

HAROLD HUBERT WILSON, Gayndah, is the eldest son of the late William Herbert Wilson, the early founder of the fortunes of "Barambah" Station, Queensland,



REV. ARTHUR WILSON, D.D.

and grandson of the late Arthur Wilson, D.D., a senior student of Christchurch, Oxford, and rector of the Parish of Dunstan, England. The records of his ancestry date far



MR. HAROLD HUBERT WILSON.

back into the Middle Ages, and include connections with such noble families as Wedderburn, Scrymgeour, Silford, Roxburgh, Athol, Clarke, Dagleish, Chernside, Airlie,

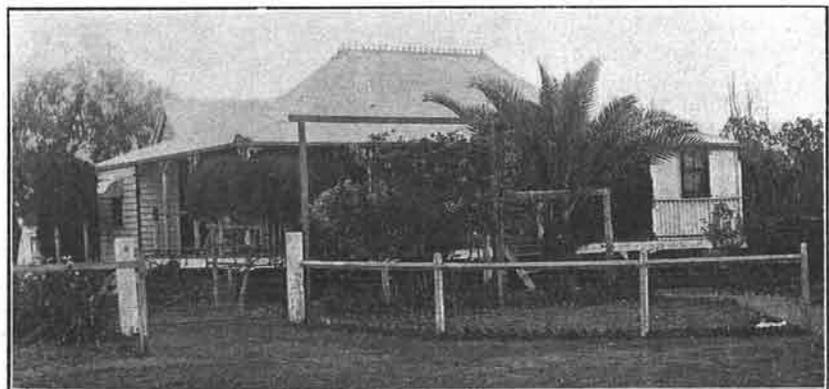
and Dundee, to whom many references are made in history. Mr. Wilson received his education chiefly under the guidance of a private tutor, and upon the completion of his studies paid a visit to "Wether-ton" Station, the property of the Hon. B. B. Moreton, with the purpose in view of enlarging his knowledge of the pastoral industry. From his earliest infancy he had been brought up on cattle stations, and in this way had become familiar with almost every detail of the operations carried on; but although while still a youth he was as completely *au fait* with the various departments of the station industry as his father he was desirous to augment this knowledge by some acquaintance with the methods of procedure on other Queensland properties. To achieve this end, which he considered necessary to the completion of his technical education, he visited the above-mentioned station, afterwards proceeding to "Burrandowan" and several other of the leading cattle properties in the State, where, making the best use of the splendid opportunities afforded him for studying the differing breeds of horses and cattle, he laid up the foundations for an expert knowledge on this subject of such paramount importance to the pastoralist. The keen application of the powers of his mind to the fine points of stock-breeding has been productive of excellent results, the practical evidences of a thorough early training being clearly indicated throughout the whole of his subsequent career. Coincident with his studies in this

capacity of deputy Surveyor-General for Queensland, and this connection proved of the utmost value to him, inasmuch as it involved his accompanying his brother-in-law on his



MR. WILLIAM HERBERT WILSON.

travels over the greater part of the rural districts, and so promoted his intimate acquaintance with the character of the country in different portions of the State. So expert did Mr. Wilson become in this sphere of knowledge that after awhile he found no difficulty in placing his finger on any portion of the map of Queensland and pronouncing it good, bad, or indifferent as to soil and conditions, while he was able



RESIDENCE OF MR. H. H. WILSON, GAYNDAH.

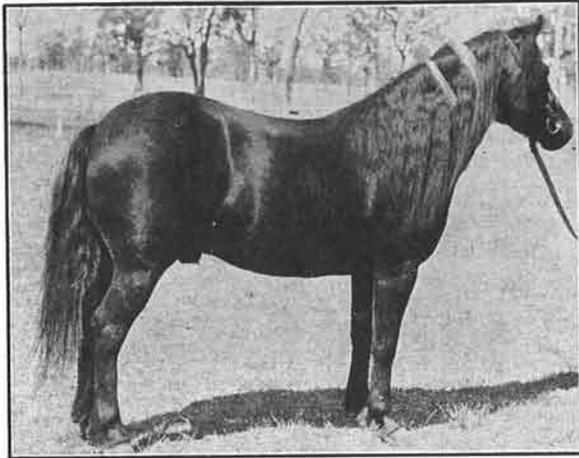
direction, he also devoted his attention to the important subject of land surveying, under the tuition of his brother-in-law, the late Mr. E. M. Waraker, who was acting in the

readily to indicate the location of land most suitable for horse and cattle breeding, and those parts of the State where sheep would prove the most suitable proposition. Mr.

