

Messrs. D. & O. Sorby's Clydesdales.

It is by concentrating the energies that the highest success is attained in any vocation or business, and doubtless this rule applies with double force to stock breeding and importing in any of its branches, as nothing requires more thorough knowledge or more diligent attention. With this point thoroughly kept in view, the proprietors of the Woodlands Clydesdale Stud (Messrs. D. & O. Sorby, of Guelph) have brought their business to its present well-established position. In order to give their customers the best value in any selections purchased of them, this firm yearly spend considerable time and trouble in personally choosing the animals they import. The Messrs. Sorbys have adopted a system of importing a number of yearling colts, which are either developed on their farm, or they give their customers the benefit of sharing in the profits by finishing these for themselves. Doubtless there is often more judgment required for this line of proceeding than by purchasing finished horses, but the much lower price at which they can be obtained, together with the advantage of selecting a colt that still retains all his vigor, should be a strong incentive for purchasing them young and unfinished. By selecting those that are from sires and dams of the choicest breeding, together with good individuality, the certainty of their giving the highest satisfaction in the breeding stud is assured. The number of colts each year imported gives those seeking horses a large choice. Those at present in the stud are made up of colts of their own breeding, as well as those of recent and previous importations. The two specimens of yearling colts given in our illustration for this month are the sort that are brought over. Balgreggan Hero, a son of the Darnley horse, Darnley Hero, is a bright bay colt, with feet of the unmistakable stamp that will stand the pavement. He has flinty bone of good size, with pasterns and legs properly set for good leverage, and handles them in beautiful style. This is a most promising colt, already backed up with plenty of size. Lord Flashwood, also in the illustration, is considered one of the best sons of the now noted Flashwood, which is considered one of the best show horses in Scotland to-day. And as Flashwood is own brother to the great Macgregor, we shall expect to hear of his sons being in as great demand. The fact of this horse having been engaged to travel in one district for four consecutive years, speaks volumes for his success as a sire. Lord Flashwood has grand feet, with pasterns and bone of true Clydesdale shape and quality, with a finish above to correspond.

Another yearling, with great substance, and which promises to make a draught horse of superior size and merit, is Macnab, a Macgregor colt that won first in his class at Elgin before leaving home. He has heavy bones, nicely shaped legs and capital action.

Among this phalanx of well-bred youngsters is a colt named Silver, sire Silver Twist, whose blood lines are a happy combination of the popular Darnley and Prince of Wales sorts, through Lord Blantyre; his granddam also being by Prince of Wales. A capital two-year-old by Prince of Airds. The three-year-old Rupert, by the Prince of Wales horse Ruthven, is another useful colt, which should easily find a customer. Prince of Eyre, by Boydon Boy, dam by Macgregor, is a colt of their own breeding, which

has capital individual quality, and in breeding is equal to any.

A view of one of their three horse barns is given at the top of the picture, which gives but a faint idea of the size of this building, which is 150 ft. long by 56 ft. wide, in which are twenty very large, roomy box stalls, with water and other convenience for labor saving. The building is finished in a style second to no barn on the Continent, which proves these gentlemen are in the business to stay.

Space forbids a detailed account of this extensive stud, of which the foregoing are only samples of what visitors may find by inspecting the stables. We can promise plenty of choice, and fair treatment and genuine hospitality, to those on the outlook for anything in the above line who call on Messrs. Sorby.

Horses at Chicago Horse Show.**SHIRE HORSES.**

The Shire breeders deserve the highest commendation for the magnificent display made at this show. Among the younger stallion sections, as well as those of the mares and fillies, were a number of right good ones, and many keen judges remarked that they had never seen better; and with those forward as examples of specimens of this breed of draught horses, there is nothing strange that this breed has made so many friends in the west, particularly when there is such strife to produce, on American soil, such remarkably well-finished colts at early ages. Shire breeders are making every effort to get to the front, and are not satisfied with importing stallions of the most suitable type for breeding or crossing on the mares of the country, but are also importing the best mares obtainable, thereby producing more nearly the horse required, and for less money than they can possibly be purchased and imported for.

