

PERFECTION IN HORSEMANSHIP.

— BY —

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The first remark I wish to make is that I may be distinctly understood in what I am about to write, which I am persuaded, beyond a doubt, will prove a crowning success, if not deviated from.

In regard to elevating the suffering of man and beast, and hastening the much needed reform, in the obscure position which many of my fellow-mortals are occupying, with their noblest servant the horse.

CARESSING THE HORSE.

There are no two horses with habits and dispositions precisely alike; yet whilst there are no two alike, there are certain things that affect all horses alike. When you pat and caress the horse, you say to him that whatever he is doing is right. You have only to get the horse to kick at you, and then caress him for it, and he will do it again when you ask him, for he thinks that it is right, and what you want him to do; so never caress the horse until he has done what you want him, and then never fail to caress and encourage him. You cannot teach the horse a single word of the English language, or any other language, without a sign. That is, you must either show him, or force his body to move. A forced move of the horse's body is a sign to him, and is equivalent in his mind to a willing move, if you only assure him by caressing immediately afterwards, that he has done what you wanted him to do.

OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF COMMAND.

From the time you commence to educate the horse until you have his education completed, you must not ask him to do anything unless you are in a position to force obedience, so that you can prove satisfactorily to his mind, that he must obey the word of command, and cannot help himself. When he has perfectly obeyed the word without being forced, then do not fail to caress him immediately, for this, while it assures him of the important fact, that what he has done is right, it also proves to him that you are his best friend. That moment he is yours, and he will love you, and take delight in obeying you.

HE LOVES AND TAKES DELIGHT IN OBEYING YOU.

Why does he love you, and take delight in obeying you? Simply because you have occupied the position that you forced obedience, and he could not help himself; then, after he perfectly obeyed the word of command, you immediately caressed him, which proved to him that you were his best friend.

SIGN OF SUBMISSION.

The sign of a horse having yielded, and become willing to do what you ask him submissively, is that he will relax the muscles of every part of his body.