

inches above the back part of the knee joint they become tendinous, and from there down to the back part of the foot bone, where two of the principal muscles are attached; these form what is known as the back tendons, or cords, of the leg. Some of them become attached to the back part of the knee, same as the muscles on the front part of the leg, while the other two principal tendons pass through a loop formed by ligaments, the same as those mentioned in the front part of the knee. In tracing these tendons down from the knee to the fetlock, they pass through another large loop or sheath formed at the back of the fetlock, where some of the fibres are attached, while others continue down at the back part of the pastern bones, and are attached to the os pedis, or foot bone. These tendons are important as they are known, when they are strained, as the strain of the back tendons. The action of these muscles is to flex the leg, bend the knee, pastern joints and fetlock.

Muscles of Hind Leg.—These are also divided into two groups, extensor and flexor.

The extensor muscles are situated in front of the hind leg; attached, above, around the stifle joint, passing downwards in front of the thigh bone, one being attached to the front part of the hock, while the other passes through sheaths, or loops, which is supplied by a synovial membrane, formed by ligaments, to hold the muscles firm in front while the leg is in action. In tracing them down, in front of the shin bone to the fetlock, we find them passing through loops, or sheaths, continuing down in front of the pastern bones to where they are attached. The action of these is to bring the leg forward.

The flexor muscles of the hind leg are attached, above, around the back part of the stifle joint. In tracing them down it is found they become tendinous. Two of the principal ones pass down to that part of the hock joint, which sticks up behind, known as the cap. These form what is called the gamb of the leg, and are partly attached at the point of the hock, the other part passing down to the fetlock joint through a loop, or sheath, along the back part of the pastern bones, and are attached to the foot bone. This muscle, from the hock down, forms one of the back tendons of the hind leg. Another important muscle is found passing down underneath the ones already mentioned, through a loop, or sheath, at the back part of the hock, where it is supplied with a synovia sack. This is a point of importance, for when it becomes