

As soon as you have him thus gentled, get a small block about one foot or eighteen inches in height, and set it down by the side of him, about where you want to stand to mount him; step up on this, raising yourself very gently; horses notice every change of position very closely, and if you were to step up suddenly on the block it would be very apt to scare him; but, by raising yourself gradually on it, he will see you without being frightened, in a position very near the same as when you are on his back.

As soon as he will bear this without alarm, untie the stirrup strap next to you, and put your left foot into the stirrup, and stand square over it, holding your knee against the horse, and your toe out, so as to touch him under the fore shoulder with the toe of your boot. Place your right hand in front of the saddle, and on the opposite side of you. Taking hold of a portion of the mane and reins as they hang loosely over his neck with your left hand, then gradually bear your weight on the stirrup, and on your right hand, until the horse feels your whole weight on the stirrup; repeat this