

the muzzles, and the muzzles, which it will do in from twelve to thirty hours. Give as much white water as the horses will drink. As soon as the medicine begins to operate, give a little hay, and continue the muzzles until there have been three or four discharges from the bowels, then give the usual feed. Should the medicine operate more than six or eight times mix a little starch in the water the horses drink. If that does not arrest the purging, give injections of starch and laudanum. Four or five days should elapse after the medicine has ceased to operate before the horses are put to work, and should the purging have been violent, six or eight days should be suffered to pass before the horses are put to work.

Some very gross, heavy-bodied horses would derive advantage from two doses of physic, given before going to work, at an interval of two weeks. Should any of the horses while at work refuse their feed, become feverish, with warm and rather full legs, stop their work, and give them a dose of physic. If training for a race, the last dose of physic should be given at least a month previous to the race.

#### For a Two-year-old.

Four drachms best Barbadoes aloes.  
One " best ginger.  
Two " Castile soap—is a dose.

For three or four-year olds, the aloes may be increased a drachm for gross, heavy-bodied ones. If properly prepared beforehand by mashes, etc., five or six drachms of aloes will be sufficient.

#### CHAPTER XIV.

##### Training of the Two-Year-Old.

In Capt. Minor's "Short Rules for Training Two Year-Olds," which I republished last week, the reader will observe a few points of difference from those which I have advocated in these articles. Capt. Minor advises the washing of the horses' legs, but you will notice that he instructs them to be rubbed very lightly with soft cloths, just enough to dry them, and protests against hand rubbing. This treatment was a great improvement in the then existing practice, for most of the trainers at that time would have their horses' legs rubbed three or more times daily, and at night, before closing up the stables, they would set a boy at each leg, and make them rub for an hour. It will also be noticed that, although Capt. Minor used clothing, which was the practice in his day, he was very careful to change according to the variations in the weather, and he advises lightly clothing in warm weather; in fact he showed, in his treatment of the horse, that, in many respects, he was far in advance of his contemporaries. But he lived to see the evil effects of "breathing" horses under heavy clothing, for he lost his filly La Vari Reine, in consequence of breezing her briskly two miles under blankets; she dropping dead on the track. The excessive muscular action forced the heart to unnaturally increased action; the lungs, brain, and organs of circulation became engorged with blood, and death was the result.

In a previous chapter we spoke of the breezing of the colt. Now, after scraping him, if you should have a colt of a delicate constitution, or rather deficient conformation; a colt say with short ribs, a light or ewe neck, or an acute angular for behind, or a light or sunken muscle over the loin—such a formed animal, if conditioned at all, must be chiefly trotted and walked, or lightly cantered, but seldom galloped, or breezed. He should be taken to the track for exercise by himself, or with others with like formation and disposition, and never galloped indiscriminately with colts who require a great deal of strong work to condition them. If you do so, they will soon train off; the delicate and imperfect formation cannot stand the fatigue, and if this course is pursued they will become worthless for racing purposes. The intelligent trainer will perceive that no two colts are formed alike; some of them differing widely in their formation. By close observation he will readily apply the above information in the training of his colts; he will select the stronger ones, and will work them separately from the weaker ones; cautiously never overworking either class, and, pursuing the proper stable economy, he may bring them all to the post in good order and condition. When cooling off, be sure and do it on the ring, and not in the stable; walk your colts the contrary way from that which you gallop them. You will thereby rest the near foreleg, which is entirely too much used in mounting and dismounting and when handled at any time, or taken by the head, is always turned upon the near foreleg, thereby affecting the cords and muscles to that extent as to produce lameness, which sometimes, extending to the muscles of the shoulder, causes swooney. The instance of the breaking down in the tendons of the near foreleg are as four to one of the right foreleg. It is the duty, therefore, of the trainer to instruct his boys when either riding or leading their horses upon a ring to turn as much, if not more, to the right as they do to the left. If they are walking upon a small circle, they should change more frequently than upon a larger circle. When in the stable,

