove, we were unable to see the brood mares, but through the kindness of Mr. Procter, Mr. Simmon's trainer, we were shown what is probably the greatest collection of Wilkes stallions on earth, comprising no less than six sons and one grandson of the famous Geo. Wilkes. The first horse shown us was Jay Bird, record as a three-year old 2.38½, sire of the great three-year-old stallion Allerton 2.18½, a red roan, standing full sixteen hands, and showing wonderful muscular development. Jay Bird has proved both by his own performances and by his get, that he is worthy of a place among Geo. Wilkes best sons. Next, after Jay Bird, we were introduced to William L, a full brother to Guy Wilkes 2.15½, and known to horsemen all the world over as the sire of the King of three-year-olds, the phenomenal Axtell, with a record of 2.12, a rich bay, standing 15.3. William L, though not showing as much substance as Jay Bird, still exhibits in a marked degree the heavily muscled forearm and powerful stifles that seem inherent to the Wilkes family. The most objectionable feature we could find in this justly famous sire was his hind legs, which are decidedly crooked; but as Mr. Procter informs us that Axtell's hind legs are exactly similar in shape, and as William L has sired four other three-year-olds in the 20 list, we are led to believe that a bent, or sickled hock is not as objectionable in a trotter as it is in other types of light horses. In a box adjoining William L, we found Young Jim, another son of Geo. Wilkes, and himself the sire of three in the 20 list and fourteen in the 30. This was our idea of a trotter; standing 15.3, and weighing 1,200 pounds, Young Jim has size and substance enough to satisfy the most critical observer, while with it he combines an amount of quality and finish that we hardly expected in a horse of his weight. From his clean cut head and neck to his long, smooth level quarters and sinewy legs, he has the word breeding stamped all over him, while his deep chest and well sprung ribs show a grand constitution, and from what we saw of his get he seems to stamp his own good qualities on his colts. Among the other stallions were two sons of Geo. Wilkes, Betterton and Prince Charlie. The first, a full brother to Lumps 2.21, is a very powerful but rather coarse horse, and in our opinion very much lacking in his hind pasterns; the latter is a very smooth, nicely finished fellow, standing about 15.3, and very rangy, with a beautiful head and neck. Although not trained for a record he has shown a mile in 2.22. The other stallion shown us was Eagle Bird by Jay Bird, and like his sire a roan. This horse is an inbred Wilkes, being by a son and out of a daughter of Geo. Wilkes. Standing 15.1, he is a big-little horse, low set and thick, with a wonderful lot of substance; as a two-year-old he made a record of 2.30½, and as a four-year-old one of 2.21.

Among the youngsters, a little latter on, we saw a full brother to Eagle Bird, a three-year-old. This colt, a brown, is of an entirely

different stamp, being a big, rangy fellow, but like his brother he is a natural trotter, and considered one of the most promising colts on the farm. Among the yearlings was a roan filly by Eagle Bird, and out of Mother Lumps, dam of Lumps 2.21. This is a very well put together filly, with any amount of size and substance. Another very strong boned yearling was a black filly by Betterton, out of a half-sister to Eagle Bird, by Waverland Chief, a smooth youngster, with nice lengthy quarters, and an uncommonly good set of legs; but the pick of the basket, to our mind, was a bay colt by Young James, out of Madam Adams by American Clay. As we said before, Young Jim is by Geo. Wilkes, and as Madam Adams is the dam of Clay Wilkes, who sold for \$15,000, this youngster is royally bred, and to say that he does credit to his breeding is simply justice, for a better pattern to our mind it would be hard to find; a rich bay without any white but a small star. He promises to make a 16 hands horse, while for bone and substance, combined with quality, we have never seen his equal. While looking at this colt it struck us forcibly that he was the stamp we need in Canada, to improve our trotters, and at the price Mr. Simmons places on him, \$1,250, he would be a good paying investment.

HIGHLAND FARM.

On the Frankfort Pike, a little nearer Lexington than Ash Grove, is Highland Farm, the property of Mr. W. C. France. Here we found one of the largest establishments devoted to trotters in America, in all over six hundred acres, stocked with some two hundred and fifty head of trotters, including one hundred and ten brood mares.

In our visit to Highland Farm we were again unfortunate in the weather, as it rained a steady downpour all the time we were there, and we were consequently unable to see much besides the stallions; these, however, were well worth a long journey, for here we saw the famous Red Wilkes, sire of no less than thirty-two performers in the 2.30 class. For this horse the owners claim that he is the greatest producer of all the sons of Geo. Wilkes, and when we point out that the thirty-two performers referred to are out of thirty different mares, by twenty-eight different horses, it goes a long way to prove the truth of their claim. On looking at Red Wilkes the first thing that strikes one is his extraordinary substance; standing 16 hands, he weighs 1,280 pounds, and to say that he is muscled like a draught horse is no exaggeration; his stifles are simply tremendous and are let right down into a pair of wonderfully deep, wide hocks, while his short back, powerful loins and close coupling, show him to be a horse of immense strength.

In a box adjoining Red Wilkes we found his half-brother Sentinel Wilkes, by Geo. Wilkes, dam by Sentinel 2.29½. This is a very handsome horse, a solid bay with black points; he is hardly as tall as Red Wilkes, and not nearly so heavy, but in some respects he is his superior; he is far breeder looking and has a much nicer head, while again his pasterns are far better, being long and springy, while Red Wilkes' are inclined to be short and stilted. A young horse yet, he may prove himself a sire of trotters. One of his get, Col. Strader, having made a two-year-old record of 2.32½ and sold for \$6,000.

Here also we saw Allendorf, a son of Onward, Col. Pepper's famous stock horse, and out of Alma Mater by Mambrino Patchen, 3rd dam a thoroughbred mare. This horse, unfortunately, was suffering from a puncture in one of his feet, but in the hurried glance we took at him we could see that he is a horse of great finish, his clean, breedy head, and flat joints showing clearly his thoroughbred blood.

Last of all came Pilot Mambrino, a son of Mambrino Patchen, and out of Santa Maria by Pilot Jr. This horse is now nineteen years old, yet a four-year-old might be proud of his legs, and, indeed, take him all over he is a wonderfully fresh looking horse for his age, standing only 15 hands 1 inch. He is uncommonly well put up, and his expressive countenance and well-shaped head show him to be a horse of unusual intelligence.

BLUE BLOOD.