

comfort left me, that she never met her match."

Different countries have their different modes of horsemanship, but amongst all of them its first practice was carried on but in a rude and indifferent way, being hardly a stepping stone to the comfort and delight gained from the use the horse at the present day. The polished Greeks, as well as the ruder nations of Northern Africa, for a long while rode without saddle or bridle, guiding their horses with the voice or the hand; or with a light switch, with which they touched the animal on the side of the face to make him turn in the opposite direction. They urged him forward by a touch of the heel, and stopped him by catching him by the muzzle. Bridles and bits were introduced, but many centuries elapsed before anything that could be called a saddle was introduced. Instead of these, cloths, single or padded, and skins of wild beasts, often richly adorned, were placed beneath the rider, but always without stirrups; and it is given as an extraordinary fact, that the Romans, even in the times when luxury was carried to excess amongst them, never desired so simple an expedient for assisting