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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A NEW SYSTEM
OF
TRAINING HORSES ;

BY WHICH THE
Wildest Colts and Most Vicious Horses
CAN BE
THOROUGHLY AND SAFELY SUBDUED ;

ON A PRACTICAL AND IMPROVED
BASIS OF CONTROL.

INCLUDING
A TREATISE ON SHOEING.

95-40 ✓
AS PRACTICED AND TAUGHT

amies.
BY D. MAGNER.

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ST
UTICA, N. Y.

ROBERTS, PRINTER, 60 GENESEE STREET.

1863.

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PREFACE.

THE great desire manifested by those witnessing my demonstrations as a teacher of reform in the training and management of Horses, to get my system in printed form, has finally induced me, contrary to my intention, to publish it, hoping thereby to make my efforts more generally useful and acceptable. In doing so I do not assume to merit the honor and capacity of a name among those claiming distinction as horsemen. The only approbation I expect, is that which I may deserve from the practical results of my system and instructions.

I have endeavored in this, as in my experiments heretofore, to make every principle presented by me clearly understood. I have aspired to none of the arts of rhetoric, but have employed as clear and direct language as I could master. For any short-comings that may be discovered, I beg a charitable criticism, and plead that my theory is valuable in its practical results, rather than for the words in which it is stated.

This system of subduing and managing Horses, is conceded to be the most complete and thorough now known. It has cost me much trouble and experience to combine and arrange it, and I commend it to the thorough examination and favorable judgment of those who are practically familiar with Horses.

TO PURCHASERS.

Persons buying this work have every right of using, but no right of teaching or transferring to others the book or its contents. By so doing they will render themselves liable to prosecution.

TRAINING HORSES.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

NATURE OF THE HORSE.

EXPERIENCE and observation teach that the horse's nature is governed by fixed laws. He possesses quite as much, if not more than man of acuteness of the senses, but he is destitute of the ability to reason beyond the limits of his experience. Success in his control and management must depend upon the degree of intelligence and prudence exercised in conforming to the requirements of his nature, and in taking advantage of his ignorance to impress him with a sense of man's supremacy and power; for the horse being really stronger than man, if he shall learn to resist, and find resistance successful, will continue to do so. He will acquire bad habits so far as he discovers man's inability to enforce his submission. It is only by the resources of mind that we can hope to effectually keep him in perpetual ignorance of his strength, and so powerfully impress him with man's mastery, as to cause him to yield a willing and ready obedience to his commands.

MAN'S SUPERIORITY.

Man is superior to the horse, because of his intellectual resources, by which he can devise and adopt means to overcome the strength of the horse, or even employ it against itself. The secret of training and managing horses lies in this mental superiority. The wisdom of Deity is infinite, and man must bow before it.

Man is finite, and he becomes superior to the ignorant horse only so far as he can manage and impress him with a sense of undoubted superiority. Consequently it is not only necessary to conform to the laws of the horse's nature, but to take advantage of his ignorance by the resources of mind in his control, under all circumstances of resistance, so as to make resistance apparently impossible. Recognizing then the need of conforming to the laws of his nature, so as not to excite his resistance, do not let him comprehend it possible to resist control. You seek, in the second place, to so disconcert and control him under all circumstances, as to impress him with the greatest force of man's power and absolute supremacy.

NECESSITY OF KINDNESS AND HONESTY.

The first step in the accomplishment of this is attained by winning the horse's confidence by the uniform actions of a kindly disposition in his management. If man doubts and fears because he reasons, the animal, reasoning only from experience, must doubt and fear only so far as taught by our actions towards him. He takes man exactly for what he proves himself by actions. If those actions are uniform in kindness and truth, there must be perfect confidence and corresponding trust; learning, as he does, to associate with man's presence a feeling of protection and security, there cannot be fear or doubt, because never taught to doubt by deception.

The child has confidence in his parents in proportion to the fidelity of the parents in inculcating and practicing those principles of truth in his early training. But once finding them unmindful of their promises, confidence in them is correspondingly impaired. If you are faithful in fulfilling your promises to the child, he will expect exactly what you promise. Here proof becomes faith, because he has never been deceived by the want of performance. Even among men the principle is the same. That man who is always found truthful, and who performs exactly as he promises to do, becomes a standard of public con-

fidence and trust; but he who disregards truth and the principles of honor, becomes an object of suspicion to all knowing him. As the child, then, is the reflex of the love and truth of the parents in confidence, and the public in him of undoubted integrity—so we are forced to believe the horse becomes in the character of his habits what he is made, in exact proportion to the teaching and example to which he has been made subject.

FAMILIARIZING TO OBJECTS OF FEAR—NECESSITY OF.

As we are taught there is no effect without a cause, and as the horse becomes fearless and confident so far as he understands there is no cause for fear, we should remove the cause of mischief as much as possible, by complying with those laws of his nature by which he examines an object, or determines upon its innocence or harm—and this is the more necessary in his early education, since early impressions are strong in the horse, and once learning suspicion, perseveres tenaciously to the apprehension of danger when once excited. Whatever the horse understands to be harmless he does not fear; consequently, great attention should be given to making him examine and smell such things as are likely to frighten him in after-life. A log or a stump by the road side, if regarded with suspicion, should be approached slowly and cautiously; to the imagination of the horse such things are supposed to be some great beast that may spring upon him, but which he will soon comprehend to be harmless if obliged to examine its nature in his own way, by taking him up to the object quietly, allowing him to understand fully by smelling and feeling with the nose that the object is harmless; and the same principle and process will have the same effect with other objects, however frightful in appearance, in which there is no real cause of fear. The boy frightened by a false face will care nothing about it after he takes it in his hands and examines it; and the principle is the same in familiarizing horses to objects of fear.

NECESSITY AND ADVANTAGE OF INTELLIGENT MEANS.

Prudence in conforming to the laws of the horse's nature and winning his confidence by kindness, though indispensable, is only as the caution which guards against the force of a momentum there is not ability to control, or as the care and attention of nursing is to a disease in the absence of medical skill in the application or administering of proper remedies; there would be no need of the medical skill if the laws of health had not been violated either by ignorance or the want of prudence, and so there would be no need of subduing the horse by force had there been no law of his nature violated; since effects must be the result of causes on fixed laws, every consequence requiring the genius of man to combat and control must be the result of his own ignorance and imprudence. Harshness and the neglect of this necessary attention, while mainly the causes of mischief, do not teach us by experience to infer that the absence of such causes, with corresponding regard to the laws of kindness, is not sufficient to win the bad horse to a forgetfulness of his powers of resistance. The course of reasoning that teaches him man's inability to enforce his assumed supremacy, must also convincingly demonstrate to his understanding man's ability to enforce absolute and unconditional submission, under all circumstances of resistance; in fact, disconcert and beat him on his own ground with the apparent ease and certainty of positive ability, without resorting to harsh means or inflicting pain. For as the aim of the physician is to subdue the force and effect of the disease by administering remedies least aggravating in their action upon the system, so the aim of the horseman should be in enforcing the subjugation of the horse; it should be done as nearly as possible on a moral basis.

TRAINING SHOULD BE THOROUGH—NECESSITY OF REPETITION.

The horse's confidence and rebellion being usually the result of long experience in successful resistance, his subjection must be made convincing by repeated proofs of being

over-matched and that resistance is useless. For since his willfulness and rebellion is based upon the limited reasoning of his experience, he must be thoroughly convinced by experience that unconditional submission is the only alternative, and this you cannot prove to the understanding of the horse without repeating your lessons until he submits unconditionally. But as nursing and care is to the patient over the force of disease, so in the subjugation of the horse—his submission should be encouraged and rewarded by kindness, and feeding from the hand with little presents of such things as he likes. That master is supreme in his control, and submission to his commands becomes a pleasure, who has the power to enforce his will, but who exercises it with the sweetening encouragements of love. While force is necessary, and you have the means of making your horse almost a plaything in your hands, let the silken cord of love be the cement that fixes and secures this submission to your will. A good-natured, clever man, it is admitted, can teach a horse almost anything, and it has become a proverb that kindness will lead an elephant by a hair. So the horse should be treated with kindness and consideration. His spirit should be curbed and directed, but not subdued. Man has the right of control, restraint, correction, and even destruction of life, but we must bear the consequences of those violations of the laws of his nature to which he is thereby subjected. Show your horse exactly what you want him to do, and endeavor to use the patience and reason in teaching and controlling him you would at least believe necessary for yourself to understand if placed in like circumstances. Ignorant of the language and intentions of such a teacher, who even preserved his patience and refrained from abuse, what progress would you make as a pupil—gifted as you are with all your intelligence? If possible, ennoble and elevate your feelings by realizing your responsibility to yourself, to community, and to the noble animal committed to your charge. Make your horse a friend by kindness and good treatment. Be a kind master, not a tyrant; and make your horse a willing servant, but not a slave.

THE WILD COLT.

As the training of the horse must be based upon the observance of those principles of his nature requiring the exercise of his reason in everything forced upon his attention, and of conveying to his understanding most clearly what is required of him, it is advisable to commence my lessons on the management of horses by explaining how to proceed with the wild colt. First: Prepare your barn, or such place as you design for your training room; every thing tending to annoy or excite your colt—hens, chickens, or dogs—must be driven out; endeavor to be all alone with your horse; do not suffer the curious, who will be anxious to judge of your abilities, as such will term it, to crowd in—guard against such a nuisance, if possible; and as such persons are not usually sensitive about taking a hint, be decisive in your wishes, observing that it is a positive condition of your instructions. Your object next is to get your colt into this place, which you must do as quietly and gently as possible. You can accomplish this best by leading in and hitching, in his view, a broke horse; the colt will, generally, soon walk in of his own accord; but, should he not, do not be in haste to drive him in; walk quietly around him, and very gradually give him less room by closing in upon him. Be slow and careful, and he will not run or become frightened; give him time to examine and look around, and in a short time he will walk in. When in, get your old horse out as quietly as possible. There are two ways of haltering, either of which will answer. I will give both ways, and the scholar may adopt the way best suited to the case. The first is familiarizing yourself to the colt until he will suffer you to approach and handle him, when the halter may be easily put on. The other method is, getting the halter on before you have succeeded in gentling him much. In ordinary cases the first will be the most practicable, but if the colt is ex-

tremely wild and nervous the latter is to be preferred, because a much quicker method, and does not excite.

COLT NOT VERY WILD.

First method: As soon as he appears quiet and reconciled to the restraint of the inclosure, go slowly and cautiously towards him, making no demonstration at all, but talking gently or singing, as you please. He does not understand your language, and you talk or sing the sooner to reconcile him to your presence and attract his attention. If he begins to walk around from you, stop, but continue your singing or talking, and appear as careless as you can about his presence, until he becomes quiet again. Then walk back to where you started, and as leisurely repeat going towards him as before, and so repeat as circumstances may require until you are so close as to touch his withers, or permit him to smell of your hand should he seem so disposed. Remember, you must be patient and gentle in all your actions. Now touch him on the withers, and gradually gentle and win his confidence, so that you can handle and rub his neck and finally the head. Do not try to hold him or impose the least restraint; that would cause him to become excited, and afraid of you. Fondle the colt in this way until he becomes reconciled to your presence, and will suffer your scratching and handling quietly. Now step back and take up your halter quietly, which should be of leather; rope halters are very objectionable, for young horses in particular. The rope halter is hard, and hurts his head when he pulls; being hurt the colt will instinctively try to get his head out of the halter, and the harder he pulls the more it will hurt, because the tighter and harder it will pinch, which will frighten him the more; and he will try to free himself at all hazards, until he pulls himself down or possibly breaks the halter. This is the way to teach him to become a halter-puller. Take your halter in your left hand, and approach the colt very slowly; don't be in a hurry; give him time to examine and smell every part of it in his own way. While

he is examining the halter caress and rub him, and it will further your efforts greatly to give him a little apple, corn, or anything you may happen to have convenient. If you cannot get your halter on easily, unbuckle the top part, and then take hold of the end of the long strap which goes over his head with your right hand and carry it under his neck, while you reach the left hand over his neck and grasp the end of this long strap; now lower the halter just enough to get his nose into the nose-piece, and then raise it up to its proper place and fasten your buckle. This method of haltering will do very well if the colt is not extremely wild. But if your subject is wild and nervous, the following method is much the best.

