



RYSDYK:

OWNED BY J. P. WISER, PRESCOTT, ONT.

This week we present a life like picture of one of the sons of Rysdyk's Hambletonian, whose fame as a sire of trotters is rapidly increasing—the stallion Rysdyk, who was bred by Mr. A. Welch, of Chesnut Hill, near Philadelphia, and is now the property of Mr. J. P. Wisner, proprietor of the Rysdyk Stock Farm, situated on the River St. Lawrence, about half a mile above Prescott, Ont., and directly opposite the City of Ogdensburgh. The dam of Rysdyk was the famous thoroughbred mare Lady Duke, by Lexington, dam Magdalene, by Medoc. Through Lexington she had the blood of Boston, which came from imported Diomed through his best son, Sir Archy, and that of Ball's Florizel, another son of Diomed, whose dam was by imported Shark, a very famous English racehorse, by Marske (sire of Eclipse) dam a daughter of Snap, grandson of the Darley Arabian. Through Lexington, Lady Duke has also the blood of imported Sarpedon and that of Sumpter. Sarpedon was got by Emilius, of the Beninbrough and King Fergus line of Eclipse, and his grandam was by Dick Andrews, grandson of Eclipse. Sumpter was got by Sir Archy, dam the Robin Mare, by imported Robin Redbreast (a son of Sir Peter Teazle and Wren), by Woodpecker, grandam Papillon, by Snap, who was also the dam of Sir Peter himself. Lady Duke's dam was Magdalene, by Medoc, son of American Eclipse and of Young Maid of the Oaks, by imported Expedition. It is hardly necessary to say that American Eclipse was by Duroc, son of Diomed and Amanda, by Gray Diomed, dam Miller's Damsel, daughter of imported Messenger and imported Pot-8-os Mare, whose dam was by Gimcrack, and grandam Snap Dragon, by Snap. Pot-8-os was the best son of Eclipse. Now Expedition, sire of Medoc's dam, was by Pegasus, dam Active, by Woodpecker, and he got Young Maid of the Oaks, dam Old Maid of the Oaks,

by imported Speed Eagle, son of Volunteer, and a mare by Highflyer, whose dam was by Engineer. Volunteer was by Eclipse, dam a Tartar mare. Old Maid of the Oaks' dam was Annette, by imported Shark (son, as we have said, of Marske and a mare by Snap), and Annette's dam was by Rockingham (son of Highflyer and Punt) by Matchem. We now come back to the dam of Magdalene, who was a mare by Sumpter, dam a mare by Lewis' Eclipse. The latter was a son of Diomed and of Bellona, by Harris' Eclipse. Here, again, through Sumpter and Lewis' Eclipse, we have two more crosses of Diomed, grandson of King Herod. A horse running in such proportions, the blood of the greatest of trotting sires, and of America's running sires, leaves absolutely nothing to be desired in the matter of pedigree. In appearance Rysdyk is fully worthy of his regal lineage. He was foaled in 1865, stands 15 hands 3 inches in height, and weighs 1,180 lbs. His color is a golden bay, with both hind feet white above the pasterns, and black mane and tail. His head is straight and clean, large and bony, with great width between the eyes, which stand out clear and bright. His nostrils are large and dilated; he has great width between the jaws, which are massive and thickly overlaid with muscle, and a throttle well detached. Ears of medium size, blood-like and lively. The neck is long, starting deep from the shoulders, and tapering well to the head, with an immense windpipe, dropping away from the neck as it enters the jaw. The withers are low, wide, and strong, not high above the shoulders, with arms unusually prominent and muscular. Large and powerful forearm, fine forelegs, knee-pan broad and protruding, with the knee so big that it gives it an appearance of being a little over. Broad, case knife-like cannon bones, wiry tendons, large, clean,

perceptible, and hard. The pastern from the fetlock to the hoof, is long and big; the larger pastern filling the hoof to overflowing, which is striped with black and white, giving it a brindle appearance. The toes are straight, turned neither in nor out. The brisket is deep and wide, well let down, and fairly wedged in between the forelegs. The breastbone is very prominent, deep through the heart, with ample room for respiratory action. The back is short, broad and flat, closely united between the hips and ribs, carrying his full depth clear back to the stifles. The loins are of great breadth, well rounded up with fillet of muscle between the hips, which are wide and smooth. His height at the croup is greater by an inch than at the withers. He has extraordinary length from the hip to the whirlbone, backed up with a large development of muscle in the breeching. His quarters are large, muscular, and well let down; the stifles are powerful and projecting outwards, the hocks, big, bony, and very well set. Sweeping down through the quarters, thighs, and gaskins, is a wealth of sinew that bears the rigid strength of whipcord. Viewed from behind he is a marvel of power. Although few of the get of Rysdyk have reached maturity, his colts have already demonstrated his excellence as a sire. Among them we may mention the three-year-old mare Beatrice, owned by Mr. C. M. Pond, of Hartford, Conn., who has shown her ability to trot a 2.35 gait; and Chestnut Hill, four-year-old colt, owned by Mr. Wisner, who has exhibited much trotting speed and a most excellent disposition. There are a large number of his get yet in their infancy, and as Rysdyk himself is only eleven years old, and has, in the natural course of things, a long future before him, we may expect brilliant results from his services in the stud.