

"If you must kill them, do it without cruelty. Every animal has a right to justice and protection at the hands of the superior animal--man; who, if he kills, should do so for a purpose. That purpose is not helped by cruelty."—*Animal World*.

HOW TO KILL ANIMALS HUMANELY.

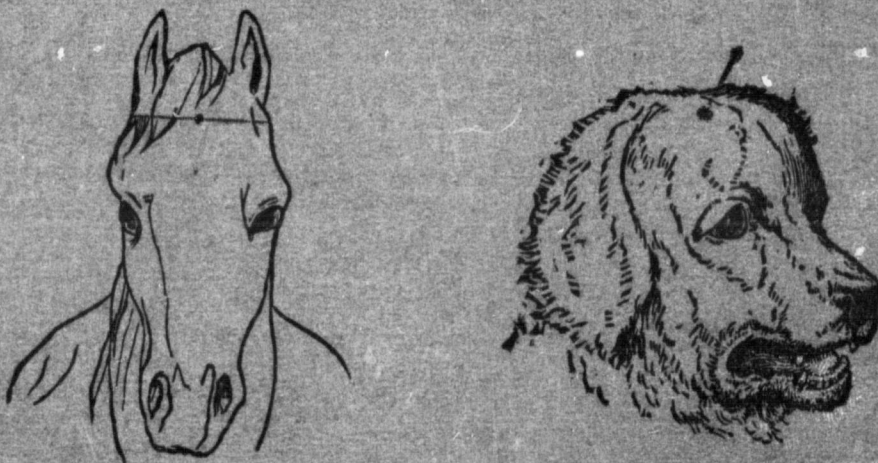


Fig. 2.

The horse may be destroyed by blows upon the head, by the bullet, or by chloroform.

1. *By Blows.*—Having blindfolded the horse, the operator, armed with a heavy axe or hammer, should stand upon the side and to the front of the animal, directing his blow to a point in the middle of a line drawn across the forehead, from the centre of the pit above the eye. See Fig. 2.

One vigorous and well-directed blow will fell the animal, but the blow should be repeated to make destruction sure.

2. *By the Bullet.*—The operator should stand directly in front of the animal, and place the muzzle of the rifle within a few inches of the skull, aiming at the spot indicated in Fig. 2.

One shot is generally sufficient, if properly directed, in either case; if not, it should be repeated after the animal falls.

In most instances, so great and instantaneous is the shock to the brain from a bullet, that death follows instantly.

A shot-gun loaded with buck-shot is effectual, and may often be more conveniently procured.

Small dogs, cats and other diminutive animals, particularly if sick or in any way disabled, are humanely destroyed by use of chloroform.

The substance should be administered by pouring from two to four tablespoonfuls of it on a sponge or folded flannel, placed within a thick cloth or towel, and applied over the mouth and nostrils. If the struggling is severe at first, the administration of the chloroform may be made more gradual by removing the sponge or flannel for a moment altogether, and then re-applying it; and as the animal becomes quiet, it should be kept on closely and constantly, to the entire exclusion of the outward air, adding fresh chloroform from time to time until death occurs; the length of the operation will depend upon the size and condition of the animal, and the persistence with which the administration has been kept up.

The quickest method of terminating the existence of a large dog is, undoubtedly to shoot him. Place the muzzle of a pistol or rifle within a few inches of the head, at the side, just over and in front of the ear—see cut. If directed behind the ear, the ball is likely to glance and pass through the soft part of the neck, and death would neither be certain nor so instantaneous as if the brain had been pierced.