Second method: First, provide yourself with a piece of an edging about four feet long, (a broomstick or anything of the kind will answer,) cut a notch into one end with your pocket knife, and about seven inches from this end raise a few chips from the opposite end of the stick, or you can drive a nail in, the head bent a little towards the end having no notch; next you want a common slipping-noose rope halter, (I use a rope halter in making this step in the training of the colt, on account of its convenience); now get a common halter-strap, with a loop on the end which has the buckle; this put into your pocket, convenient to your right hand, for future use. Now approach the colt slowly and carefully, as before described, remembering that visitors must be excluded; if you are alone you can work faster and better than it is possible with company. When you succeed in approaching to within four or five feet of the withers, retreat slowly as before, and take up your stick, previously prepared, holding the notched end from you, and swinging it very gently a little to the right and left in a horizontal position. This is a new object of fear to the colt, and will be regarded with a good deal of suspicion; however, a little patience will soon enable you to get so near the colt that you can hold your stick gently over the back and withers; then gradually lower it,

moving it gently as before until the hair of the mane is slightly touched; as this is borne, let it drop a little lower until it rests upon the mane; now commence scratching the mane with the stick gently, but firmly; this will please the colt, and cause him to stand quietly; while scratching with your stick in this way, slide your right hand slowly and cautiously along its surface, until you get it upon the mane, when you scratch with the hand in place of with the stick. All this is proving to the colt that you will not hurt him; in fact, you please, and hence he submits quietly. Now step back quietly to where your halter is; take the part that goes over the head in your right hand; now put your foot upon that part that slips through the loop immediately back of the jaw; then pull up upon it, which will cause the rope to slide and draw through the loop, so as to make that portion drop down below the nose-piece eighteen or twenty inches; now hang the head-piece, which you hold in your right hand, on those notches on the end of your stick, holding the end in your hand with your stick; your halter now hangs upon your stick so spread that you can put it over the colt's ears without touching any part of the head; your halter arranged, holding it before you, swinging upon the stick, you approach the colt in the same cautious manner as before, until you bring it gently to the nose. This being a new object of fear to the colt, he will smell of it cautiously; while he is smelling it you are gradually raising it over his head, so gently that he does not feel or care about it, until you get it over and back of the ears, when turn your stick half round, and your halter will drop from it upon the head; now bring the stick towards you, lowering it until the end rests against the loop of the nose-piece, when draw back the left hand, which holds the end of the halter, while you press forward a little with the right, which will draw up the slack, and the halter is drawn close upon the head; now put your stick down carefully, take one step to the right and you can put your hand upon the withers, which you will scratch as before, as

doing so pleases him. Now, while fondling and talking in this way, get your little strap out of your pocket, taking the loop end in your hand and putting the other end in your mouth; now pass the loop end over the back quietly until within ten or twelve inches of the floor; then stoop very gently, fondling the shoulder and near side carefully, and, as the colt will bear, extending it under the body until the strap is felt, which take in the hand and bring to the near side gently, and very delicately buckle around the arm so loosely that it will slide down the leg easily; now raise your foot and bring it down upon the strap, which will slide gently below the fetlock and draw up tight; now take a firm hold of the part over the back with your right, while with the left hand you hold the halter about two feet or more from the head. Gently pull with your left hand, which will cause the colt to step sideways a little; the moment he steps pull with the right hand, and you throw him upon three legs. This may frighten the colt and cause him to run back; if there is danger, give him the freedom of the foot instantly, and he will stop; if not, simply hold quietly until he ceases struggling with the foot. When he submits the foot quietly, pass the left hand between the forelegs, take the strap between your fingers, which let go with the right and bring around the arm and foot two or three times, as it will bear in length, and draw the end tightly between the strap and leg. By putting him on three legs he can offer but very little resistance when pulled by the head sideways, and as he does not reason will come round as readily with the legs free as he does on three. Now step back on a line with the hips, holding the halter in both hands firmly, and say: Come here, sir! the colt of course does not obey, so you pull upon the halter and he is obliged to swing round to you; now step to the right side and repeat, bringing him around by the halter each time, until when he hears the word Come here! he will obey you readily. As soon as the colt submits to this step, remove the strap off the leg, and rub the part gently over which the strap had been;

now step sideways and back as before, and say: Come here, sir! if he does not come readily, take a short hold of the halter with the left hand, while with the right grasp the tail firmly, and whirl him around until he acts dizzy—then whirl him the other way; this whirling shows him you can handle him just as well on four legs as you can on three. Now ask him to come to you; if he moves a little as if to obey caress him, and so continue until he will follow you readily. See another method of teaching to follow.

HOW TO HANDLE THE FEET.

After submitting sufficiently to lead well, caress and rub him on the withers as at first, and, as he will bear, work down the shoulder and leg. Then lift lightly on the foot; if it is submitted, rub it quickly and smoothly a few seconds; then put it down and take it up again, and so continue until you can handle the foot as you please. The main point for you to consider is, that you are to make the colt understand you will not hurt him, and to do this you must be gentle. Now place your hands again on the withers, and run them back over the side and hips softly and quickly, handling every part thoroughly as you work along towards the leg, and, as the colt will bear, work the hands along around the leg until you reach the foot. If there is no resistance, take it gently between the hands and lift upon it a little—just a very little. If there is no resistance, after letting down, rubbing and gentling a little more, repeat—each time lift it up a little higher, until you can take it up and handle it just as you please. Should he, however, resist and jerk his foot away from you, you must resort to the use of means to make him understand that resistance is out of the question. But very few horses I cannot handle in this way successfully, by whirling a few times every time the foot is resisted; a few turns will generally make the colt stand and submit quietly to be handled.

If, however, you find determined resistance, you must

resort to more thorough measures of control. Take your light strap, which you used at first to take up the foot, in your right hand; take up the near fore-foot, which hold in the left hand, while with the right you pass the end of the strap around the hind leg below the fetlock. Now buckle the loop around the strap, and draw tight upon the foot; then take the halter in the left hand firmly, while you have this little strap in the right, about thirty inches from the foot. Pull upon this strap, which will cause the foot to be drawn forward; this the colt will resist by kicking, but as the strap does not restrain the foot at the same time that it holds it firmly, he soon finds resistance is useless; when he gives the foot without resistance, shorten your hold upon the strap, which brings the hand near the leg, swinging it gently by pulling the strap lightly back and then letting up again, and so repeat until you succeed in holding the foot in your hands, moving it gently in the same way; then let the foot down—rubbing it gently, take it up again, and so continue until you can handle it as you please. If more thorough treatment is found necessary, see management of horses bad to shoe.

HOW TO RIDE A COLT.

The method most practicable to me is to stand by the shoulder of the colt holding the halter in the left hand, which place upon the withers, the right over the back, gently patting the off side a little; now make the slightest indication of jumping upon the back; if the colt stands this then jump a little higher, and so continue as the colt will bear, rubbing and patting with the right hand after each spring until you can throw yourself upon his back lightly. If the colt stands this, pat the off side gently, all the time talking soothingly, as, My little boy, or, My little lady. When this encroachment is suffered quietly, move the right leg toward the hip a little, being slow and cautious as before, until you can finally get the leg over the back, and in the same gentle manner get into an upright position. Get on and off a

few times, and the colt will suffer being jumped on and off without the slightest resistance. It usually takes me about twenty-five minutes to get a green colt so docile as to suffer being handled in any reasonable manner. Should the colt resist, whirl him a few times at each resistance and he will soon submit.

Bear in mind, however, that there is a great difference in the temper and intelligence of horses—some being quick to understand, others very stupid—some yielding an almost unresisting submission, and others extremely perverse. You may find your colt stubborn and sulky when you undertake to make him follow. When such is the case, and the colt shows a reckless disregard of your control, be sure your temper does not get the better of you. If the current of your feelings rises high, put in requisition the Quaker's rule of counting one hundred as a restraint, and if the force of your passion should be too strong after counting the hundred, add to the number until you count four hundred. There is no use whatever of getting mad at your colt because he sulks; your only course is to get him out of the fit. So be patient—rub and caress him; give him a little corn, apple, or anything you happen to have convenient.

Remember, if possible, you must not force your colt while he is excited; for he is then in no condition to understand what you require, or to be submissive. Stop and repeat, and you will gain your point without difficulty. You should be careful not to train the colt until he becomes heated and confused. There seems to be that in the nature of some horses that causes them to resist force as there is in man, and when you have such, use great caution. Require but little at a time, and hold to that point until you gain it thoroughly before you undertake to do more. For example, in making a colt follow, if he submits ever so little, caress and reward him for it, and so continue, and, my word for it, you will not have any difficulty in making the colt submit willingly to whatever you require of him. When you resort to force do it sharply, so as to impress him as

much as possible with your power. It is well to remember that slow-moving, stubborn colts make good willing workers, and that the main difficulty in the management of such is in getting them started.

TO MAKE A COLT FOLLOW UNDER THE WHIP.

After he comes round to you readily by pulling a little on the halter, and follows freely, take your whip in the right hand; pull upon the halter a little, saying: Come here, sir! and at the same time tap lightly with the whip over the hips; he will come to you mainly because you have taught him to yield to a slight pull upon the head and come to you at this signal, and because he wishes to get away from the touch of the whip behind. As soon as he comes to you caress him and feed him from the hand with something he likes; repeat this—each time pulling less upon the halter, until he will come to you as readily by tapping with the whip as he did at first to the halter. Now, instead of hitting with the whip, commence by snapping it behind him; if he comes, caress and encourage as before, and so repeat, at each time increasing the distance from him, until he will follow or come to you quickly by cracking the whip. I give this method because simple, and, in my judgment, practicable to most any one, and will bring about the desired result in a short time; indeed, so well as to make your horse follow you about the streets without halter or bridle. I will now give another method of learning a colt to lead, and, in fact of controlling and subduing him—being a very powerful means of control, and is doubtless the most practical and thorough means known of managing a horse by the head. I would call especial attention to the value of this means—which, for convenience, I will call a War Bridle—for controlling and managing horses under certain circumstances.

The war bridle is simply a cord of about the size of a common bed-cord or clothes-line. It should be of cotton, and made of fine yarn, or what is known as fine-threaded cotton cord, about three-eighths of an inch in diameter; it was used, before the rise in the price of cot-

ton, quite extensively for clothes-line. If you cannot get this quality of cord, procure a good, stout hemp one of about the same strength, or, in fact, anything of the kind strong enough.

WAR BRIDLE.

Take a cord of the above description, in length about fifteen feet. Tie one end into a hard knot, just as you would to prevent its raveling; now tie another knot about ten inches or a little more from the one on the end, but before you draw it tight, put the knot on the end through. You have now a loop that will not slip, made on the same principle that a rope is tied around the neck of a horse to hitch with, so as not to tighten upon the neck by pulling upon it. This loop should be just large enough to slip over the under jaw of the horse you wish to train; put this loop over the lower jaw; then, while standing on the near side, take the cord in the left hand and bring over the neck by passing the left hand under the neck to the opposite side, towards the mane; now bring the right hand over the neck, and take the cord from the left and pass back to the loop, and put through from the top side, until the part over the neck is drawn down like a check-rein; now take hold of the end of this rein, and you will find you have a means of power in it that makes the strongest horse almost a plaything in your hands.

The objection to the use of this war bridle in the training of the innocent colt, is, that the ignorant are inconsiderate in its use. Instead of using it with the utmost mildness, a little resistance on the part of the colt is made an excuse to use it in the most severe manner, until the colt either submits unconditionally, or becomes so desperate with pain as to be entirely reckless and regardless of the utmost efforts. Under such circumstances he will spread his legs and throw his head forward, as stupid and stubborn as a hog, and when he does move, it is with the stupid indifference to control of that stupid animal. The war bridle is a valuable means of managing and training colts in skillful hands. It should be

used with great adroitness, never so harshly as to excite extreme pain, and yet with the touch that causes a fear of resistance. Like the whip, it should be made more an instrument to be feared than felt ; consequently the delicacy of the mouth must be preserved, if possible, under this means of subjection. When you do use it severely, let it be quick and sharp, not too often, and the moment you find your horse resisting with too much will, you will always find it to your advantage to stop and put your horse away a short time, until he becomes cool. The great secret, in fact, of training, is in not training too long, and repeating. You will find that the colt, entirely reckless when you put him away, will on repeating submit to you readily.

