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THE THOROUGHBRED RACEHORSE HOW TO BREED, REAR AND TRAIN THEM. BY AN OLD TRAINER. CHAPTER XXXIII. Inexperienced Riders on Young Colts.

Having digressed from my subject in last week's article, and discussed the evils resulting from the practice of clipping horses, I now return to my previous topic—the teaching of boys how to ride. Trainers make a mistake in putting up inexperienced boys on colts of any age, while their mouths are sensitive and tender. The boy being timid, and afraid of being thrown or run away with, reins his colt entirely too tight, which causes the young animal, whose mouth is yet tender to the bit, to plunge, rear, run back, or switch off to the side, all because he has not an experienced rider upon his back, who would pull him with a light rein, which would insure him to the bit, and gradually harden his mouth. He would then be enabled to bear the pressure of the bit, and would then go on with his exercise like an old horse: whereas, if the timid, inexperienced boy was continued upon his back in any exercise, either walking, trotting, or cantering, the colt would be spoiled, and, perhaps, turned out as worthless. For if the same timid boy is on his back when they come to breeze the colt, he will be sure to pull his colt behind, because his fear prevents him from letting his colt go to the front, and the colt is turned out, sold, or traded away without his merits being known, unless by accident the trainer should discover it was the boy's and not the colt's fault, and put upon his back a better rider. But where one man is training twenty or thirty colts he will hardly be able to discover it in time to keep the colt from being sent to auction and sold, and then, often to the mortification of both trainer and owner, he will come out the next season, in the hands of another trainer with a better rider, and distinguish himself as a racehorse, often beating those who had beaten him in the hands of his former trainer, and simply because his rider was unfit, either from natural timidity or inexperience, or, perhaps, both, to ride the colt properly. All this writing is intended for the benefit of the trainer, who alone is in fault in keeping poor riders upon their colts. In one-half the time spent with boys with drinking, smoking, chatting, and running to town to see the pool-selling, and watching the tout to get their share of the winnings, was expended in teaching the boys how to ride, it would be much better for all parties, owner, horse, rider, and trainer.

Whilst on the subject of trainers I wish to remark that there are two or three trainers who are confirmed drunkards; they are drunk every night when the owner is not expected. If they would confine themselves to their own stables, it would be so annoying, but they wander round to other stables and disturb everybody with their boisterous debauch. Their greatest nuisance, however, is manifested when they come out on the track with their horses. They come, as soon as they get to where the other trainers are standing, a loud abuse of some one, or a savage, adverse criticism of this or that trainer, or of his horses, annoying every one upon the track. Now this is a nuisance that should be abated. Two at least of those I have in my mind are guilty of the above conduct, which I witnessed myself many times during

from working in the mud, sometimes from breezing on a heavy track, when it is not muddy but still heavier than the trainer intended, he should in a given space, in consequence of the boy not being able to restrain him, or pulling him within his proper speed, running him wide on the turns, allowing him to take more fatigue than he had been instructed, or from the boy becoming fatigued and unable to hold his horse, giving him a loose rein, which allows the horse to run his best. Boys, ambitious to beat each other, may force their horses to their utmost speed, and the horse being overworked, and unsustained by his rider in his run, must become sore, and will surely show it in a day or two, and perhaps in the next gallop. All this may be remedied by a sober, attentive trainer, who goes with his horses to the track, is attentively watching the process of their exercise, and, after that, follows them closely to the stable, and watchfully cares to their cooling out, then attentively steps from stall to stall, and notes their cleaning off, sees that they are kindly treated during the process, and, when ready to feed, calls the boys and measures out the feed for each horse himself, and remains at the stable until the horses are done, examining minutely the troughs to see which had eaten their feed and which had not, and how much they had left. By such unceasing attention he will ascertain how each horse was affected by his work, which will guide him in his subsequent treatment, either of their work or a change of food, change of air, change of clothing, or a diminution of the feed. No two horses can be trained alike at all times during an entire season, either from natural conformation, weakness of organization, an inactive liver, nervous system easily prostrated from severe work, or more affected by exposure to sudden heat or cold. These, and many other things in their superstructure, cause horse to be differently affected, apparently from the same treatment, and a trainer, however well informed in other matters, must have a long and continued experience to observe and treat intelligently various differing results which horses of different organization manifest under the same treatment.