and its oftentimes attendant, colic, prevents, also, the colt becoming feverish and quitting eating, becoming dry in the skin, tucked up, and going amiss, while you are wondering what caused it. If he has not been over-worked, in most cases such results arise from the want of plenty of water, a little grass, and a little salt. You will frequently notice that where colts that are vigorous feeders are eating their oats, they will leave their troughs, and come to the door. What for? Why, of course, to get water. You will then see the necessity of not only keeping water constantly with the colt, but should be kept close to his trough, so that he will not waste his oats, by travelling from the trough. Great care should be observed by trainers that the grooms, or those whose duty it is to attend to the colts whilst in the stable, treat them kindly. It may be that they are among them boys or men of malevolent dispositions, who will tease, fret, and strike, and cruelly treat the colt in many ways, until he becomes vicious, frenzied, and mad, and, after a time, dangerous to approach or attend to. This arises from bad treatment, the effects of a villainous disposition on the part of the groom. With horses, especially, kindness begets kindness. Colts are frequently tied up so high as to affect the eyes, by forcing the jaw out of its natural repose, and this alone will make a horse uneasy, and, if continued, will make him vicious. Very often the groom is too heavy with his currycomb, and scratches away, wholly regardless how much or how little he is punishing the poor beast. Then, perhaps, if the colt will not stand still whilst he is being thus scraped with a rough currycomb, his groom will take a whip and slash him round awhile; and, if this fellow is an average specimen of his class, he will kick him in the belly until he himself becomes exhausted, or until the colt breaks loose from his halter. But if the trainer is a man of energy and firmness, he will prevent this kind of treatment to his colts, by walking back and forth from stall to stall, and observing closely whilst his colts are being groomed off. He can thus prevent such brutal treatment, which, if continued, will surely ruin the best conditioned horse in the world. I have seen colts thus treated which would take half an hour's time to get the bridle upon their heads, so great is the fear created in their minds by ill treatment. A groom should not be allowed to speak too loudly or harshly to a horse, much less to strike or whip him, and no trainer who attends to his business will allow it. I have known horses become so frightened from bad treatment in the stable as to quit eating and become worthless for the rest of the season. It must be borne in mind that a horse whilst in training is in an artificial state, should be treated with the utmost kindness, and as near in accordance with nature as possible.

In feeding horses great care should be observed to not overfeed them, and not to give too much at one time. Recollect, it is not so much the number of quarts of oats or grain given, but it is the sum total of all he eats of hay, grass, bran, carrots, and oats; all this should be apportioned judiciously to the horse's appetite so as to satisfy the trainer that his horse has eaten enough during the day to keep him strong and vigorous, and thus enable him to take his proper exercise. The feed in the morning should be the smallest unless he is exercised early in the morning before feeding; but at noon his feed should be two or three quarts more than was fed in the morning. The largest quantity should be given at night at his last feed. Thrifty growing colts should be fed a quart or two at four o'clock, p. m., as it is too long from noon until night for them to go without lunch. Be sure that your colts get plenty of good hay, for hay, like grass, is a good appetizer, and will induce the colt to eat more oats or grain than he would if the hay and grass were kept from him. The phosphate of lime they contain goes to make and mature the bone. Horses should be seldom muzzled, unless they should eat too much of their bedding or become too gross for fast work; then they may be muzzled, or when being drawn for a race. The muzzle should be made of some metal, with leather attachments, either of copper, tin, or sheet iron, perforated with fine holes, so small that he cannot draw straw into it, with an arch front over the nose, so as to allow the nostril to expand at will. The horse can then drink water out of his bucket without removing the muzzle, which, in using the leather muzzle, he cannot do. In using the metal muzzle you prevent the horse from cribbing, or learning to crib, while the leather muzzle soon becomes saturated with the saliva flowing from the horse's mouth which being slightly saline in its taste, the horse will first begin to lick, then suck, and then crib upon the bottom of the muzzle. Besides, the leather is very offensive to the horse after it becomes foul, and it cannot be easily cleansed without washing it with water and vinegar; and if put upon the horse before it is well dried it will set his teeth upon an edge, and this will prevent him from eating for several days, a state of things ruinous to a horse in training. Do not, therefore, use the leather muzzle; besides the metal muzzle is healthier and cheaper, and no horse will attempt to crib with it on, it matters not how long or how confirmed a cribber he may be.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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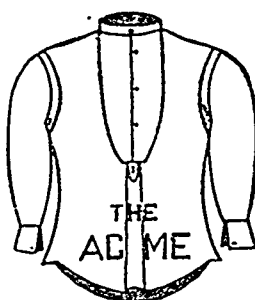


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