If you intend using the war bridle as a means of subduing your green colt, put it on after you tamper your colt well on three legs, with the strap over the back. As soon as he submits cleverly to this step, instead of fastening up the leg as by the method already described, take off your strap. Then put on the war bridle gently, when step to one side and back, and say, Come here, sir, pulling a very little upon the bridle, just enough to bring his head towards you a little. Now step up to him and pat him on the neck, and say, You are a fine fellow. Then try again in the same way, and so repeat until he will come to you quite freely. You may increase your force upon the bridle in proportion to his submission, but not if he show stubbornness. You may then step to the other side and repeat the lesson until he will come to you either way cheerfully. Now you wish him to *follow you* ; continue your training in this way, gradually pulling a little more on a line with his body, until he will follow as well ahead as he does sideways.

HANDLING THE FEET.

Handle the feet in the same prudent manner as before described ; but when there is resistance you simply reprove for it by pulling down a little on the mouth with the bridle, which will act like a charm. If the colt re-

fuses to have the hind feet handled, put on the small strap on the hind foot, and by pulling on this strap bring the foot up; then the moment he kicks, bring down on the mouth sharply with the bridle. In a short time he will submit, when by good, careful handling, the colt will submit to your control unconditionally.

The same principle applies to the use of this under all circumstances. It is a means of reproof, and certainly has a powerful effect upon a horse.

TO TEACH THE COLT TO BACK.

Put on the war bridle. Stand directly in front of your horse, having hold of the cord about twenty inches from the head with your left hand, resting the right on the cord, or bridle, about four or five inches from the head. You now say, Back, sir. Your horse does not know anything about what you want, of course, and does not obey. Immediately after saying, Back, press down and back, with your right hand sharply on the cord, which will set the head back with a jerk. Do not expect your colt will go back without a little struggle of resistance. Repeat this for about four or five minutes, being careful not to get excited. As a rule, the colt will not go back with one lesson, possibly not in the second; but will be sure to do so the third lesson.

The more intelligent and spirited the colt, the sooner he will submit, and the more ready his obedience. The duller and slower your subject, the more patient and persevering must be your efforts. It is now time to commence biting your colt.

BITTING THE COLT.

Some people seem to have strange notions about biting. It would seem as if the style and position of the head depended entirely upon the attention given to biting. The object of biting, it should be borne in mind, is to teach the horse to obey the rein, and, at the same time, habituating the horse to give the head and neck as great an elevation as the form and temper of the animal will bear. But, while it is admitted that careful atten-

tion to biting will improve the style and bearing of the horse, it should not be forgotten, that the position in which a horse carries his head in harness, will depend almost entirely upon his form and his temper. No art can give the horse with a low, perpendicular shoulder and short neck, fine style of carrying his head and neck, even if he possesses good courage and spirit. The practice of straining the head and neck into an unnatural position, and keeping it so for hours, as is practiced generally in biting, is often a cause of injury. When the head is strained up into an unnatural position, and kept there for a long time, the colt will learn to relieve the pain and weariness he feels by resting the entire weight of his head on the bit, and which teaches him to lug upon the bit, and causes the mouth to become insensible to pressure.

I will now explain what I regard as an improved method of biting, which teaches the horse exactly what you require, and does not injure the mouth in the least, and by which you can bit a horse well in about one hour, by limiting your lessons to five minutes, and repeating until the head is rendered freely and readily to the pressure of the rein, seldom requiring more than six or eight lessons of five or six minutes each.

HOW TO MAKE BITTING BRIDLE.

Take your war bridle, or cord as you will perhaps call it, previously used, and fix a loop upon the other end, just like that already used to put around the jaw, but big enough to go over the head and fit over the neck, rather tight, where the collar is worn. Now bring your cord forward, put through the mouth from the off-side, and bring back on the near side and put through the loop around the neck. Now pull upon this cord, and the head will be drawn back to the breast. You are now prepared to bit. Simply pull upon the cord a little, which will draw the head back slightly ; after holding a short time render loose ; then draw a little tighter, and so repeat for four or five minutes. Then stop biting, and repeat at some future time.

The great secret, not only of biting but of training the young horse in any manner, is in not confusing or exciting him to resistance by training too long. When your colt yields readily to the bit, you can check the head to suit. Making the check-rein rather tight, causes the head to be carried high, while the delicacy given the mouth will prevent the nose being thrown forward. This method of biting may be regarded with little favor by those not understanding its effect; but all I have further to say on the subject is, give it a fair trial.

Teach your colt to be perfectly submissive to your handling in every manner. To lead well, back freely to the word. You are now ready for the next step in his training, which is, usually, driving to harness.

TRAINING TO HARNESS.

Put on your harness carefully, which should be made to fit well, and great care should be used in having it safe and strong in every respect. Do not be tempted to drive your colt in an old rotten harness, or to hitch to an old rotten, rattling wagon, as such are liable to give way at any time. Many of the accidents causing horses to become subject to bad habits are the results of such imprudence. Let every step made be sure. Work safe and you are sure to bring about a good result. With your harness on allow him to stand in his stall until he becomes somewhat used to the presence and pressure of the different parts, and will allow you to rattle them about without his caring for them. Now lead him around for a short time, and as soon as he appears quiet check him up quite loosely, and take down the reins and drive him around in the yard. When he becomes familiar with the harness, check and reins, and will start and stop to the word, and drive around to the right or left, you can drive him about the streets with safety. Though in making this step you had better have the war bridle on for safety. You should then drive to a sulky. I prefer a sulky at first. Let your colt see and examine every part of the sulky, until he cares nothing about it. Then draw it up behind him, rattling and running it back and

forth a few times, when attach to the harness. As safety and certainty should be your motto in the breaking of horses, before you attempt driving the colt, apply what I call a

FOOT STRAP.

Take a common strap or rope about the size of your war bridle. Your war bridle will answer by untying one of the loops. Fasten the end untied carefully to the forward foot, below the fetlock. Pass the other end over the belly-band of the harness, and carry it back on the left side to the sulky, over the hold-back strap of the breechen, and hold as a third rein in your hand. You have in this strap or cord, connecting with the foot in this way, a means of control, with which you can almost as easily as if a plaything, control a horse while moving in the harness, and embodies one of the most valuable and effective means of controlling a horse in harness, yet demonstrated. If the horse attempts to run away, simply pulling upon your strap throws him instantly on three legs, and he has to stop. If he attempts to run back, the same remedy stops him. If he attempts to kick, you attract his attention forward instantly, and at the same time make it impossible for him to kick.

1st. Because the instant you notice an intention of kicking you disconcert him by taking his foot the next step he takes, which attracts his attention away from his hind part, thereby disconcerting him, and at the same time making it impossible for him to kick. On the instant the foot is taken up the horse is thrown off his balance, and to keep from falling he has to throw the other foot forward. There is really no danger of his falling. You in fact hold him by a point that makes him completely at the mercy of your will. Now if you strap up one of the forward legs, your horse cannot travel, and if a bad kicker, he can balance himself on the other leg and kick, which he cannot do when held at will in this way. While we are given the principle, we are not given its practice, because the moment your strap is off your protection against danger is removed,

and your resource of control is limited to that of prudence and good management ; while with the foot strap your horse is really free to travel, but completely in your control should emergency require it. You control the horse in the very act of resistance and thereby convince him conclusively of your supremacy and power. To teach a horse to stop at the word of command, it is certainly unrivaled. Not only this, but it acts as a powerful means of breaking up the confidence of a horse disposed to baulk, and serves in fact as the most complete and thorough means known of control in the harness while driving. So that with ordinary prudence, with this means, there is no difficulty in driving and educating the young horse to the harness safely.

It is indeed strange that the experience and genius of ages should have failed to apply this principle to a more practical degree than that of strapping up the foot, as practiced for more than half a century, to control and subdue horses.

OBJECTS OF FEAR.

In driving, be careful about using the whip too freely. If a stone, or a stump, or anything of the kind should be regarded with fear, do not whip and drive the horse by. Let him stand a short time and look at the object until he seems careless about it, then push a little closer as he will bear, and so repeat, at the same time talking to him encouragingly until you can drive by or up to the object. Be very sure to have your colt comprehend fully that such objects are harmless, as opportunity offers in this way, and he will soon become so fearless and confident as to be regardless of such things. But if you whip him for becoming frightened at such things, he will associate the punishment with the object of his fright, and be more frightened the next time he sees it. The horse being unable to reason only from experience, you should convince him by careful examination that the object is harmless. For example, if the sight or smell of a robe a few feet distant should frighten your horse, put on the war bridle and take him alone in the training

yard or barn. Lead him gently to the robe. Let him smell of it, if he will. Then take it in your hand, hold it gently to his nose, then rub it against his neck, side, and over the back, and so repeat for a short time, and he will become so regardless of it, after familiarizing him with it, in this way, that you can throw it over his back or tie it to his tail without causing him the least fear. To familiarize a colt to a drum, the same principle is to be observed. Let him touch it with the nose, then rub it against his neck and sides and place it upon his back. Now tap it gently with the finger, gradually increasing in force as he will bear, and in a short time, you can play upon it quite smartly, even while resting upon his back, and he will care nothing about it. The principle is the same with the umbrella. Let him touch it with his nose first while closed. Then rub it against his head and neck and over his body. Then commence again at the nose, opening the umbrella a little, and so repeat until you can hold it fully spread over his head and over and about him in any manner, and in a short time he will care nothing for it. Teach him that a newspaper, though it is white and rustles, is harmless, by rubbing him with it, throwing it upon him like a blanket, dragging it about upon the ground by a string and riding him about with it in the hand.

To accustom your horse to the cars, lead him to the depot and have him see them at rest, and examine them carefully even to the smelling and touching with the nose. Then allow him to see them moving as you have an opportunity. When you undertake to familiarize a colt or a horse to anything which frightens him, be sure you repeat the lesson until he cares nothing about the object. If you do not the experiment will be of but little advantage to your horse, and in fact, it may render him worse.

DRIVING.

When your horse drives well before a sulky, then you may hitch him to a light wagon or by the side of another broke horse, and if you are breaking him for the

farm or for hauling heavy loads, you can gradually increase his load until he will draw to the extent of his ability without comprehending that he has the power of doing otherwise. After your horse is sufficiently broke to the harness you can either allow him to carry his head as nature may dictate, or by the proper use of the check-rein, bring his head and neck into such position of style as his form and temper will bear, or your fancy dictate.

In teaching your young horse to drive well, do not be in a hurry to see how fast he can trot. Although your colt may be old enough to learn how to move well and perhaps drive as gently as an older horse, he is not old enough to perform the work of an older horse fully matured. Require but little at first, gradually increasing as he develops in strength, and becomes hardened to his gaits. Care should be taken to keep each pace clear and distinct from each other. While walking, he should be made to walk and not allowed to trot. While trotting, as in walking, care must be taken that he keeps steadily at his pace, and not allowed to slack into a walk. When occasionally pushed to his extreme speed in the trot, he should be kept up to it only a few minutes at a time, gradually requiring more as he becomes practiced and capable of enduring ; and whenever he has done well, he should be permitted to walk a short time and encouraged with a kind word. Under no circumstances should what is termed his bottom be tried by forcing him to the stretch of his greatest efforts until he becomes tired and overdone. The reins while driving should be kept snug, and when pushed to the top of his speed, keep him well in hand, that he may learn to bear well upon the bit, as it is by means of the reins mainly that the horse when going at a high rate of speed is kept steady in his pace.

But while you should teach your horse to drive well to the pressure of the bit, be careful not to give him the habit of pulling too hard ; for then he becomes not only unpleasant but difficult to manage.