In regard to feeding, I will here stop to say a few words. Horses, when hungry, should not be fed with wet feed recently mixed—say at time of feeding; for, being very hungry, they will swallow it without half masticating it, because it is wet; whereas, had it been dry, deglutition could not have taken place until mastication had excited the salivary glands to have secreted sufficient saliva so as to lubricate and moisten the food before the horse could swallow it. Many horses have been badly choked from wet feed given in that way. A case in point was with Wild Idle, two summers ago, at Saratoga. After a severe race, whilst walking around the ring and cooling out, his groom offered him a small bunch of hay well dipped in water. The horse, being very hungry, grabbed a mouthful, and the hay being wet, after crushing it a little with his grinders, in that state attempted to swallow it, and became choked, remaining in that alarming condition for several hours before he was finally relieved. Now, if the hay had been dry, he would not have attempted to swallow it until he had properly masticated it. If you have not a properly scalded mash for your horse after the race (and every trainer, if he is a prudent man, will have one prepared), and if he will not eat a mash, he should be allowed to nip some grass, or eat some out grass mixed with hay. It matters not how greedily a horse may eat a mash, either in chawing or half-chawing it before swallowing it, for it has been boiled or scalded until the oats have become soft and soft, and therefore

American Turf.

AUGUSTA (GA.) JOCKEY CLUB SPRING MEETING.

Augusta, Feb. 7—Purse \$100, for all ages; \$80, 20. One mile.

L Jones' br m Maria Barnes, 5 yrs, by Astor, dam Black Rose.....	1
C W Medinger's ch m Libbie L, 4 yrs.....	2
W Wyche's b f Abdallah, 4 yrs.....	3
West & Hogan's br h Ascot, 5 yrs.....	0

Time—1:54.

Same Day—Purse \$100, for all ages; \$80, 20. One mile.

L Jones' br g Jim Hinton, aged, by Rogers, dam by Loyathan.....	1
West & Hogan's br g Prang, 6 yrs.....	0

Time—2:06.

Feb. 8—Purse \$100, for all ages; \$80, 20. One mile and a half.

J F Wilson's b g Tom O'Neil, 6 yrs, by Lightning dam Zingara.....	1
West & Hogan's b c Courier, 4 yrs.....	2
C W Medinger's ch f Libbie L, 4 yrs.....	3

Time—2:51.

Same Day—Purse \$125, for all ages; \$100, 25. Mile heats.

West & Hogan's b h Ascot, 5 yrs, by Enquirer, dam Hind.....	3 1 1
L Jones' br m Maria Barnes, 5 yrs.....	2 2 2
W Wyche's b c Hatteras, 4 yrs.....	1 dr

Time—1:55, 1:55, 1:58.

Feb. 9—Purse \$100, for three-year-olds; \$80, 20. One mile.

L Jones' chestnut filly, by Lynchburg, dam by Engage.....	1
W P Burch's ch c Mainbrace.....	2

Time—1:53.

Same Day—Purse \$125, for all ages; \$100, 25. Two miles.

West & Hogan's b c Courier, 4 yrs, by Star Davis, dam by Lexington.....	0 1
J F Wilson's b g Tom O'Neil, 6 yrs.....	0 2
J Jones' br g Jim Hinton, aged.....	3

Time—3:49, 3:53.

Same Day—Purse \$100, for beaten horses, with allowances; \$75, 25. One mile.

W Wyche's b f Abdallah, 4 yrs, by Abdal-Kader, dam by Jeff Davis.....	1
C W Medinger's ch f Libbie L, 4 yrs.....	2
West & Hogan's br g Prang, aged.....	3

Time—1:53.

RECIPROCITY ON THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH TURF.

A short time ago we made reference to the action of Lord Falkmouth, one of the most prominent and influential patrons of the English national sport, in his endeavors to secure reciprocity to British owners of race-horses on the French turf. As our readers are aware, a singular spirit of exclusiveness exists in racing matters in France, whereby horses bred in England are admitted to the Grand Prix of Paris alone of the many rich stakes at Longchamps and Chantilly, whereas, on the other side of the Channel, everything is open to all comers. Three years ago

Pedestrianism.

TERRA NOVA SNOW-SHOE CLUB, MONTREAL.

A steeplechase over the mountain by the members of the Terra-Nova Snow Shoe Club took place, on the evening of the 13th, the prize competed for being a very handsome medal, presented by Stanley Kincaid, Esq. Seven members entered three of whom were handicapped. The start took place from McGill College Gate, at 8:08 p.m., the winner, Charles J. LeMessurier, reaching the goal, opposite Lumphin's Hotel, at 8:24 p.m.; E. W. Mudge, second, 8:24; Thomas Elliott, 8:24; Thomas Winter, 8:24; Wm. M. LeMessurier, 8:26; Gavin Houston, 8:26; W. Kyle, 8:27. E. W. Mudge's actual time in running was 14 minutes, having been handicapped 2 1/2 minutes. G. H. Houston and W. LeMessurier, were also handicapped 15 seconds and 45 seconds, respectively. The members of the club adjourned to Lumphin's after the race, where a pleasant evening was spent. The medal was presented to the winner by the worthy President, Mr. M. Hutcheson, who, in a happy speech, congratulated Mr. LeMessurier on his success. The latter replied in a short and appropriate manner. A vote of thanks having been given to the zealous and indefatigable vice president, Mr. Wm. M. LeMessurier, who is about leaving the city on a visit to Newfoundland, and to which he replied at considerable length, the club broke up at its next hour.

