

ONE AND TWO TO KEEP A CARRIAGE.

THE CARRIAGE HOUSE.

A finely finished and highly polished carriage is certainly not only an object of elegance and beauty to the sight, but, apart from these qualities, one that should be valued for the amount of skill and patience required in its production. Yet, the one error of judgment on the part of its possessor in selecting the place in which it should be kept, may result in the ruin of the carriage in less than twenty-four hours. I know of instances where the polish on a carriage body has been entirely destroyed in one night by being placed in a damp, close building, destitute of the proper means of ventilation, or in one where the stable manure was kept directly under or in close proximity to it.

It appears to me that when a sum varying from one hundred to fifteen hundred dollars is expended in the purchase of a carriage, a few hundred dollars more spent in fitting up a proper receptacle for its care and shelter is capital well invested.

A carriage house, then, should be roomy, commodious and well ventilated, and so far removed from both the stable and manure pits as to be entirely beyond all danger of the action or effluvia of the gas or ammonia which arises therefrom.

Taste or fancy, wealth or economy, may determine the design and materials for the construction of the building, but no one should overlook the fact, the imperative necessity, that it should be thoroughly dry.

This end can be best obtained by having the wall strapped before being plastered; that is, pieces of studding, say two by three inches, secured to the wall, and then lathed and plastered. It is surprising what injury may be caused to the varnished surface of a carriage by a wet or damp wall. Numerous cases have come under my personal observation where the sides of the vehicles adjacent to such a wall have been destroyed in the interim between sunset and sunrise. A frame shed, with its front entirely open, is even preferable to a close, damp, badly ventilated brick or stone carriage house. Each carriage should be furnished with a good cover, made of muslin or ticking, and after being washed and thoroughly dried, the vehicle should be so covered as to be kept entirely clean and free from dust.

WASHING.

The care and cleansing of a carriage in a satisfactory and proper manner is understood by but few persons. Whether carriages stand idle, or are in constant use, they require care and attention.

Moths and rust, mildew and decay, are the natural results of neglect and improper housing. These can only be prevented by good ventilation and dryness.

Carriages in use every day, the service of a careful man, and the free expenditure of cold water is required.

A well-finished carriage house should be furnished with at least three or four tubs, with many sponges and chamois.

A feather duster and fine-haired brush for the cushions and lining, a dry cloth for the wheels and spokes, wrenches for the axles and wheel work, wrenches for the springs, and for the carriage, oil for the wheels and axles.

One of each of the buckets, one for washing the carriage, one set for the body, and one for the running gear. The reason is obvious. The running gears are generally more covered with mud and dirt than the body, and the sponges and chamois used in washing them become more filled with dirt, and, if subsequently put on the body, scratch and disfigure it; and again, the oil or grease about the circle (or fifth wheel) and hubs are easily gathered by both the sponge and chamois, and it used on the body will be found difficult to remove.

Therefore, never use the sponge and chamois with which you wash the body upon the running gear, or vice versa. A carriage should be cleansed as soon as possible after it has been used, particularly if it has been newly painted or varnished.

The first proceeding necessary, after removing the carriage to its position for washing,

EDUCATING HORSES.

Horses can be educated to the extent of their understanding as well as children, and can be easily damaged or ruined by bad management. We believe that the great difference found in horses as to vicious habits or reliability comes more from the different management of men than from variance of natural disposition in the animals. Horses with high mettle are more easily educated than those of less or dull spirits, and are more susceptible to ill training, and consequently may be good or bad according to the education they receive. Horses with dull spirits are not by any means proof against bad management, for in them may often be found the most provoking obstinacy or vicious habits of different characters that render them almost entirely worthless. Could the coming generation of horses in this country be kept from their days of colthood to the age of five years in the hands of good, careful managers, there would be seen a vast difference in the general characters of the noble animals. If a colt is never allowed to get an advantage, it will never know that it possesses a power that man cannot control; and if made familiar with strange objects, it will not be skittish and nervous. If a horse is made accustomed from his early days to have objects put near him on the neck, back and hips, he will pay no attention to the giving out of a harness or of a wagon running against him at an unsuspected moment. We once saw an aged lady drive a high spirited horse, attached to a carriage, down a steep hill, with no hold back straps upon her harness, and she assured us that there was no danger, for her son accustomed his horses to all kinds of usages and sights that commonly drive the animal into a frenzy of fear and excitement. A gun can be fired from the back of a horse, an umbrella over his head, a buffalo robe thrown over his neck, a railway engine pass close by, his heels bumped with sticks, and the animal take it all a natural condition of things, if only taught by careful management that he will not be injured thereby. There is great need of improvement in the management of this noble animal; less beating wanted, and more education.—*Veterinarian*

A SINGULAR HORSE DISEASE.

A horse belonging to Mr. J. R. Smith was a few days ago discovered to be sick. He gave him rest, and applied such remedies as he thought would relieve him. The other day Mr. Smith thought he would lead him to the river for water. It was a short distance, yet he had not gone more than half way when Mr. S. noticed that one of the horse's fore-feet had turned upward in front, letting the pastern joint come under on the ground. He went on in this way for a few steps further to the water, drank, and started on the return. The other fore-foot turned up in the same way, and the horse was unable to proceed. Being in the street, Messrs. Lester and Helms came, and the three lifted the helpless brute to the side, where he would not be in the way of passing teams, where he stood for a few moments. Both his hind-feet then turned in the same way, and he was unable to stand longer. Skilful men were called to see the animal, but could render him no assistance. Indeed, all who saw him said they had never heard of anything of the kind before. His feet were utterly useless to him, and dangled about as if they were held by the skin only. After satisfying himself that the horse was incurable, Mr. Smith mercifully had him killed. The feet were then dissected. Nothing unusual was discovered the matter except that the joints were perfectly dry. This is a most singular disease; one which puts to naught the skill of our scientific men.—*Lexington Register*.

BEE-KEEPING FOR BOYS.

Boys on the farm can lay by a nice little sum of money every year by keeping a few stocks of bees. Quinby, the best authority on bees that ever lived in this country, says a stock of bees is better than \$100 at interest. If they are properly taken care of, there is no doubt about it. Ten dollars a stock is a very reasonable estimate of profits from a well managed colony. The lessons in nature

GREAT PIGEON CASE.

ACTION AGAINST AN EXPRESS COMPANY FOR LOSS OF FANCY PIGEONS.

Thomas vs. American Express Company.—Mr. H. M. Thomas, of Brocklin, the well-known fancy pouter and pigeon breeder, exhibited a number of fancy pigeons at the Provincial Fair, Hamilton, last September. After the exhibition, the pigeons, as he alleges, were given in charge of the agent of the American Express Company, on the grounds, to be shipped to Thomas's address. Eleven were lost through the Company's negligence. Damages were laid at \$120. The action was brought in the County Court (without a jury), against defendants as common carriers, and was tried before His Honor Judge Darnall, on Thursday, 19th ult., at Whitby. In the declaration the pigeons are named as follows: One pair of black carrier (imported), one pair of white dragon, one pair of black barber, one pair of nun pigeons (imported), one pair of priest pigeons, and one bald-headed tumbler pigeon.

The defendants pleaded that they did not promise, that there was no delivery, and disputed liability.

Mr. George Yule, agent for the Canadian Express Co. at Whitby, proved the delivery of the pigeons at their office, from which they were shipped to Toronto and taken in charge of American Express Co. there for Hamilton. The Canadian Co.'s business not extending to the latter place. The price was fixed to Hamilton and back and was paid at Whitby; that he had instructions from the defendants' Company to accept rates charged to Hamilton and back. The amount paid was \$23.20, of which the American Company got \$18.60. When the fowls were returned the pigeons were not amongst those received.

Mr. Thomas, the plaintiff, gave evidence to the effect that the pigeons arrived all right at the exhibition, he called upon Mr. Mundy, the agent of the Co.'s on the grounds at Hamilton, to reship the crates. The agent gave him labels to put on, and promised to send a man to take charge of them. The man came and took charge of crates and told plaintiff he might leave and that the birds would go by the same train. This evidence was corroborated as also evidence as to the value of the pigeons, by several witnesses from Hamilton, London, &c. The eleven pigeons for which damages claimed were not afterwards delivered. The black carriers were worth at least \$40, and with the others lost took many prizes for plaintiff. The dragons, \$25; the barbers, \$15; and the tumblers from \$2 to \$10. Verdict for \$120. Mr. Farwell, of Farwell & Rutledge, appeared for plaintiff; Mr. Monkman for defendants.

A CARNIVOROUS ELK.

The boys over in the Park occasionally originate a good local joke. Sniktau has just heard of one of these, and it is too good to keep.

Most of our boys know Buckskin Burns, who is somewhat noted as a guide and hunter. Well, Burns was out on a hunt last fall, and came in with a part of one elk. He told his party, however, that he killed nine, but that a great grizzly bear had eaten them.

Of course, the boys had no doubt about his having killed the number he claimed, or that the bear had mauled them to a degree rendering them unfit for market; but they pretended to be incredulous, and joked the hunter about his bear story until it began to grow monotonous, and Burns became somewhat sensitive on the subject.

About this time Mellen, another noted hunter and one of Grand county's official dignitaries, came into the Springs from a hunt. The boys had posted him on the Burns story, and when that rival came around he was ready.

"What did you kill?" asked Burns.

"A big grizzly bear was all I got," answered Mellen.

"Well, where's your game? Why didn't you bring in the hide, anyhow, to back up your story?" queried Burns.

"The truth is, Burns," added Mellen, "while I was off after a doe, a dogged old bull elk came into camp and ate that bear, hide and hair!"

Burns didn't have anything to say for half a minute, but then meekly remarked in a dreamy and absent manner:

"Boys, I'm mighty sorry there ain't a drop of anything stronger'n milk in Grand county; this is one of the occasions when I should like to get 'em up!"

HORSEHOLOGY.

Notwithstanding all the excellent matter which has been published on the subject of horses in our country for a century past or more, it is surprising to note what ignorance still exists as to their diverse merits or demerits; and it is still more surprising that those not well versed in these, both practically and theoretically, should have the presumption to undertake to instruct their fellows what course they ought to pursue in breeding. In doing this, they only excite contempt, and display their own ignorance and folly.

One still notices that writers continue, every now and then, to advise their brother farmers to have nothing to do with thoroughbred horses, just as it all were light-bodied, spindle-legged, fractious, worthless animals for his purpose. Now it is well known to all who are conversant with race-horses, many of them are not only eminent for speed and endurance, but also for stoutness. What is to be thought of a horse, such as is often found in what they call the hunting-class in England, that can carry men weighing from 200 to 260 lbs. at nearly full speed, leaping high fences and broad ditches every half mile or so on their course; and all this, over more or less ploughed land and soft turf, into which the horse sinks ankle-deep, or more, at nearly every step he takes? Such horses are 16½ to 16¾ hands high, with 1200 to 1250 lbs., or, perhaps, even more than this in full flesh; have short and very strong backs, powerful quarters, wide, flat legs, the toughest muscle, and bones of the best possible quality. Joined to these, will be found fine action, combined often with great docility and the kindest of tempers.

Now, what an admirable cross such a horse would be, even if found among the fastest of racers, on the large class of the common mares of the country! More or less of this produce would be fit for any sort of work to be done, with the exception of that of heavy truck-work in our cities. Any one of them would make at least a good serviceable farm or express horse; many excellent roadsters, and not a few beautiful carriage-horses. Away, then, with all this nonsense about thoroughbred horses not being suitable to improve such as farmers now possess, for they are the very best, properly selected, that could be chosen for this purpose. The nearer the general-purpose horse is to being thoroughbred, the better it is for him and his owner, if properly bred.

A HUMMING BIRD'S NEST.