The art of driving well cannot be taught by any written instructions. Practice and ingenuity in this respect can alone make a skillful horseman. Always strive to encourage rather than drive your horse, and be careful not to whip only for merited reproof. The too free use of the whip will cause the horse to plunge ahead every time he sees any unusual movement of it, or at any mishap which may occur.

TO TRAIN A HORSE TO STAND WHEN GETTING INTO A
CARRIAGE.

There are many horses that are very gentle after starting, but will not stand for you to get into the carriage. Such will sometimes rear up and start very suddenly, and if stopped, become obstinately stubborn and refuse to go when required.

This habit is usually brought about by the mismanagement of thoughtless or ignorant drivers, in being hasty and harsh to a horse naturally ambitious, but sensitive and impulsive.

The naturally intelligent and tractable colt is taken from the field and harnessed up without attention or regard to consequences. If he goes off gently he is regarded as mild and gentle ; but if he is restless, and does not go when required to, he is whipped, and kicked, and abused. The colt does not know what he is whipped for, and the result is he becomes stubborn and mad. If he goes, it is with a reckless rearing plunge, or he settles back and refuses to move. Such a horse learns either good or bad habits readily, and is either very good and obedient if well managed, or willful and stubborn to the last degree, if to the contrary.

The first step in the management of such a horse, if a bad one, is to show him his willfulness must yield to superior power. This you can do best by managing him as follows :

Tie the hair of the tail into a hard knot. Then take the halter strap in your left hand, holding the tail in the right ; pass the halter strap through the hair above the knot and draw up as short as the horse will bear without

running around, tying quickly. This will bring the horse in the form of a half circle, his head fast to his tail by the halter strap. Your object is to break up his confidence in himself most thoroughly, and this is the most harmless yet most powerful of all known means of disconcerting a horse on so practical a basis. No horse can bear up long against the depressing effect of whirling, in connection with the proper use of the war bridle. The nearer the head is tied to the tail the better, for the quicker and shorter the horse will turn, and the better the effect. Should he not run around very freely, touch him behind with the whip, which will cause him to move sharply. Simply keep him moving until he falls down by becoming dizzy, which he will do in about one minute or a minute and a half. After lying a short time, untie the halter, when he will get up rather shaken in confidence ; but this lesson is not sufficient if a bad case. Tie the head to the tail in the opposite direction, and put him through until he falls or is unable to move. By this time a plucky horse may become warm from the exertion of his struggles of resistance, and is not in a condition to be handled much more to advantage. However, if not too warm, you may put on the war bridle and give him a few sharp turns to show him you can handle him as easily by the head as you can by whirling. When he follows and submits in this way freely, put him in his stall, caressing and talking to him gently, so as to let him understand obedience is all you require, and that you are a friend.

The great secret of subduing a horse is to handle him in such a manner as to impress him most powerfully with your supremacy, without causing pain or excitement. This you can accomplish best by making your lessons short, and repeating after the horse has had time to reflect. A man does not like to match himself against an adversary who has handled him roughly and with the apparent ease of superior strength and ability, after his mind becomes cool, and the ascendancy of reason prevails ; and so it is with the horse. If possible, do not

continue his training while excited, and you will be surprised to find how soon he will yield submission.

When you repeat, let it be with the war bridle only. When you find your horse will yield a ready obedience to your command out of the harness, then put on the harness and hitch to the carriage. When hitched, get to the head of the horse, pat and rub him on the head and neck, obliging him to stand, for he will not run over you. Then walk ahead slowly, stopping occasionally to caress and encourage him. In a short time you will find your horse will stand quietly for you to get into your buggy. For a few times after hitching, do not attempt to get into the buggy immediately before starting, walk ahead, asking him to follow a short distance, and if there is too much crowding, set him back with the bridle. This is a very easy habit to break up. I have broken very bad horses of this character, in from one to three lessons with the war bridle alone; but certainly the above method is much more thorough. Always move your horse slow for some distance after hitching, and be very careful about using the whip at such a time.

BAULKY HORSES.

This habit is most perplexing to endure, and though the causes have been ably discussed by writers on horsemanship, all alike have failed to give little more than the stereotyped remedy of patience and kindness. The baulky horse is usually high-spirited, free in temperament, quick to comprehend, and sensitive to causes of excitement. Patience and kindness would have won him at first to a forgetfulness of the habit; but as an open and confirmed rebel, defying the powers of man to enforce his submission, requires more than the patience incident to human nature to overcome. The baulky horse is simply willful, and in breaking up the habit the object should be to convince the horse most clearly, without resort to abuse or harshness, of ability to enforce submission. I would here suggest that it is always policy to go upon the principle of the adage, that an ounce of preventive is worth a pound of cure, in this as in all other bad

habits to which horses are subject. Bad management is alone the cause of horses learning to baulk.

When the horse baulks in harness it is not from any unwillingness to perform his duty, but from some confusion or excitement, arising from mismanagement. He is willing and anxious to go, but too eager or high-spirited to make the steady push against the collar necessary to move the load. Because he will not pull under such circumstances he receives the curses and lash of the driver, which makes the horse not only mad but discouraged, and he refuses to go. If your horse becomes confused, and refuses to draw his load or go ahead, do not, by any means, get mad, and resort to the use of the whip the first thing; for in such a case, ninety-nine times in a hundred, the use of the whip will only strengthen the tendency to resistance into open rebellion, which is just what you do not want. As a general rule a little patience and a few encouraging words would cause your horse to move on. But if you find a decided tendency to resistance, get out and examine the harness carefully. Sometimes the collar is too big and hurts the shoulders, or perhaps the load is heavy, and the road softer and steeper than you suppose, and you have forced your horse to draw until completely exhausted, and simply needs time to breathe before renewing the exertion. Consider circumstances. Your horse cannot talk and tell you the cause of difficulty. Get to the head, *talk* to him gently, and rub him a little the way the hair lies. If there is still resistance, remember it is an additional reason why you should control your temper. After rubbing the head and neck, for a horse of this kind must be flattered and coaxed, as you would find it necessary to do with a stubborn boy: all he needs is a little time, and the fit will exhaust itself, and you will leave no bad impression, making a starting point for the habit. Gently move the horse's head, first to the right, then to the left, to show him that he can move the load. After moving once or twice in this way he will generally start and

move on. Let your horse in starting turn a little to the left or to the right, as he can thereby start the load much easier than if he were to move straight ahead.

If your team refuse to go use the same prudence ; for you will find the more hurried you are the slower will be your progress. Get to their heads, moving them easily and gently against their collars to the right and left, evenly, giving them time to become collected and cool, so that they will move steady and together. Be considerate and kind, for the horse is, remember, sensitive and stubborn. If, however, your horse refuses ordinary treatment, and you wish to move him, take a fine twine and tie around the leg, between the knee and ankle, tightly. This will cause him to raise the foot with pain, which will soon cause him to step for relief, and move on. Take off the cord as soon as you can safely stop the horse to do so.

There is not, however, any practical way of making this class of horses work safely, only by thorough training, which will soon break up the habit, and make your subject submissive and gentle. I have never found one so bad that I could not subdue in two or three lessons so thoroughly as to work well.

Manage the baulky horse about the same that you do the horse bad to stand, or that rears and plunges ahead after being hitched to a carriage. The habit in character is the same, and requires essentially the same treatment. Whirl thoroughly as before described, after which train with the war bridle, until the horse submits unconditionally. Then put in harness and attach to wagon, training a little with the war bridle when refusing to obey ; but in making this step with the jibber be prudent. He has learned by experience to resist successfully in harness, and now that he finds himself on his own ground he will make a gallant and determined stand. Admire his courage and pluck, but remember this is the ground you are really laboring to win. Let your requirements be made with great delicacy, a little at a time, or so much as you have power to enforce by

the use of the war bridle, which will bring such a horse to a sense of submission quickly. Let every step be thorough, and repeat until the horse yields an unconditional submission to your commands.

After your subject moves well and safely, gradually teach him to haul steadily, by first loading lightly, and increasing as the horse will bear, until the habit becomes fixed, and he will work cheerfully. I have never found a baulky horse I could not make work by a few lessons of such treatment as the above.

Wishing a horse to drive a few miles some time ago, a friend, in sport, offered to furnish me with such an animal as I wanted, and in due time found myself driving an eight-year-old mare I found to be baulky to the last degree. She had been kicked, whipped and pounded until completely spoilt. Yet I succeeded in mastering her so well by the application of the war bridle alone, a few times, that for two months afterwards, when I last saw her owner, she continued, he informed me, a pleasant, willing driver. If I did so much by the application of this means a few times, certainly by ordinary prudence there can be no difficulty in subduing the most willful horse of this character by whirling and the bridle in connection.

Win the confidence of your horse after training by good treatment, if possible. Kindness is a powerful lever in the successful management of the spirited horse. Good management alone on this basis will often win such horses to submission to a surprising degree. But kindness in connection with the capacity of impressing the horse powerfully with your ability to enforce submission, which makes the horse lose confidence in himself, proves to his understanding he has every thing to gain by submission, and every thing to lose by resistance, which in fact makes him not only afraid to resist but ambitious to please.

To show what good treatment will do on this basis, I will mention a case I managed successfully about eight years ago, which was before much was known of the

art of subduing as now demonstrated. By way of trading I was made the owner of a nice, smart-looking mare, eight years old. The man of whom I got her, who was, by the way, a notorious jockey, said she was not driven but little to harness, and would suit me exactly. I liked the mare's appearance, and traded for her, but I soon found her meriting the title of being baulky. Found, on inquiry, she had been traded about for years, on account of her baulkiness, and was not regarded as being worth much. Well, neighbors, usually attentive to other people's business to the neglect of their own, said I had more than my match this time ; that it was too bad I should be so badly cheated, &c. I will not enter into the details of my efforts, but will simply say that in a few days I could drive my mare just as I pleased, up and down hill, stop and start when and where I pleased, and in a short time was as nice and gentle a buggy mare as I have driven. After having her two weeks I sold her to a man claiming to be a horseman, yet he in driving home baulked her, though as trusty to me as could be. I used no whip and he applied it, which she resented, and finally defied his efforts to move her at all. While you have the ability to exercise almost an unlimited control over your horse, never be unmindful of the importance of fixing the submission of your subject by kindness. Training should be, in the management of the bad horse, as medicine is applied to the control of disease ; however powerful and proper for the case, it should be used only as an aid to nature in its subjection ; and so your means of overcoming the horse, physically, should be used with discretion, and secondary to that instinct of the animal's nature that causes him to yield obedience to the supremacy of man.

KICKING IN HARNESS.

Kicking may justly be regarded as a bad habit, because of the danger incident to the use of such horses. It is well to remember that this habit is most always the result of carelessness and bad management. Proper

attention is not given to the fitting of the harness. The straps dangle about the flanks of a horse unacquainted with its nature, which frightens the colt and causes him to kick ; or, which is more common, an old harness is used, which breaks at some unlucky moment. The horse is frightened and kicks, intuitively, as a means of self-defense. The feet coming in contact with the cross-piece of the shafts or whiffletrees, increases the fears of the horse. He becomes really alarmed and reckless, springs ahead, endeavoring in the most frantic manner to free himself from the torment, until he tears himself loose or is stopped, after being worried out with fright and exertion ; and learning fear and resistance in this way he becomes alarmed at the least indication of its repetition.

This fear must be broken up by habituating the horse to being touched and made to bear the various causes of mischief without the ability to resist. When becoming convinced that there is no harm to be apprehended from them he will give up the habit.

This habit, though dangerous, and apparently difficult to break up, is not, with our present means of control, in the majority of cases, hard to overcome. Your main remedy in the management of the harness kicker is the foot strap. Put on your foot strap, and as the horse moves off, gently say, whoa, and instantly after pull upon the strap, which throws him upon three legs, and so continue until he will stop instantly when whoa is called. Then tempt the horse to kick, and the next instant take his foot, and so continue until he will give up the habit. As a rule, it does not require much training to break up this habit, especially so if it is a young horse. Treat him with extreme gentleness, and repeat the lesson until you are sure that he will not resist.