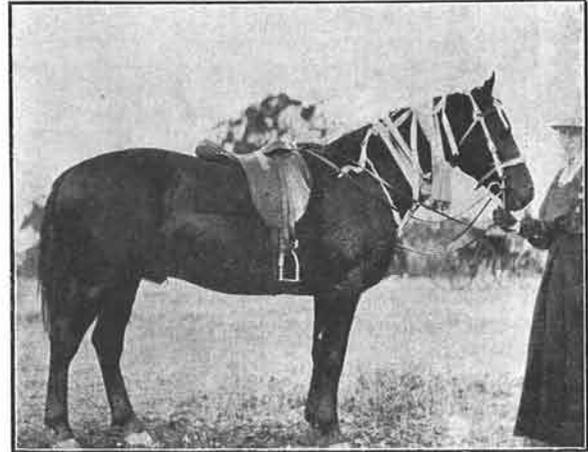
Wilson's knowledge on these subjects was generally conceded to be so thorough, and his gifts so versatile, that in 1891, when he was but 21 years of age, he was offered and

position ranking second to none among the finest beef animals to be found in the whole of the State. Mr. Wilson continued to control operations on "Cooranga" and

boggy waterholes, and the resultant strain upon their emaciated frames. The plan of sustaining the stock upon the foliage of the whitewood tree and species of myrtle, etc., was



PONY STALLION, "MASTER KELSO."



PONY STALLION, "LIEUTENANT SHACKLETON."

accepted the post of manager of "Cooranga" and "Dykehead" Stations, the property of the Scottish Australian Investment Company, which embraced an area of 780 square miles, carrying 21,000 cattle and a large number of horses. The young manager's methods of control soon proved to be such as to entirely justify the opinion formed by the owners of his great capabilities and his comprehensive knowledge of stock. His policy from the first was to build up a herd of cattle of which

"Dykehead" for 20 years, during which period the properties suffered varying fortunes according to the character of the seasons. In 1902, when Queensland experienced the worst drought known in its history, even under the desperate circumstances he had to contend with in common with other stockmen, Mr. Wilson's prestige suffered no eclipse, the stations under his charge emerging from the terrible ordeal in much better condition than many in even more favoured localities. This was

also an important factor in the prevention of any great mortality amongst the herds, and in the year following the drought a testimony to the success of his methods was given in the fact that both of the stations under Mr. Wilson's management were able to show as many, or more, cattle than any other property in the Burnett district. Another of the secrets of Mr. Wilson's success was his consistent endeavour to keep the stock quiet and prevent as far as possible the wildness which frequently



MR. H. H. WILSON DRIVING UNICORN TEAM.

any station-owner might be proud, and his association with these properties resulted in the raising of the standard of the herd from rough cattle—mere nondescripts—to a

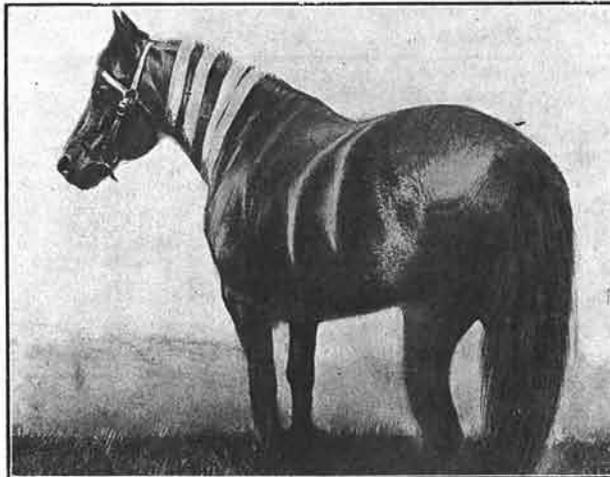
due almost entirely to Mr. Wilson's untiring efforts to maintain a supply of good water, easily accessible to stock, in the form of sand-troughs, thus enabling the cattle to evade

produces injury to the herd and is highly detrimental to their well-being and their survival to more prosperous days. During the years of Mr. Wilson's connection

with "Cooranga" and "Dykehead" the nibbling process of closer settlement had been allowed full play in this district, and to the man who had thrown his whole energies into the improvement of the area under his control this was so discouraging that he decided to relinquish the reins of management. He had additional motive in coming to this decision from the fact that the private interests which he had acquired in other quarters were making an insistent demand on his personal attention, and he felt that the time had arrived to concentrate his activities on his own properties in this and other districts. Since that time Mr. Wilson has resided at Gayndah, from which centre he has kept in touch with the different departments of his pastoral enterprise. Predominant among his interests may be placed the breeding of equine stock, his reputation as a keen and enthusiastic lover of horses being quite as wide as the State itself. Mr. Wilson's career in this connection is, perhaps, one of the most interesting in Queensland, where he is well known as a prominent breeder of remounts and artillery horses for the Indian army. Ponies also form a marked feature of his stud, and in this class he has taken some 80 blue ribbons, and holds unbeaten records in the prize ring at various shows throughout the State. In the blood, saddle, and buggy class sections Mr. Wilson has taken some hundred blue ribbons at important shows in different parts of Queensland, while in all he is the proud possessor of over 350 first and about 30 second prizes in connection with all classes of equine stock. In beef cattle he has registered over 100 first prizes to his credit, and secured a notable distinction on one occasion at the Gayndah Show, when his exhibit of three fat cows was awarded first prize in competition with three imported English cows, all in the beef section—an instance which alone shows the high standard achieved by Mr. Wilson in cattle breeding. This wonderful record of