In the aged section, which was weaker than the two rings following, a few old-time winners made their appearance, such as Galbrath's Nabob, which is a horse of true Shire type, that carries his immense weight with gaiety and style. The second place, according to the judgment of Mr. Pritchard, the appointed expert, who had this breed to handle alone, was won by Burgess Bros' gray Blagdon Britton, but, according to our ideas, better horses were left in the background, as his style of bone and feather are scarcely in keeping with American taste. A better one, in our opinion, was a third-placed horse named Cheslyn Hay, a son of Nabob, whose grandly sprung rib and nicely finished hocks and capital quarters had more, in our way of thinking, to commend him.

A grand array was that which filed into the ring at the call for three-year-olds, and a judge of the essential points in draught horses could take pleasure in feasting his eyes on this magnificent ring of colts, each one fully furnished, and in which appeared lots of work before properly adjusted decisions could be arrived at, and many were the remarks of on-lookers, after this, and the following section of two-year-olds came out, that Clydesdale men would have to look closely to their laurels, or they would yet be out-distanced in the race for popular opinion.

The massive hardy three-year-old, Burgess Bros' Knowle Light of the West, and Galbrath's Goth, were the first two placed. The second was a particularly attractive horse, full of quality in legs and feet, carrying weight and width enough to suit almost any breeder on this side of the water. The first named horse clearly

out-scaled him in size, although we cannot say we prefer him. A grandly built horse, of just the quality, is Blair Bros' Trade Mark, which certainly ought to have been at least placed third, but Mr. Pritchard thought highly commended as high as he could place him.

Never a better colt than the two-year-old Cannock Perfection, one of the three grand colts shown in this ring by Galbrath Bros., wonderfully furnished with legs and feet of the most approved quality; his grand top, nicely poised head and neck, made him a clear, outstanding first among this grand array of good ones.

The studs of Burgess Bros. and George E. Brown were also nicely represented by some extra good horses.

The ring for yearlings was not large, but contained at least two good ones, and one of the great mistakes of the judging was here made. Burgess Bros. had forwarded the wonderfully developed yearling, Winona Albert, whose capital feet, grandly placed pasterns, wonderfully strong hocks, and whole underpinning, were a combination of just what horsemen are looking for. When to this we add that his whole top piece was as near perfection as can be found, together with the finish of a colt a year older, we cannot conceive where the judge's eyes were when he placed him second. The first placed colt, Geo. E. Brown's Conservative, was very well matured and in beautiful condition, but his hocks were decidedly weak, with nothing near the quality of bone and legs, nearly destitute of feather, and very common-place action when compared with the other.

Shire mares and fillies had numbers of the highest finished specimens, Burgess Bros., Truman, and George E. Brown being the principal exhibitors. As foals are allowed to date up to within the twelve months, and the same in the other sections, it gives a wonderfully finished appearance to the individuals brought out, and is also paying a premium for fall-bred colts, which is certainly what should be more encouraged in horse breeding.

PERCHERONS.

The breeders of this class excelled in the numbers that they brought forward in each ring of stallions, and the splendid display when they paraded before the audience. One of the most attractive sights of the show was when each breed came filing out in review. Mr. S. D. Thomson, the Secretary of the Percheron Association, was empowered to place the ribbons. The aged class consisted of horses from sixteen years down to four, the characteristics of the breed being fully represented. W. E. Ellwood's Seducteur was 1st; Leonard Johnson's Gilbert, 2nd; H. A. Briggs' Louis, 3rd.

No less than twenty-two stallions responded to the call for three-year-olds, and demanded a prolonged inspection at the hands of the judge, W. E. Ellwood having no less than seven capital specimens out. To Leonard Johnson the 1st was sent; Baccaret, that as a two-year-old last year tried for sweepstakes, sold by Mr. Ellwood to R. B. Kellogg, 2nd, W. E. Ellwood winning 3rd with Emit.

In two-year-olds W. E. Ellwood's Albatross was 1st; a black colt shown by Bowles & Had-den 2nd, Jollidon winning 3rd with Ostan.

The mares and fillies were not nearly so strongly represented, although a tasteful lot were shown by W. E. Ellwood, Jollidon, Johnson and others.