If however the habit is so bad that you cannot harness the horse safely, treat him as you do the bad horse to shoe, with the strap around the neck to the hind leg, when you can prevent his kicking. Handle him thoroughly, until he submits unconditionally, when continue

the lessons in harness as above. The following method is good. If your horse is bad every thing must be so strong as to prevent the possibility of breaking. You may use both methods together.

A bad horse of this character will fight with a great deal of courage at first, and your success will depend greatly upon the thoroughness of your control in beating every effort of his resistance.

Another Method.—Get a good curb bit that has shafts six or eight inches in length, with a good curb chain under the jaw. Harness the horse as usual, then attach an extra rein to the lower part of the bit, and carry it back through the terrets down to the shafts of the wagon or buggy, opposite the hocks. Have a ring fastened to each shaft and run these reins through the rings, passing up over the hip and through a little loop which should be made about where the hip straps are joined to the back band. Then draw them to the position the horse carries his head, but not so tight as to interfere with his traveling, and tie them together. Then if he attempts to kick, the action draws up the head, and not only disconcerts but punishes him severely. Or you can use the common bit, and use two extra reins as before, which pass up the bridle and through rings attached above the blinders. Then run back through the terrets and through a ring or loop about the place the back strap is attached to the hip straps. Then tie down to the shafts on each side. The moment the horse attempts to kick, the head is jerked up, which makes it impossible for him to do it. These are good means for the purpose of driving safely. You will find, however, the single strap attached to the forward foot will break up the habit in a short time. In this as in all other bad habits, do not let the horse resist you successfully after you commence training, but in every instance compel his submission until he yields unconditionally.

KICKING IN STALL.

This habit is easily broken up. First, put on the saddle part of a carriage harness, and buckle on tightly.

Then take a short strap, with a ring attached, and buckle around the forward foot below the fetlock. To this short strap attach another strap, which bring up and pass through the terret ; then return to the foot and run through the ring in the short strap. Then pass over the belly-band and tie to the hind leg, below the fetlock. With this attachment on each side, the moment the horse kicks he pulls his forward feet from under and trips himself upon his knees, which he will be very careful not to do but a few times. Let your horse stand in his stall in this way until there is no disposition to renew the habit. Or you can simply prevent kicking in the stall by fastening a plank across the stall, about an inch or two above the hips, which will make it impossible for him to kick, because unable to throw up the hind parts.

HALTER PULLING.

The bad halter puller will pull back as soon as he finds the least restraint upon his head. It is a very easy matter to break up this habit. Put on the war bridle, and train the horse about until he will come to you readily when you pull upon him a little sideways. Simply repeat this, gradually a little more on a line with his body at each repetition, until he will yield as readily to being pulled forward as sideways. Then tie a strap, or a piece of a rope around the body where the harness saddle rests. Now lead the horse to his manger or to a post, run the halter strap through the ring or hole and pass back between the fore legs over the strap or cord tied around the body, and tie to the hind leg below the fetlock. If your halter strap is not long enough splice a piece to it. Your horse so fastened, step forward to his head and make him pull. Of course he will go back with a rush, but the moment he attempts going back, the halter strap pulls directly upon the hind leg, which not only disconcerts, but makes it impossible for him to pull. The bad halter puller may pull two or three times in succession.

I have found but two horses willful and determined enough to pull more than three times the first time so hitched. Your success in breaking up this habit, as in

all others, will, bear in mind, be in proportion to your prudence and judgment in managing your subject. Your aim must be to break up his confidence in himself so thoroughly that he becomes fully convinced that there is no use in pulling, and becomes afraid of renewing the effort. Now this you cannot do without repeating the lessons by so hitching the horse wherever he can be made to pull, and as he reasons from experience, finding himself hopelessly helpless in the effort, becomes fully convinced only by repetition. If he pulls while in harness, be very sure to hitch so while in harness. Be thorough, do not let him pull even once successfully while training. If you do, he will redouble the resistance and persevere with extraordinary will. *Work sure*, by not hitching as usual until the horse gives up the habit unconditionally.

On the observance of this principle must depend your success. Keep it as a maxim to be regarded in all your efforts, that *if a good result is to be brought about*, you must keep your subject in *perpetual ignorance of his ability to resist* after you commence his subjection. Having the halter break a few times, or hitching to see whether he will settle back upon the halter after a lesson or two, is the way to educate your subject to the habit, and strengthen his self-confidence. If you will be so imprudent as to risk such consequences in this way, you must censure yourself for the result. Three or four lessons will usually break up the habit of halter pulling. I have frequently broken up the habit in one lesson. Do not be afraid of frightening the halter puller to pull. Frighten him back by all possible means. The more you can make him pull upon himself at first, the quicker he will give up.

BAD TO SHOE.

The habit of resistance to being shod, or allowing the feet to be handled, like all others to which horses are subject, is the result of hasty and imprudent harshness. It would seem, from the reckless disregard of consequences so generally evinced in the handling of young

horses, as if man doubted his own wisdom, and would not take counsel of the teachings of prudence. If the feet had been handled gently at first, and blacksmiths had not vented so much of their vexation in the way of pounding with the hammer for every little movement of resistance in shoeing, this habit would never have been contracted. The natural tractableness of the horse, causes him to yield a ready obedience to such demands as he understands. If the feet are jerked up roughly, and without any effort to reconcile him to being handled, the colt will strive to get away or free himself from what he supposes will result to him in injury. Never hang on with all your strength when the foot is attempted to be jerked violently from you. Strength is not your forte, and your struggles only convince the horse of your weakness. Surprise has often been manifested at my success in handling horses of this character, and many have declared that I must make use of some means of control not made intelligible. The simple laws of nature are to such unworthy of reflection because familiar and common. There must be a tinge of humbug to enlist attention, and because nothing uncommon is presented for reflection, excepting the submission of the animal, the control is looked upon as the result of a peculiar giftedness. The only secret is gentleness and delicacy of handling, in connection with the simple means of control I make use of. If the horse does not very much resent his feet being handled, put on the war bridle, and put your little strap upon the hind foot ; pull upon this strap, which will bring the foot forward, and which such a horse will resist by kicking. The moment he kicks, reprove with the war bridle, which hold in the other hand, and so continue until the foot is submitted without resistance. But if your subject is very bad, take a strap or rope about twelve feet long, step before the horse and tie one end of it in a loop around the neck where the collar rests. Now pass the other end back between the fore legs around the near hind leg, below the fetlock, and bring forward between the

legs and through this loop around the neck. Now step in front of the horse, and take a firm hold of this strap or rope, and pull back quickly upon it, which will bring the foot forward. If the horse is bad, pull the foot as far forward as you can, which will give you the more advantage. The horse will resent by striving to free the foot by kicking. Hold the head steadily with the left, and with your right hand hold this strap firmly, stand right up to the horse's shoulder and whirl him about you, which you can easily do, while he is struggling to free himself. As soon as he yields the foot, in this way handle it gently, then let up upon it a little, and so continue as he will bear, until you can handle the foot without resistance, though back to its natural position. It may be necessary to repeat this lesson once or twice, and be very careful to handle the feet with the greatest gentleness. If your rope is rough, instead of tying it in a loop around the neck, put on a common collar and attach your strap or rope to it. I have in a few instances had the foot chafed where the strap passed around it. But if your strap is smooth and soft, there is but little danger of this.

RUNNING AWAY.

Put on the foot strap, and when he attempts to run, take up his foot, making him run, and tripping every time he will not stop instantly at the word whoa. Should your horse be of the extremely willful character, he may run on three legs. If you mistrust so, attach another strap to the opposite foot. Then make him run, and if he will not stop for the taking up of one foot, take up the second, which will destroy his confidence in short order, when one strap will answer just as well. Make your lesson thorough, so that the horse will stop every time you call whoa. My horse was of this character, and would have been useless to me were it not for this means of breaking up the habit.

Although I have given powerful means of coercion, and of impressing the horse with his inability to resist the will of man, still practical and thorough as are those

means, they are of but little account if not used with prudence and judgment. Men are too apt to depend upon main strength and stupid harshness for success in the management of horses, and with equal stupidity and stubbornness, the basis of control I have here given, may be made in the hands of many only as power to be abused with reckless disregard of consequences. Tyranny and abuse inspires rebellion and vengeance in the minds of the oppressed, and so the horse, smarting under the harshness and abuse of a tyrannical master, is inspired to a reckless resistance, and becomes set in vicious habits. Be firm, persevering and prudent in the exercise of your power, when it is necessary to impress your subject with a sense of mastery ; but be gentle, attentive and affectionate when he is obedient and submissive. Medicine may be applicable to the subjection of a disease, but is only valuable when used with judgment, in connection with the care and attention of nursing. The simple knowledge of means, or indeed their liberal use, without regard to the circumstances of the case, would be as unreasonable and useless in the management of the horse alone, as would be subjecting the system, in controlling disease, to the unreasonable force of medicine without regard to care and attention. The principle is the same, and equally essential to be observed.

Strive to tell your horse exactly what you want of him, and do not confuse him by attaching different meanings to the same word. It is quite common to say whoa, when it is only intended to go slower, or when the horse has not stirred a foot, to let him know of your presence. Now with so many meanings, should danger arise, or you wish your horse to stop instantly, you cannot make him do so by this mode of teaching, because he does not understand exactly what you want, by such a haphazard way of communicating to him your wishes. Have a distinct word for every command, and make him understand that every command must be obeyed. Speak in a natural tone of voice to your horse under all circumstances. Nothing confuses a horse more than scream-

ing at him to make him hear. He is as acute in the sense of hearing as man, and so sensitive if nervous, as to have his pulse increase from six to ten seconds in a minute, from the irritating effect of one harsh word. Have your horse understand by examination and experience that things liable to frighten are harmless, and be sure not to whip for being frightened. If your horse is frightened at anything approaching, let him stand until it passes, but hold the reins snug and firmly, or he may swing round and upset you. If cars are passing, and are regarded with fear, let your horse face them, but hold him immovable with the reins. Always under such circumstances, talk encouragingly to your horse. The slower you move your horse the more power you have over him. There are times when exhibiting my horse without harness, to let him trot would be to let him run away and be beyond my control ; though at other times I could with safety let him run at the top of his speed. There is but little danger of a horse kicking after being stopped, or while moving slowly, if not fully confirmed in the habit. A horse frightened, becomes reckless ; consequently never raise an umbrella suddenly or unexpectedly behind a horse afraid of such things. First raise it at the head and gradually carry it back, and then to be sure, it is best to have on the foot strap at first. Fear is something a horseman should never exhibit in his countenance or voice, as the horse is a close observer, and soon learns to take advantage of such indications to become careless of control, if not indeed aggressive.

Let your lessons be thorough, but not very long. Be gentle and patient with the colt, but make the willful, stubborn horse feel the full extent of your power, until he submits ; though if he should become much heated and excited, it is prudent to stop, and repeat the lesson at some future time ; but repeat until there is thorough and unconditional submission. Let your treatment be characterized by gentleness afterwards.

TRICKS.

As many of my scholars may wish to know how to teach their horses tricks, I will explain how it may be done. Teaching a young horse a few tricks serves greatly to keep up an interest in him, and makes him appear intelligent, fearless and affectionate. In teaching your horse to perform tricks, it is best to give him one or two lessons of half or three-quarters of an hour each, daily.

TO COME AT THE CRACK OF THE WHIP OR AT THE WORD OF COMMAND.

Put on the war bridle, stand off a few feet from his head, holding the end of the bridle in your left hand and the whip in the right. Crack the whip a little, and say, Come here, sir. He does not know what this means, but you show him by pulling on the bridle a little, which he will obey by moving towards you a few steps. This movement you thank him for by stepping forward and giving him a little apple or a few kernels of corn, and caressing him gently ; then repeat in the same way, rewarding him as before, and so continue until he will walk up to you readily when you crack the whip, or say, Come here, sir, which he will soon learn to do. Each time he comes to you, talk to him kindly, and do not fail to give him his little reward of corn, apple, oats, or something of the kind, which he likes. You can now take off his halter and turn him loose, and repeat until he fully comprehends that the way to avoid the whip is to come to you, which, with the encouragement of rewarding, will soon inspire his fullest confidence, and he will come to you and follow like a dog.

Be very cautious about the use of the whip or harsh language, remembering that perfect, cheerful obedience is your object, and that can be secured only by great patience and gentleness.

TO MAKE A BOW.

Take a pin in your right hand, between the thumb and forefinger, and stand before, but a little to the left, of your horse. Then prick him on the breast very lightly, as if a fly biting, which to relieve he will bring down his head, which you will accept as yes, and for which you will reward by caressing and feeding as before. Then repeat, and so continue until he will bring his head down the moment he sees the least motion of your hand towards his breast, or substitute some signal which he will understand readily.

TO SAY NO.

Stand by your horse near the shoulder, holding the same pin in your hand, with which prick him lightly on the withers, and to drive which away he will shake his head. You then caress as before, and so repeating, until he will shake his head at the least indication of your touching him with the pin; you can train your horse so nicely in this way in a short time as to cause him to shake his head or bow by merely turning the hand a little, or moving it slightly towards him.

TO LIE DOWN.

To teach a horse how to do this trick quickly, you must lay him down two or three times, or as often as you will find necessary to make him understand your object. If an old horse, strap the near fore leg up to the arm, then take your little strap, previously used to tamper your colt with, and place over the back and strap around the off fore foot, below the fetlock. Then take the bridle rein firmly in your left hand, about eighteen inches from the head, and pull upon it a little towards you. The moment he steps, pull upon the strap over the body, which will bring the horse on his knees. Hold him quietly, at the same time talking to him gently. When he springs, pull sharply with the left hand, and the same instant pull down with the right, which will swing him around you and prevent his rising high enough to injure his knees by the momentum of the

body in coming down. By being gentle, the horse will usually lie down in a short time. When down, treat your horse with the greatest attention and kindness. After holding him down ten or fifteen minutes, permit him to get up. Repeat this lesson until he will come down readily. Then use only the strap over the back, and which have on the near foot, and bring him on his knees gently, when he will soon lie down. When he will come on his knees readily by taking up the foot in this way, take up the foot with the hand, asking him to lie down. He will soon come down. When he will come on his knees readily by taking up the foot with the hand, simply stoop as if intending to take it up, saying, Lie down, sir. Then make him come down by a motion of the hand, and finally, by simply telling him to lie down. If a colt, use but the single strap over the body at first, which will soon cause him to come on his knees. In teaching a horse to lie down, be gentle, caress and reward him for lying down, and your horse comprehending what you want, and finding himself paid for compliance, will soon be as anxious to get down for the reward, as you are to have him do so.

TO SIT UP.

When your horse will lie down readily, you can then teach him to sit up, like a dog, easily. If young, and not very heavy and strong, you can easily prevent his getting up without tying down. First cause him to lie down, having on him a common bridle, with the reins over the neck, then step behind him and place the right foot firmly upon the tail, the reins in your hands. Then say, Get up, sir.

The horse, rising from a recumbent position, first turns on his belly, throws out his forward feet and raises himself on them, springs forward and rises on his hind feet. Now, standing upon his tail firmly, and pulling back upon the reins when he attempts to spring forward and up, will prevent his doing so, and you hold him sitting up. Hold him firmly a few seconds, talking to him kindly, before permitting him to rise on his feet. Repeat a

few times, when, instead of springing up, he will sit on his haunches a short time, which you are to accept as complying with your wishes. Always say, "Sit up, sir," every time, and hold him in the position as long as he will bear, by fondling and feeding him with something he likes from the hand, and your horse will soon learn to sit up for you as long as you please.

But if your horse is heavy and strong, it will be necessary to resort to other means to hold him down at first. This you do by putting on his neck a common collar and causing him to lie down. Then fasten a piece of rope, or a rein, to each hind foot and bring forward through the collar and draw up close, which will bring the hind feet well forward. Then step behind, as before, and when he attempts to rise on his hind feet he finds it impossible to do so, because you hold them firmly with those straps. Repeat two or three times, when it will not be necessary to resort to such force.

TO TEACH YOUR HORSE TO KISS YOU.

Teach him first to take an apple out of your hand. Then gradually raise the hand nearer your mouth, at each repetition, until you require him to take it from your mouth, holding it with the hand, telling him at the same time to kiss you. He will soon learn to reach his nose up to your mouth; first, to get his apple, but finally, because commanded to do so. Simply repeat until your horse understands the trick thoroughly.

TO SHAKE HANDS.

Tie a short strap, or a piece of a cord, to the forward foot, below the fetlock. Stand directly before the horse, holding the end of this strap or cord in your hand, then say, "Shake hands, sir," and immediately after commanding him to do so, pull upon the strap, which will bring his foot forward, and which you are to accept as shaking hands, thanking him for it by caressing and feeding, and so repeat until, when you make the demand, he will bring the foot forward in anticipation of having it pulled up. This is a very easy trick to teach a horse.

By a little practice a horse may be easily trained to approach, make a bow, shake hands and follow like a dog, lie down, sit up &c., which make him appear both polite and intelligent.

Never lose courage or confidence in your ability, because you may not bring about good results easily. To accomplish anything of importance, remember, requires no ordinary resolution and perseverance. There would be no credit or importance attached to mastering and managing bad horses, if not difficult and apparently dangerous. No duty requires more firmness of purpose in the control of the passions, or more fidelity to the principles of kindness and truth, than that of horsemanship.

If you would be a really successful horseman you must never seem to forget, by your conduct, that you are a man, and that your real superiority over the animal consists in the prudent exercise of your reasoning powers. Brute force is not your forte, and the instant you give way to passion your reason must yield to the control of blind instinct, and you at once abdicate your intellectual superiority over the animal. Try to prove, by the example of your actions in the performance of the duty, that to be a good horseman requires higher qualifications of fitness, than that of the huckstering dishonesty and depravity so generally evinced in the conduct of those claiming the distinction.

SHOEING.

If we examine the horse's foot while in its natural state, it will be found to be almost round, and very elastic at the heels. The frog, broad, plump, and of a soft, yielding character ; the commissures, open and well defined, and the sole concave ; the outside of the crust, from the heels to the toe, increased from a slight level to an angle of about forty-five degrees. Consequently, as the hoof grows, it becomes wider and longer in proportion to the amount of horn secreted, and the narrower and shorter in proportion to the amount of horn cut away from the ground surface. If a shoe were fitted nicely and accurately to the foot, after being dressed down well, it would be found too narrow and short for the same foot after the lapse of a few weeks. Now if an unyielding shoe of iron is nailed firmly to this naturally enlarging and elastic hoof, it prevents its natural freedom of expansion almost wholly, and does not, as the foot grows down, allow it to become wider at the quarters, in proportion to the quantity of horn grown, as before being shod ; and consequently, the foot changes, from the continued effect of the restraint, from an almost round, healthy foot, to a contracted and unhealthy condition, as generally seen in horses shod for a few years. The principles which should govern in shoeing, are few and simple, and it is surprising that a matter involving such serious consequences, should be conducted with so little consideration. The object of the shoer should be, in trimming and preparing the hoof for the shoe, to keep the foot natural, and this involves, first, the cutting away of any undue accumulation of horn affecting in the least its health and freedom.

Second. To carry out in the form of the shoe, that of the foot as nearly as possible.

Third. To fit and fasten the shoe to the foot so as to interfere least with its health and elasticity.

The object in preparing the foot for the shoe, should be to remove any undue accumulation of horn, designed to prevent its natural bearing, and the free, healthy action of its parts, and requires the cutting away of about the proportion contact with the ground would have worn off, or so much as had grown since being shod last. If the shoes have been on a month, then the proportion of horn secreted in the time is to be removed. If on two months, then the proportion of two months' growth. No definite rule can be given, the judgement must be governed by the circumstances of the case. The stronger and more rapid the growth of the foot, the more must be cut away; and the weaker and less horn produced, the less, to the extreme of simply leveling the crust a little, the better to conform to the shoe. There is generally a far more rapid growth of horn at the toe, than at either the heels or the quarters; more, therefore, will require to be taken off the toe than off the other parts. Therefore shorten the toe and lower the heels until you succeed in bringing down the bearing surface of the hoof, upon the shoe, to almost a level with the live horn of the sole. Be careful to make the heels level.

Having lowered the crust to the necessary extent with the buttress or knife, smooth it down level, with the rasp. The sole and frog detach the old horn by exfoliation as it becomes superabundant. The sole, therefore, would not need paring were it not for the restraining effect of the shoe upon the general functions of the foot, which is liable to prevent such detachment of the horn.

When this is the case, the sole should be properly dressed out with an English shave, the end of which is shaped like an iron used at saw-mills to mark and measure boards. The buttress is too large and square-edged to dress out so concave a surface properly, and unless great care is exercised it will not only penetrate through the sole in some places, but leave others entirely

neglected. While a good workman may work well with almost any kind of tool, such have also the faculty of adapting tools to the work. A horse's foot is not to be hacked and cut as if only a block of lifeless wood, and if even a lifeless machine, what care would be found necessary to preserve its harmony of action complete. The buttress does not seem to me to be at all adapted to dressing out the sole, and should not be used for that purpose. While I am obliged to find fault with the carelessness of blacksmiths in this respect, it is with the spirit of kindness, sensible that I am myself only a dull pupil in the work of reform, and perhaps deserving severe criticism.

I would be particular also in impressing the necessity of not confounding the bars with the substance of the sole, and cutting them down to a common level with the sole. Any man of common sense can see that the bearing of the bars should be equal to the outside of the crust upon the shoe, and that they offer a decided resistance to the contraction of the heels. The cutting away of the bars, to give the heels an open appearance, is inexcusable, and should not be done.

In a natural, healthy condition, the frog has a line of bearing with the hoof, and by its elastic nature acts as a safeguard to the delicate machinery of the foot immediately over it, and helps to preserve the foot in its natural state, by keeping the heels spread. It seems to be wisely intended to give life and health to the foot. Permitting the heels to grow down, with the addition of high-heeled shoes, raises the frog from its natural position and causes it to shrink and harden, and bears in consequence an important influence in setting up a diseased action that usually results in contraction of the foot. If the heels are square and high, and the hoof presents rather a long, narrow appearance, and is hollow on the bottom, there is a state of contraction going on, and you must not hesitate to dress down thoroughly. Do not hesitate because the foot will appear small; cut away until you are well down to a level with the live

horn of the sole, and if the foot is weak use the same prudence in not cutting it away too much. The shoer must also bear in mind that the sole must not rest upon the shoe. The sole, when not clogged with old horn, acts as a spring to the weight of the horse, and if it rests upon the shoe, an inflammation may be caused by the pressure of the coffin bone upon the sensitive laminæ, which is liable in consequence to be so bruised as to cause soreness and inflammation. The effect of such bruises are most common at the angle of the inner heel, where the descending heel of the coffin bone, forcibly pressing the soft, sensible sole, upon the horny sole, is apt to rupture one or more of the small blood vessels of the delicate fleshy substance connecting the crust to the coffin bone of the part, causing red spots called corns. Let the foot be so dressed down, and the shoe so approximate, that the bearing will come evenly upon the crust all the way round, without the sole touching the shoe. This requires the crust to be dressed level, and though well down to the live horn of the sole, it should always be left a little higher. The corners between the bars and crust, should be well pared out, so that there is no danger of the sole resting upon the shoe.

Presuming, that I have said enough on the subject of paring, I will now consider the

SHOE.

The main object should be to have the shoe so formed as to size, weight, fitting and fastening, as to combine the most advantages of protection, and preserve the natural tread of the foot the best ; in weight it should be proportioned to the work or employment of the horse. The foot should not be loaded with more iron than is necessary to preserve it. If the hoof is light, the shoe should be light also ; but if the horse work principally on the road, his shoes should be rather heavy. In its natural state, the foot has a concave sole surface, which seems to offer the greatest fulcrum of resistance to the horse when traveling. Most of the shoes I exhibit are fashioned on this principle, and aside from the advantages

of lightness and strength, they are considered to be an improvement upon the common flat shoe.

Geo. H. Dodd, veterinary surgeon, said lately in a letter on shoeing: "The action of concave feet may be compared to that of the claws of a cat, or the nails on the fingers and toes of man ; the nails and toes are the fulcrum ; they grasp, as it were, the bodies with which they come in contact, and thus they secure a fulcrum of resistance when traveling or grasping. Now in order to preserve the natural mechanical action of the horn and sole, the ground surface of the shoe must correspond exactly with the ground surface of the foot ; that is to say, the ground surface of the shoe must be beveled, cup fashion ; its outer edge being prominent, corresponds to the lower and outer rim of the hoof ; while the shoe being hollow, it resembles the natural concavity of the sole of the foot.

"No matter what may be the form of the foot, whether it be high or low heeled, contracted at the heels, lengthened or shortened at the toe, or having a concave or convex sole, it matters not, the ground surface of the shoe must be concave. In every other part of the shoe, alterations and deviations from any given rule or form are needed, in consequence of the ever varying form of the foot, and the condition of the same, both as regards health and disease ; but the sole of the foot being concave presents a pattern for the ground surface of the shoe, which the smith, with all his skill, cannot improve on, and if all such craftsmen were to follow this pattern more closely than they do, there would be fewer accidents in falling, and a less number of lame horses."

The shoe should be of an equal thickness all the way round, perfectly level on the top side, and concave on the ground surface. I cannot see the propriety, as given by a standard author, of seating all shoes alike, and of carrying it well back to the heel. Seating appears to be necessary only for flat-footed horses, or the inside edge of the shoe must be lowered from the possible bearing of the sole, and enough to run a pricker round between the shoe and hoof, to remove any gravel or foreign mat-

ter that may find a lodgment between the sole and shoe. If there is much space between the shoe and sole, it invites the accumulation of gravel and other substances injurious to the foot. If the seating is carried well back, and the shoe so wide that the heels, instead of bearing on a level surface, as they should, come down upon this inclined plane, it tends to crowd them together. If the shoe is not wide in web, and the foot strong and arched, it may be made entirely level on top. At all events, that portion upon which rests the heels and crust, must be level, and should be fitted accurately. The shoe should be continued completely round towards the heels as far as the crust extends, as large as the full unrasped hoof; but no part must project beyond it, excepting at the extreme of the heels. The expansion of the heels, and the growth of the foot, require that the shoe should be long enough and wide enough at the heels to allow for the natural growth of the foot, in the time it is calculated the shoe should be on before being reset; for as the foot enlarges the shoe is brought forward, until it loses its original proportion, and becomes too short and narrow. The shoe may be about a quarter of an inch wider and longer than the extreme bearing of the heels. The nail holes should be punched coarse, and in the center of the web. If the hind shoe, four on the side and well forward; if the forward shoe, four on the outside, and two or three well forward, in the inside toe, as found necessary to retain the shoe. The manner of fastening the shoe is what really affects the foot, and which requires the most special attention in shoeing. For the foot being elastic, expands in the same degree to the weight of the body on the rough, that it does on the nicely fitted shoe. It is the number and position of the nails that really affect the foot. If they are placed well back in the quarters, four on the side, as is common, the crust is held as firmly to this unyielding shoe, as if in a vice, which utterly prevents the free action necessary to its health. Inflammation of the sensitive laminæ is produced, which causes contraction, and the consequent de-

rangement of the whole foot. No matter how well shaped a boot may be, if it is too short and small for the free action of the foot when in use, it is a cause of continual torment, and induces the irritation of inverted toe nails and corns of the most aggravating character.

The principle is precisely the same in shoeing horses, if the free, natural expansion of the foot is prevented by the shoe being so nailed to the hoof as to obstruct its expansion and the possibility of the quarters spreading in proportion to the growth of the hoof, there must result an irritation of the fleshy substance between the crust and coffin bone, that ultimately sets up so much diseased action of the parts, as to cause contraction and navicular disease. Now shoes may be securely fastened without causing such mischief, if the following method of nailing be observed :

Drive four nails on the outer side of the foot, same as common, while you drive but two or three well forward in the toe of the opposite, which leaves the inside quarter virtually free and independant of the shoe ; for the outside of the foot being the only part fastened, carries the whole shoe with it at every expansion, while the inner side being unattached, expands independently of it, and the foot is left as nearly as possible in a state of nature, so far as its powers of expansion are concerned. The reader may ask, will this style of nailing hold shoes on the feet of horses of all work ? I answer yes. Experience has fully demonstrated, that seven nails will hold shoes on ordinary feet, for any purpose, if the shoes are properly fitted, for a period of from four to seven weeks, which is as long as shoes ought to be on without resetting.

If the shoes are made with little clips at the toes to prevent being pushed under the toe, less nailing will be required. If seven nails are found to be necessary, you can drive three in a space of an inch and a quarter, well forward in the toe, though in most cases two will be found to answer the purpose. Turn down the clinches strongly. Nothing should be done for what is called

fancy. The hoof should never be rasped or filed above the clinches. The hoof is covered by a peculiar enamel that prevents the too rapid evaporation of moisture from the horn, and must not be disturbed. The practice of rasping, filing and sand-papering the hoof to make it look nice, only produces mischief, and should not be permitted.

Horses kept for light driving, and irregular work, and particularly those having rather square, upright heels, should be shod on the one-sided nailing principle, as the feet of such horses are much disposed to contraction. So far as observation and experience teach me, I find proper attention to paring down the feet and fastening the shoes so as not to interfere with the free expansion of the hoof, as above, will remedy contraction ; though attention to growing down the crust, and the application of shoes that are slightly convex, or beveled out, so as to have a tendency to spread the heels when the weight of the body is thrown upon the foot, and fastening on the principle of the inside quarter being left free, is regarded as much better. But the blacksmith must be a good workman to fashion and fit a shoe in this way properly. The nails should not be driven higher in the crust than seven-eighths of an inch, and not so deep as to possibly strike through to the quick. If the foot is light, and shows a thin, delicate crust, the nails should be small, and not driven high or deep into the horn. As a rule, the fewer and smaller the nails used, provided they secure the shoe to the foot with safety, the better. Shoes should be reset, or replaced, as often as once a month ; though in some cases it may not be necessary to reset quite so often. It is a positive necessity at six, and must not be neglected longer than seven or eight weeks.

INTERFERING SHOES.

To prevent interfering, know first what part of the foot hits the opposite ankle. This you can do by wrapping the ankle with a rag nicely, which color with some kind of coloring matter, over where the opposite foot hits. Then drive the horse until you can discover, by some of this coloring matter adhering, what portion

of the crust hits the ankle. Remove this portion of the crust, and have the shoe set well under the foot, but carefully fitted, so as to support the foot safely by the bearing of the bar and heel. The hoof should be pared lowest on the outside, to turn the ankle, that the other hoof may pass clear. Yet if the inside sole is not dressed, the rim soon breaks, and the inside is found to be actually lower than the outside. Shoes, to prevent interfering, should be light and of narrow web on the inside, with three nail holes near the toe. They should be straight at the point where they come in contact with the ankle of the opposite leg. By adhering strictly to this principle of paring the foot, and fitting and fastening of the shoe, you will prevent a recurrence of the difficulty.

Shoes, to prevent over-reaching, should be long, and for the forward feet, heavy, especially at the heels ; and for the hind feet, light, with heavy toes. The hoof should be well pared at the toe.

CORNS

Appear in the angle of the hoof, near the heel. They are generally caused by the shoe being worn too long, causing the shell of the hoof to grow over the shoe, which throws the weight upon the sole ; or the angles between the bar and crust are not kept properly dressed out, for any accumulation of horn between the bar and crust, which would prevent the free elasticity of the sole at the heel must increase the risk of producing corns, by the liability there is of causing the sensitive laminæ beneath the edges of the coffin bone to become bruised, owing to the undue pressure it may be subjected to for want of elasticity in the horny sole. When the sensitive laminæ is thus bruised, the horny substance of which the sole is composed is secreted in less quantity, the blood from the ruptured vessels mingles with the imperfectly secreted horny matter, and as this process is going on, it soon makes its appearance on the outside.

TO CURE CORNS.

Cut the horn well down, but not to the quick ; fit the shoe so that it does not press upon the part. Then sat-

urate well with pine sap or gum, which is found exuding from pine trees when cut. Fill the part nicely with tow, and put on the shoe, remembering that the shoe must be so fitted as not to oblige the part to support but very slightly, if any, the weight of the horse. This remedy was given me by an intelligent shoer, and is certainly good. Horses with corns must be oftener and more carefully shod than those free from them.

In shoeing, strive to keep the form of the foot natural. If the hoofs are not flat and weak, the shoes should set out evenly to the edge of the crust under the toe. Let the nails be driven well forward in the toe, or what is much better, be placed well round in the outside quarter, and as far forward in the toe of the inside as possible, and as few as will be found by experience necessary to retain the shoe. Be positive in the enforcement of this rule ; and lastly, have the shoes reset at least once every six or seven weeks.

RECIPES.

The following Recipes have been gathered from sources entitled to the fullest confidence, as remedies of great value, and some of them at an unusual cost, and they are presented with the hope of being fully appreciated.

It is well to remember, that to keep horses in health, is much more important, less troublesome, and requires less skill than to cure sick ones. Abuse, overwork, and exposure, should be guarded against, if the serious consequences of inflammation of the lungs, colic, &c., are to be avoided ; and should your horse be sick, it is always best to be cautious about doctoring too much, or until you are sure of what is necessary to be done.

FOR INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS, IN A HORSE.

First, a thorough bleeding ; then would give tinc. veratrum viride, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ; laudanum, 4 ozs. ; tinct. aconite,

$\frac{1}{4}$ oz. ; shake well together, and give a tablespoon half full every three or four hours, in some water, well sweetened ; and if it does not bring down the pulse, the dose can be gradually increased to a tablespoonful, and soon as the horse recovers so as to eat, and lie down naturally, would keep him on hay alone, perhaps with a few carrots or potatoes, and daily give a bran mash with salt-petre, crude antimony and sulphur, for ten or fifteen days, and you will prevent dropsy of the chest, which is a sequel of that disease.

FOR COLIC IN HORSES.

Sulph. ether, 1 pint ; aromatic spirits ammonia, 1 pint ; sweet spirits nitre, 2 pints ; opium, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. ; asafoetida, (pure,) $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. ; camphor, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. ; put in a large bottle, let stand 14 days, with frequent shaking, and it will be fit for use. Dose, 2 ounces every 2, 3, or 4 hours, until the horse is relieved. Should be given in water well sweetened.

Another remedy.—One oz. laudanum ; 1 oz. sweet spirits of nitre ; 1 oz. tinct. asafoetida ; 1 teaspoonful capsicum ; from 2 to 3 ozs. carbonate soda ; $\frac{1}{2}$ pint whiskey ; $\frac{1}{2}$ pint water. Mix and give at one dose, and if not better in twenty-five minutes, repeat half dose.

FOR SPAVIN.

Five ozs. euphorbeum ; 2 ozs. Spanish flies, (fine ;) 1 oz. iodine—dissolved with alcohol ; $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. red precipitate ; 1 oz. corrosive sublimate ; $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. quicksilver ; 6 ozs. hog's lard ; 6 ozs. white turpentine ; $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. verdigris. Melt the lard and the turpentine together, then while hot add all together. Mix well ; when cold fit for use. Rub it in thoroughly on the spavin every day for three days, then wash clean with soap-suds ; omit for three days, and then repeat for three days again, and so on until a perfect cure is produced. Should it blister, use it more cautiously.

A PREPARATION FOR BLOOD SPAVIN.

One-half pound of blood-root, 1 qt. of alcohol, 2 ozs. of tannin, and quarter of a pound of alum. Mix and let it

stand, shaking it several times a day, till the strength is all in the alcohol, and bathe the spavin twice a day, rubbing it in with the hand.

HEAVES.

Take smart-weed, steep it in boiling water till the strength is all out ; give one quart every day, mixed with bran or shorts, for eight or ten days. Give green or cut up feed, wet with water, during the operation, and it will cure.