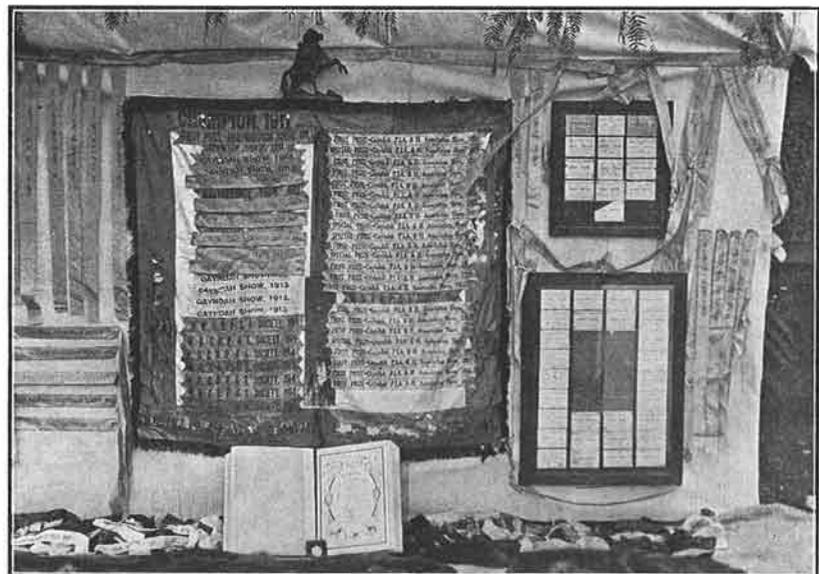


CHAMPION PAIR OF PONIES.



PONY STALLION, "TOM THUMB."

prize-taking extended over a period of about eight years, during which he was awarded a medal from the Queensland Government as a memento of his remarkable successes in the show rings of the State. Mr. Wilson is also in possession of a large bound volume of certificates from the various agricultural societies in connection with his exhibits. His services as adjudicator in the cattle and horse section at some of the most important shows in Queensland have been frequently requisitioned, and his decisions have never yet been challenged during the time in which he has acted in this capacity. In recent years he was appointed a registered judge of horses by the Chamber of Agricultural



BANNER MADE FROM PRIZE RIBBONS WON BY MR. H. H. WILSON.

Societies. He takes a very active interest in the welfare of the district, and there are few organizations which do not claim his co-operation and assistance. For years

records of the society which were placed before the members of the association to-day.

Not only is your good work appreciated by the members of the committee,



BEST THREE SHORTHORN COWS, FIRST PRIZE, 1907 AND 1908,  
BRED BY MR. H. H. WILSON.

he was a member of the Rawbelle Shire Council, and at the present time (1916-17) is president of the Gayndah Pastoral, Industrial, and Horticultural, and Agricultural Association. In 1917 Mr. Wilson was presented with an illuminated address by the members of the committee of the association, as follows:—

TO HAROLD H. WILSON, ESQ.,  
President Gayndah Pastoral, Industrial, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, 1916-1917.

Dear Sir—

We, the undersigned members of the committee of the above association, desire to express our keen appreciation of the splendid services rendered by you to the association whilst fulfilling the position of president. In that position we were privileged to follow you in your efforts to further the progress of the association. That you have proved a trustworthy guide is illustrated by the splendid results achieved. In every respect the year's undertakings constitute a record for the association. Your keen perceptibility, your tireless energy, your impartiality, your generous heart, have been the main factors to the wonderful growth of the association.

Many of the signatories to this testimonial of appreciation have been associated as committeemen with you as president during your continuous six years' term of office, and with every advance made they have felt fortified with the knowledge that you were their leader. Your every action was an incentive to "push on," and the result of the good advice given is found in the

but the general members of the association also view with pleasure your golden worth as a worker for the association both in labour and money.

In asking you to accept this testimonial from your co-workers in the year 1916-1917, we feel sure we are voicing the opinions of past members of the committee.

In conclusion, we hope you may be able for many years to come to allow your services to be placed at the disposal of the association to further its growth and usefulness, and thus soon



CHAMPION FAT COW.

place our association in the premier position of country associations.

We are, Mr. President, your co-workers in the interests of the association.

Then followed the signatures of twenty-eight members of the association. He is a vice-president of the Progress Association, a committeeman of the Hospital Board, and a patron of the Gayndah Ambulance Brigade. An advocate of rifle shooting, he lends his patronage to the Reid Creek and Gayndah Rifle Clubs; and he is also a patron of the Gayndah Musical Union. He manifests a lively concern in the education of young Australia, and has presented several schools with honour boards, the possession of which he considers touches and encourages the national pride of the rising generation. In the domain of natural history Mr. Wilson has been of great service to scientific men by using his opportunities to collect interesting specimens of insects and marine life, and has proved of special assistance in solving the debatable question in regard to the generation of the young of the kangaroo and the method of the young one in attaching itself to the teat in the pouch of the parent marsupial. A keen sportsman, he is vice-president of the Gayndah Jockey Club, in connection with which body he also has acted as honorary judge for the past 14 years, and still holds that position. He is also patron of the Gayndah Cricket Club and

Band, and president of the Hibernian Sports Club—outdoor sport of a clean and healthy character always commanding his cordial admiration.