

him in the wrong idea. When this is the case, some other means must be used to teach him the lesson, and the best one is to attach a rope of a good weight, say a three-quarter inch, to the bit or halter, and with the other end in the hand stand in front of the horse, and with a sudden up and down motion send a "curl" along the rope, to give a sudden twist to the bit, the moment at the same instant striking a light blow on the chin and mouth, while the trainer repeats the word "back" each time he does this. This will cause the horse to throw up his head, and, if not at the first attempt, it soon will be accompanied by his taking a step or two backward. As he goes, follow him up and force him to keep backing for a yard or two. This plan has seldom or never been known to fail in teaching horses to back up promptly at the word.

It is also very important that while a horse is being taught to back up, that he also be taught to stop backing with the word "whoa" as readily as he will stop going forward. In teaching the horse to back also, it is wise to teach him to back promptly, but, if the method suggested is used, care must also be taken not to give him too many or too severe lessons, and that he must not be taught to throw himself violently backward. The same remark is equally applicable to the

#### STARTING AT THE WORD OF COMMAND,

as, perhaps, more horses have been made balky by being taught to "jump" at the word of command than in any other way. A horse trained thus, and put in a tight place with a load that is a little heavy to manage, has a very good chance to get excited, then become sulky, and balk outright. Horses taught to start promptly but easily at the word of command, are usually horses that have not been accustomed to a driver who shows crossness or impatience, but who, on the other hand, imparts a sort of good natured liveliness to them which is usually part of his own character. In starting a heavy load the driver should take just a little firmer hold of the reins than usual and the horse should be made to understand on general principles that when this is done a little more than the ordinary effort, whether a heavy pull or a brisker walk, is expected from him. This is soon accomplished, but it should also be remembered that a team which have been trained in this way, on approaching something which it is expected will frighten them, should have their heads free until they show actual call for the control of the reins, as to "take them up" on the rein before the necessary moment would only assist to "put them on their mettle," and it is in place once more to remind the driver that the moment when the horse feels the bit the most keenly is just the moment when the first fears hard on the jaw, and the chances of its control being successful is greater when it distracts the horse's attention from the object of which it is afraid than if, when after a few moments, the jaw has become accustomed in some measure to its weight, the panic makes the horse forget about the bit. In fact, one of the great secrets of good horsemanship is to keep the horse, not bearing on the bit, continually right up to the driver so he can feel its lightest touch and is not either tearing ahead or becoming slouchy and careless in his mind.

It is easier to keep a naturally sluggish horse in the same team with a high strung one approximately together than in any other way.

If they are taught to take hold of the bits, the spirited horse will be found dragging driver and lazy horse both all over the field or road, and if driven on an absolutely slack line he will always be far in the lead anyway.

#### FOR ALL HEAVY WORK,

if possible, the snaffle is the best bit to use. A horse that is a hard puller may be driven with a jointed bridle bit. In the case of a horse with an extra sensitive mouth, careful handling is a better remedy than the use of thick rubber bits, as such have the fault of not always giving the desired control of the horse in cases of emergency, which will from time to time arise.

In all our dealings with the horse, it is well to divest our minds sentimentally, as we all do in practice, of all delusions regarding the high order of his intelligence. Mentally, the horse's one stock in trade, in common with most of the lower animals, is his memory, and his master's main and only hold on him, is his memory of the consequences which have in the past followed disobedience. Teach a horse that he must stop when told and he will do so. Teach him that he must run away when he sees a school boy by the roadside, and all

the horse trainers on earth will have a hard time to make him anything but worthless. The horse's reasoning powers are very limited. His affections, beyond the maternal affection of the mother for her foal, are not of a high order. A horse will often show a love of home, when removed from familiar haunts, in genuine homesickness, but this, in the case of an animal that will never miss the hand that has fed him for years, or who will sniff at the dead body of his life-time harness and field companion and then quietly walk away and never pay any further attention, is to be attributed more to his annoyance at his memory failing to find the usual places where he was accustomed to eat and drink and sleep.

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#### New York Horse Show

Canada has again come to the front at the New York Horse Show. At last week's show Messrs. Graham Bros., Claremont, well upheld Canada's claims in the Hackney classes, winning first and third in the yearling fillies, a strong class. It was two little gems, Maid of Wayne and Maid of Glendower, second in yearling stallions on Admaston Nugget, and first in the two-year-olds with their Toronto champion, Crayke Mikado. In the aged stallion class the Canadian firm again scored second on Dalton King, and in the class for Hackney stallion and four of his get landed first on Royal Oak with the two yearling winners, backed up by Royal Canuck and Glendower Gem. Geo. Pepper landed the championship in the jumping classes with Lord Minto, and the performance made in the six-fence jumping contest by Messrs. Crow & Murray's The Wasp is said to equal anything ever seen at the Gardens.

Miss K. L. Wilkes landed the blue and championship on her flashy, high acting standard bred stallion Mograza, Cap. Evans, of Montreal, also landed first in the class for hunters that have been hunted this year and last, in a string of 18 entries.

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#### Horsemen Meet

On Tuesday last the directors of the various horse breeders' associations interested in the stallion and spring horse shows met for organization purposes. There was a good representation present from outside, including Peter Christie, M. P., Manchester; Wm. Smith, Columbus; Thos. Graham, Claremont; John Bright, Myrtle; Geo. Gormally, Unionville; John Boag, Ravenshoe; James Torrance, Markham; John Gardhouse, Highfield; E. C. H. Tisdale, Beaver-ton; J. M. Gardhouse, Weston; and James Henderson, Belton. Owing to the serious illness of Mr. Henry Wade, secretary, Mr. Frank Wade, Ottawa, acted in his place.

Somewhat of a crisis arose from the fact that it was reported on good authority that the Armouries could not be secured for next spring's horse show. At an open meeting of the Horse Breeders' Association a strong committee was appointed to join with a committee of the Hunt Club in an endeavor to secure the Armouries for a horse show next spring. A motion carried, providing for the usual grant of \$1,750 if a show is held, and if not for a suitable amount to be made to assist the light horse men in holding a stallion show in conjunction with the heavy horse men at about the usual date in February.

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