TO COVER HEAVES.

Oil tar, 1 oz. ; oil amber, 1 oz. Mix, and give 15 or 20 drops in feed, daily.

FOR STIFLE.

First, prepare your medicine. Take 4 qts. white oak bark—rosked ; put it into 8 qts. water ; boil to 2 qts. ; turn off the liquid while hot, and add a three-penny paper of tobacco. Now let stand until a little above blood heat. Now heat a flat-iron or a brick, then proceed immediately to put the stifle in its place. Now bathe it thoroughly with the decoction about five minutes, then apply your flat-iron as near as the animal will bear, until all absorbed. Then give the animal rest for one hour, and if it should possibly slip out again, repeat as before, observing care about straining for a few days.

Another remedy.—One oz. sugar of lead ; 1 pint alcohol. Mix, and apply three or four times a day, until a cure is produced.

SCRATCHES.

Hydrate of potassa, 10 grs. ; pulvd. nutgall, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ; white lead, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ; pulvd. opium, $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. ; hog's lard, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.

Another remedy.—One quart good vinegar ; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. litharge. Mix and simmer down to half the quantity ; strain and apply.

FOR WIND GALLS.

Olive oil, 3 ozs. ; nitric acid, 1 oz. Rubbed in as much daily or every second or third day as it will bear without starting the hair.

GREASE.

Two ozs. flour sulphur ; $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. verdigris. Mix and apply after washing.

TO RECRUIT A HORSE HIDE-BOUND, OR OTHERWISE OUT OF SORTS.

Nit. potassa, (or saltpetre,) 4 ozs.; crude antimony, 1 oz.; sulphur, 3 ozs. Nitrate of potassa and antimony should be finely pulverized, then add the sulphur, and mix the whole well together. Dose, a tablespoonful of the mixture in a bran mash, daily.

MAGIC LINIMENT.

Two ounces oil of spike, two ounces origanum, two ounces of hemlock, two ounces of wormwood, four ounces of sweet oil, two ounces spirits ammonia, two ounces of gum camphor, two ounces spirits turpentine, and one quart of proof spirits, nine per cent., mix well together and bottle tight. For sprains, bruises, lameness, &c., this liniment is unsurpassed, and originally cost, (which it is really worth,) one hundred dollars. This is the same liniment, without the turpentine, which has achieved such wonderful cures for human ailments. For domestic purposes it is invaluable.

LINIMENT FOR OPEN WOUNDS.

Take of sulphate of copper, (copperas,) 1 oz. ; white vitriol, 2 ozs. ; muriate of soda, (salt,) 2 ozs. ; oil linseed, 2 ozs. ; Orleans molasses, 8 ozs. ; boil over a slow fire, fifteen minutes, in a pint of urine, all of the above ingredients. When nearly cold, add one oz. of oil of vitriol, and 4 ozs. of spirits of turpentine, and bottle for use.

Apply it to the wound with a quill, which will soon set the wound to discharging, and perform a cure in a few days. Be careful to keep the wound covered, either by a bandage or a plaster. Should be applied once or twice a day, until it discharges freely.

SIMPLE LINIMENT.

Put into spirits of turpentine, all the camphor gum it will cut, when for ordinary purposes it is fit for use ;

but if designed to reduce pain, add as much laudanum as there is turpentine. This liniment is as good as it is simple.

COUGH POWDERS.

Camphor, 1 oz. ; tartar emetic, 1 oz. ; nit. potassa, 2 ozs. ; and digitalis, 1 drachm, if you choose.

RECIPE TO MAKE CONDITION POWDERS.

Take one pound of ginger, one ounce of anise seed, pulverized, one ounce of fenugreek seed, two ounces of ginseng root, pulverized, one ounce of the seed of sumac berries, pulverized, one ounce of antimony, mix it with a pound of brown sugar. This is excellent for coughs, colds, or to give a horse an appetite.

ANTI-SPASMODIC TINCTURE FOR MAN OR HORSE.

Oil of cajeput, 1 oz. ; oil of cloves, 1 oz. ; oil of peppermint, 1 oz. ; oil of anise, 1 oz. ; alcohol, 1 quart. Mix all together and bottle for use. Dose for a horse, 1 oz. every 15 minutes, in a little whisky and hot water, sweetened with molasses ; continue until relieved. Dose for a man, 1 teaspoonful.

THRUSH.

Cleanse the foot out well, then crowd in fine salt and wash with beef brine.

PHYSIC BALL.

Barbadoes aloes, 1 lb. ; syrup buckthorn, 3 ozs. ; cod liver oil, 3 ozs. ; melt the whole and stir till cold. In winter, add a little water ; make into eighteen pills, and give one every four hours, or as much as will move the bowels.

DIURETIC DROPS

That are reliable for stoppage of water, foul water, or inflammation of the kidneys, in all cases :

Take of sweet spirits of nitre, 4 ozs. ; balsam copaiva, 2 ozs. ; oil of juniper, 2 ozs. ; spirits of turpentine, 2 ozs. ; gum camphor, pulverized, 1 oz. ; mix all together, and shake well ; bottle, and it is fit for use, for

man or beast, under all circumstances where a diuretic is required.

Dose : For a horse, one ounce, in half a pint of milk, once in six hours ; for a man, one teaspoonful, in a tablespoonful of milk, once in six hours.

Be sure to shake the ingredients up well, before turning out for use.

TO CURE HORSE DISTEMPER.

If the glands of the neck are not swollen much, give half a three cent paper of smoking tobacco, morning and evening, in a warm bran mash, and give no hay, but a little fine cut straw, wet, with bran mixed in. If the glands of the neck are swollen, then apply a warm poultice made of wheat bran and hot vinegar, changing as often as the poultice gets dry, and be sure to get down all you can of flax-seed tea, or slippery elm tea will answer the same purpose ; and let this be his constant drink. Be cautious to keep the horse from taking cold, in any way, and keep on a blanket, and thus you will save many a noble animal. Be cautious never to bleed your horse during the horse distemper, nor physic him any more than what you will be able to do with your warm bran mash.

REMEDY FOR BOTS,

Which will remove them in a few days : Take of oil of turpentine, 8 ozs. ; alcohol, 1 qt. ; mix, and bottle for use. Dose, five ounces, in the horse's feed, once a day for eight days, and this will effectually remove the last vestige of the bots.

VEGETABLE CAUSTIC.

Make a strong ley of hickory or oak ashes, put into an iron kettle and evaporate to the consistency of thin molasses ; then remove into a sand bath, and continue the evaporation to the consistency of honey. Keep it in a ground stopped glass jar.

This caustic is very valuable in fistulas, cancers, scrofulas and indolent ulcers, particularly where there are sinuses, necrosis, (or decay of bone,) and in all cases.

where there is proud flesh ; and also to excite a healthy action of the parts. It removes fungous flesh without exciting inflammation, and acts but little except on spongy or soft flesh.

FOR CURING WARTS.

Take corrosive sublimate and red precipitate, powdered and mixed equal parts ; will cure the worst wart in the world on horses and cattle.

If the wart is large and loose, tie a fine strong cord around it close to the skin. In a short time the wart will come off, then apply the powder until the wart is eaten down below the skin, then wash off and rub on a little sweet oil, and it will soon heal over. If the wart is dry, scratch it with a pin or point of a knife until it bleeds, then rub on the powder. It will make a dry scab ; pick off the scab and put on the powder again until it is all eaten off.

HOOF OINTMENT.

Take rosin, 4 ounces ; beeswax, 5 ounces ; lard, 2 lbs. ; melt together ; pour it into a pot, and three ounces of turpentine ; 2 ounces of finely pulverized verdigris ; 1 pound of tallow ; stir all until it gets cold. This is one of the best medicines for the hoof ever used. It is good for corks or bruises of the feet.

HOW TO CLEAN AND OIL HARNESS.

First, take the harness apart, having each strap and piece by itself ; then wash it in warm soap suds. When cleaned, black every part with the following dye : one ounce extract of logwood, twelve grains bichromate of potash, both pounded fine ; when put into two quarts of boiling rain water, and stir until all is dissolved. When cool, it may be used. You can bottle and keep for future use if you wish. It may be applied with a shoe-brush, or anything else convenient. When the dye has struck in, you may oil each part with neat's-foot oil, applied with a paint-brush, or anything convenient. For second oiling use one-third castor oil, and two-thirds neat's-foot oil, mixed. A few hours after, wipe clean

with a woollen cloth, which gives the harness a glossy appearance.

This preparation does not injure the leather or stitching ; makes it soft and pliable, and obviates the necessity of oiling as often as is necessary by the ordinary method.

HOW TO CURE CRIBBING.

If caused by irritation of the teeth growing too near together, saw between the upper and lower front teeth. If a simple habit, arrange the stall so as to make it impossible for him to crib. This you do by making the stall plain, with a simple box manger in front, rather low, but extending the whole width of the stall. Immediately over the front edge of this plain box manger, hang a roller, of about six or seven inches in diameter, on pivots, which must be so arranged that it will turn easily. This roller, extending clear across the manger, offers the only means within reach upon which to crib. The horse, in cribbing, will press the front teeth firmly upon this roller, pulling down and towards him, which causes the roller to turn from under his mouth, and he is defeated in his efforts. There is no trouble in breaking a young horse of this habit by this means. A very good way is to feed the horse from a basket hung loosely by a cord to something over-head. The roller, properly adjusted, is however, much the best means.

HOW TO PREVENT HORSES JUMPING.

Have a good firm strap halter made, that will fit the head nicely, with a wide strap stitched to each side, so as to come over the eyes. Cut holes in this strap over each eye ; over these eye-holes put fine wire cloth, supported nicely by wire, so that it will not possibly touch the eyes. Before a horse attempts jumping over a fence he will put his head over to calculate upon the height and distance he is obliged to jump ; but by looking through this wire cloth every thing is so magnified in appearance, that he is disconcerted in his efforts to do so, and is afraid to jump.

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A NEW SYSTEM
OF
TRAINING HORSES

ON A PRACTICAL AND IMPROVED
BASIS OF CONTROL.
INCLUDING A
TREATISE ON SHOEING.

AS PRACTICED AND TAUGHT
BY D. MAGNER.

UTICA, N. Y.
ROBERTS, PRINTER, 60 GENESEE STREET.
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JOCKEY TRICKS.

How to make a foundered and spavined horse go off limber.—Take tinct. of cayenne, 1 oz.; laudanum, 2 ozs.; alcohol, 1 pint; rub the shoulders well with warm water, then rub the above on his shoulders and back-bone; give him one ounce of laudanum and a pint of gin; put it down his throat with a junk bottle; put his feet in warm water as hot as he can bear it; take a little spirits of turpentine, rub it on the bottom part of his feet with a sponge after taking them out of the warm water; drive him about a half mile or a mile, until he comes out limber as a rag. If he does not surrender to his pain, tie a thin cord around the end of his tongue.

To make old horses appear young.—Take tincture of asafoetida, one ounce; tincture cantharides, one ounce; oil of cloves, one ounce; oil of cinnamon, one ounce; antimony two ounces; fenugreek, one ounce; fourth proof brandy, half a gallon; let it stand ten days, then give ten drops in one gallon of water.

How to make a horse appear as if foundered.—Take a fine wire, or any substitute, and fasten it around the postern joint at night, smooth the hair down over it nicely, and by morning he will walk as stiff as if foundered.

To make a horse fleshy in a short time.—Feed with buckwheat bran, to which add a little of the shorts; keep in a dark stable. Half a day's drive will make a horse fatted in this way poor.

How to make a horse stand by his feed and not eat it.—Grease the front teeth and roof of the mouth with common tallow, and he will not eat until you wash it out.

How to make a true pulling horse baulk.—Take tincture of cantharides, one ounce, and corrosive sublimate one drachm. Mix and bathe the shoulders at night.

How to distinguish between distemper and glanders.—The discharge from the nose, if glanders, will sink in water; if distemper, it will not.

How to make a horse appear as if he had the glanders.—Melt fresh butter and pour in his ear.

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