A STRANGE EPIDEMIC.

The London, Eng., Pall Mall Gazette says a strange epidemic among horses has made its appearance in some parts of Scotland, and there are, it is stated, more than 500 horses at the present moment suffering from its effects in Edinburgh. The disease commences with great weakness and swelling of the eyes and limbs. The left eye in the majority of cases being affected more than the right. There is also frequent intestinal disorder, and spots appear on the tongue as though from blood poisoning. The attack lasts on the average from five to twelve days. Opinions appear to differ as to whether it is infectious or not, at any rate, it is spreading rapidly, and affects horses indiscriminately in all classes of stables. One case has occurred in a cow suffering from it, and, as the animal was stalled beside a pony which had also suffered from it, there seems reason to fear that the disease must be infectious. On the other hand instances are mentioned of horses escaping the disease altogether, although occupying stables where several other horses were attacked. The dampness of the atmosphere which has lately prevailed is supposed to have originated the epidemic, and indeed the abnormal state of the weather during the last six weeks is quite sufficient to account for a very amount of sickness, not only in the stable, but also in the kennel.

WESTON AND O'LEARY.

It is now quite certain O'Leary and Weston will have a brush in six days' race. Sir John Arley, Lord Lennox and a few others backing Weston. There will, no doubt, be considerable excitement among the people as the time draws near for the race. The British public are anxious to see who is the best man, and will be heavily on the race. It is understood both are to be made free to race in favor of Weston.

Base Ball.

THE TECUMSEHS.

A very largely attended meeting of the Tecumseh Base Ball Association, London, was held in the Tecumseh House on the evening of the 14th, Vice-President (Ald. Jones) in the chair.

The Secretary (Mr. H. Gorman), explained that the objects of the meeting were to engage a tenth man, and the propriety of joining the proposed International Association, which meets at Pittsburg on Tuesday next, the principal objects in view in the formation of which are:

1. An alliance to further the best interests of the game of base ball, and for the protection of both clubs and players in the matter of contracts and engagements.
2. The adoption of such rules as will secure the above-named objects, and provide uniform regulations for the government of clubs and players in their intercourse with each other.

Mr. Gorman also enumerated the engagements perfected, and the salaries promised, and asked the opinion of the members thereupon.

A general discussion was then indulged in, the unanimous expression being that the managers had made the best possible engagements, and that the nine as constituted would be a hard one to beat.

On motion, the managers were empowered to procure the services of a competent player, whose duty will be to act as manager of the nine when playing foreign matches.

Mr. Gorman was appointed a delegate to the Pittsburg Convention.

Mr. W. J. Reid (of W. J. Reid & Co.) was added to the list of managers by an unanimous vote.

The procuring of suitable grounds was left in the hands of the managers.

The meeting then broke up. The Association was never in a better financial position than at present.

At the annual meeting of the London Beaver club in the City Hotel, on the 14th, the following officers were elected: President, Mr. W. J. Reid; Vice-President, Mr. W. Hyman; Secretary-treasurer, Mr. Cameron Currie; Capt., Mr. Charles Trebillock; Assistant Captain, Mr. J. Phair; Managing Committee, Messrs. Fred. Trebillock, H. Ryan and A. Rossie. The selection of the nine was laid over.

The London Mutual Honorary President, Mr. W. B. Meredith, M.P.P. President, Walter Mummary; Vice-President, J. Gleason; Secretary, J. McDowell; Treasurer, E. Kidner; Captain, W. Mountjoy. The following are the playing nine for 1877: Messrs. Mountjoy, Slater, Campbell, Dunn, Tierney, Welch, Thompson, Morrison and Steinhoff.

The Trigger.

SHOOTING AT BEACHVILLE.

A shoot for a purse of \$25 took place at Beachville, on the 15th inst. The conditions were to shoot at 6 birds each. The purse was divided into three parts \$10 to first, \$6 to second, and \$4 to third. Mr. W. H. Prout, hotel keeper, had the management of the affair. The following is the score: