

when guided by the semi-barbarians of former days. The mode of capturing the horse at that time was the lasso; after being secured and tamed as far as their capabilities reached, he was mounted, and at first led by a footman or servant till he became docile and manageable by his rider. Those in higher circles, or in other words, the more wealthy, sported a saddle made of the skins of the mountain goat, with stirrup leathers of raw hide, to which was attached a round ring made of wood, or a green withe made into a circular hoop. This would be a novel sight compared with the fine trappings of our noble steeds at the present day; and it is still more astonishing, that for ages such a protection for the foot was not known, with the exception of some kind of a moccasin or leather shoe, strapped to the foot.

The pride of some of those nations, and particularly the Arabs, in training their steeds that they might excel, is truly wonderful. I will digress and give you an instance of this emulation among the Arabs.

A Bedouin, named Jabal, possessed a mare of great celebrity. Hassad Pacha, the gov-