

in making him understand that his master is really his best friend. When this has been accomplished no further trouble need be anticipated so far as an intelligent colt is concerned. Unfortunately, occasionally it happens that a horse is met with that has been born a fool, and of such an animal it is difficult if not impossible to make a horse that can ever be handled with any degree of safety. It often happens that a really intelligent horse becomes possessed of a vice that is troublesome and dangerous, but such a case never presents the difficulties which characterize that of a horse that has been born a fool. As long as a horse has intelligence he can be educated, no matter how strongly unfounded prejudice may mislead him. More than 99 per cent of the fools that are dropped have quite enough intelligence to enable them to get through the world pleasantly and satisfactorily, but the reason that so many horses are addicted to troublesome and dangerous vices is to be found in faulty education.

Too often the system of handling colts is something as follows:—

The young thing is allowed to run with his dam and to make no human acquaintances. All he knows about boys and men is that whenever they can get near him they hit him with a whip or make some (to him) horrid noise that thoroughly terrifies him. He very quickly comes to look upon boys and men as the most dangerous and troublesome enemies of the equine race in general and of himself in particular. This state of affairs continues till he is two or three years old. Then some day he finds himself being chased about a paddock and worried till he is half dead with fright and fatigue, and finally from sheer exhaustion he is compelled to allow himself to be handled. He does not know what is wanted of him, and all that he learns about it comes in the shape of bitter experience. After trying every other course to escape punishment and fright with disastrous results, he gives himself over in sheer desperation to a sort of sullen despair, and allows himself to be pushed about by his tormentors or hauled about by another horse that is harnessed with him, just because he has given up all hope of escaping the persecutions of his enemies. His spirit is broken and he is pronounced broken to harness. He is now obedient so far as he knows how to be, but he is so because he dare not be anything else, and not from any desire on his part to do what is right. Such a horse may do what is required of him, but he is liable to run away if suddenly frightened, to kick if anything touches his heels, and, in short, to do almost anything that is objectionable in the very emergency

when his good behaviour would be most highly prized by his master. That is what may properly be styled "breaking" a colt.

If a man wants an "educated" horse he should begin by winning his confidence during the foal's babyhood, the sooner the better. It does not much matter what the youngster is taught during his first summer so long as he is thoroughly familiarized with the halter and accustomed to being handled freely (though always kindly and with gentleness.) He soon learns to regard those who handle and feed him with the warmest friendship, and his highest ambition will be to merit their approval as evidenced by a kind word, a caress, or some little dainty of which he happens to be particularly fond. As he grows a little older he should be accustomed to the bit, to the harness, and to other appliances to be used when he shall arrive at a proper age to go into business. In this way the youngster really grows into his work. He is taught to carry his head properly, to draw, to turn, to back, to be mounted, harnessed, and unharnessed, all without any painful or unpleasant processes. He grows up to be, not the cowed slave, but the trusted well-trying friend of his master. All that he does he does cheerfully and pleasantly; in short, he is an "educated" horse and not a "broken" one.

SOME ADVANTAGES ARISING FROM SOILING CATTLE.

Every year brings the farmer of our older provinces nearer to a parallel position with the old country farmer. Of course there are now, and always will be very material differences between the Canadian and English farmer but just now the farmers and stock-raisers of the North-West are assuming position and importance which the Ontario and Quebec farmers can no longer afford to ignore. In the grain growing sections of Manitoba and the North-West, where the land is ready cleared and costs the farmer little or nothing, and where the soil possesses apparently inexhaustible fertility, wheat can be produced at figures which would frighten the Ontario farmer to contemplate. In the same way the ranchman, who does not feed a pound of hay or grain to his cattle from one year's end to another, can produce beef at prices with which the Ontario or Quebec feeder cannot begin to compete.

All that remains for the farmers of the older provinces to do is to carefully guard against coming into competition with the farmer and stock-raiser of the North-West. This can be done more easily than one might at first imagine.

Land is very cheap out between Red River and Rocky Mountains and for this reason farm laborers who go out there prefer to take up land and be their own masters rather than work for anything short or very high wages. In the older provinces therefore, it behooves the farmer to adopt such methods as will bring his farm to the very maximum of productiveness, though the expenditure for labor may prove much higher than that to which he has been accustomed.

Instead of leaving a large portion of his land to pasture he might with profit adopt the soiling and ensilage systems, as it is well known these will enable him to carry a heavier stock on a given acreage than the ordinary feeding and pasturage. But soiling has other advantages which farmers, in all places where land is expensive, are learning to appreciate. The prevalence of weeds in pasture lots is well-known and is undoubtedly the cause of much of the difficulty in keeping land clean, when it comes to be ploughed and cropped. Not only this, but the trampling of stock over fields is injurious to the soil. The manure which animals drop while in pasture does much less to maintain fertility than an equal amount made in the barnyard, and applied after sufficient fermentation to make its plant food available. Ripe crops fed in the ordinary way are full of matured weed seeds which are stored in the manure during the cold weather and resown with it in the spring. What manure is made in summer is, or may easily be made, free from injurious weeds. Piling it up even for a week will destroy their vitality where weed seeds are known to exist. Of course the soiling crops proper will be cut green and be entirely free from weed seeds, and this is an advantage from soiling which in the long run makes it less laborious than feeding with myriads of weed seeds sure to go into the manure, and requiring much expense and labor to extirpate them.

The intelligent farmer need hardly be reminded that the soiling system produces much more of beef, butter, or cheese to the acre than pasturing, but the *New England Farmer* makes this very clear in the following paragraph:

"The amount of feed that can be grown and the number of stock kept on a given area is much larger by soiling than by the pasture system. Wherever a horse, cow or sheep sets its foot, the tender grass is crushed and its growth injured. Every one knows that stock feeding on an acre will not get nearly the amount of feed from it that may be secured by moving; and the red clover, which is probably the most productive of the pasture forage plants, is not nearly so productive or valuable as fodder