Burroughs, in his charming little book, *Wake Robin*, says it is an event in one's life to find a humming bird's nest. The event happened to me without any effort on my part. Looking up from a seat in the grove I saw the ruby throat drop down on its nest, like a shining emerald from the clouds; it did not pause upon the edge of the nest, but dropped immediately upon it. The nest was situated upon an oak twig, and about the size of a black walnut, and from where I sat it looked more like an excrescence than a nest. It is situated in the fork of two twigs; it is firmly glued at the base to the lower, but is not fastened to the upper twig. I waited for the tiny occupant to leave the nest, and then, with the aid of a step ladder, had no difficulty in looking into it. I found it contained two white eggs about as large as medium sized peas. Sometimes the male would drop upon the nest when the female left, I never disturbed them while they were sitting upon it, but often before I could get away, when I thought them out of sight, the male would suddenly appear, and great demonstrations of anger I never saw manifested by any bird. He would ruffle up his tiny feathers, and seem nearly twice as large, and dash almost into my face, in making a squeaking noise—scooping and threatening until he had driven me quite a distance. He soon learned that I was very much afraid of him, so he turned tyrant, and often drove me from my seat in the grove when I had not been near his dwelling. I always submitted to the tiny tyrant, for what business had I to be prying into his domestic affairs? When the young were hatched they were not larger than bumblebees, but in a week they had flown. I cut the twig off, and found that the nest was composed of the same soft

THE PARIS RACE.

Last Monday saw the first spring races, the crowd at which. The day was cold and lowering; display of spring toilets was not open carriages that generally on occasions were replaced by the landaus. Still there was a goodly dress, especially among the demi-monde. One stylish dame height and thinness as the first to behold in an open landau, a horse ridden by postillions in pink silk, while she herself was in velvet relieved with knots of or bon. Another lady was attired in low silk dress with dark green dark green skirt. The overdress with three narrow bands of emerald colors, representing wreaths of stockings were of hidden yellow of dark green silk, with a tiny red bordered on each. Richly embroidered and slippers to match the dress, and of course the pretty for must be duly protruded in or these elegant additions to her and yellow, the darkest of the brightest or most delicate yellow the tints in vogue this season. Surely unbecoming to any but the fashionable world is threatened, and to give place to dance yet. When circumstances require gentle woman, knows how to dye it, too, skillful, if not heretofore.

A BRAVE ACT.

The Old Surrey stag hounds met a month ago and had a thr during which the stag crossed and was followed by the pack. swam the swollen stream and I men on the wrong side. The into a deep lake, and when M. master of the pack, reached the that three hounds had got hold beast and were worrying her. gentlemen threw off their hunt swam out into the middle of the water was bitterly cold and the chilled to the bone, but they the stag, struck the dogs with whips, and finally delivered a mortal from death. This deed with great spirit by a leading sportsman whose descriptions of British frequently grace the columns of Telegraph. The British, however, deteriorate as a nation as long such evidences of mingled cowardly. The exploit reminds poet's lines, "The bravest are the loving are the daring."

LIVE WEIGHT AND DEAD CATTLE.

Thornton's Circular (Eng.) has Mr. J. Stratton's Miriam (best sh and best female at Lexington cattle show, weighed, when slaughtered 13½ lbs. (13½ lbs. Her live weight official list 16 cwt., 2 qrs., 10 lbs. this admirably fat animal, the little that each stone of 14 lbs. yielded above 10 lbs. of flesh (as the shambles). This is the largest ever noticed by me.

The London Agricultural Gazette readers can give a good idea of a 73 1½ lbs. dead quarter weight live weight, and an extraordinary cow Grace in America, after very long, and six months gone in calf, James Irving, butcher, New York 1851, dressed 70 lbs. four quarter lbs. live weight.

A HAWK AMONG HIS

Gilbert White tells a most interesting story of a hawk that came gliding a faggot pile and the end of the place where his coops stood. To see his stock diminishing, I went to the pile and the house, in bird dashed and was entangled. man's recollection suggested a bit he there he had the hawk