

work, and, occasionally, moved through the stretch, at about half speed, until about a half speed, until about a fortnight before the race, or, in some instances, less; he should be shaped up, muzzled, and drawn, and his proper weight put upon him, and breezed, with the assistance of the fastest horses in the stable, the distance he is to run in his match or engagements. He should be sweated and scraped, as the other horses are worked, sweated, and scraped, which will give him more condition and more speed than if he was trained, as they usually train and treat a quarter horse. This, for the following reasons: If you train a horse for a quarter in the usual way, which is to walk and trot, and every seven or eight days run him through his quarter stretch at his best; if the horse is heavy in flesh, it sours him, inflames the cellular tissue, and every such run only shortens the stride of the horse; whereas, if he is galloped, as stated above, he loses all the grossness and settles at the same time, without tiring and soring him up by his unusual exertion in the speedy brushes of the quarter stretch, which he is usually taxed with. And if, when he is matched and comes to run his short race, there should be a difficulty in getting off, which sometimes lasts for half a day, and, in the meantime he should get away on a false start, and run through once or twice, he will swell up, and become stiff, so that when the actual start is made, he is totally unfit to run. I saw this once clearly exemplified in a race run at Natchez, between Veto and Hickman Bull. They were matched for several thousand dollars, to run for five hundred yards, on the Pharoah Course. Veto was trained by "Old Man Crow," who was an old trainer of racehorses for all distance, and had a stable of several horses, which he ran during the meeting, from one to four miles. He galloped him along with his other horses, from one to two miles, regularly every day, moving him occasionally through the stretch at half speed, sometimes a little faster. Hickman Bull was trained by an old quarter racer, who walked and trotted him five or ten miles a day, occasionally bruising him through his quarter path, where he had to run at about his best. When the day of the match came off, Veto was ridden by John Ford, at that time a catch weight rider, and they were turned by Lincock. They were five hours turning before they got off. Veto won by about two lengths, although Hickman Bull was far the best horse, and had beaten him at the same distance easily, once before. But Veto being in condition, and trained as described above, was able to endure the long and tedious turning, as well as running through on false starts several times. Now that is my experience in ordering horses to run a quarter. You are sure to have the horse by training as Veto was trained (galloping a mile or two every day, and repeat), in condition, whereas in the way Hickman Bull was trained, it is impossible to get the body in equal condition.

I would call the attention of my readers, and especially the trainers and owners of racehorses, to the condition of the various horses they may have seen run in good time with heavy weights during the last fifteen years, to show that there is no necessity for wearing a horse down to skeleton to make him run a race a day, for some of the very best races we have ever had, at least so far as the record of time shows, have been won by horses in the very highest robust condition, for that is the object of training. For instance, Lexington, when he ran his two races, one in the teens and the other in the twenties, was in capital condition, at the same time he did not show a rib or crease or any crease or mark of being tightly drawn by overwork. So it was with Lightning. He was always considered, when he came out to run, by observers as too fat, as too high to run and stay, yet he won at all distances in that condition. Lecompte, in all his races, started with muscles full and high almost to reptation. Daniel Boone, Allendorf, Freely, Fanny Wright, The Pony, Dick Chin, Kate Aubrey, Gray Medco, Beeching, Pat Galway, Whale, Verifier, Chumner, Revenue, Portland, Folly, Billy Wood, Lucy Dashwood, Luxumburg, Bayonet, Lancaster, Breakness, Mate, Bay Final, Tom Ochiltree, Lizzie R. Madge, Bassett, Vauxhall, G. onely, Fadladeen, Gen. York, Meteor, Rhadamantus, Countess, Wanderer, Katie Pease, Longfellow, Kingfisher, Wild Idle, Attila, Acrobat, Parole, Faithless, Virginus, Kentucky, Gilroy, and Froggwen, all ran their best races when in robust condition. Many others could be enumerated, but it is not necessary, as most of the above named have been seen by our contemporaries. It will be readily seen that if the above, and many more, can run and win in high condition showing fullness of muscle, why should we reduce a horse to a bare skeleton to run and attempt to compete with those which, in robust health, are so much more able to carry the weight and stay the distance? It is a mis-

saved by his being well wintered. In regard to Indian corn, I will mention here that after a colt is raised, say three years old, little or no harm will result from feeding corn, particularly as he advances into the season of the hard campaign, as it restores his strength to some extent by enriching the blood which has been too much exhausted by heavy and severe sweats. But, as long as the colt is growing, say, from his suckling up, he should not be given corn, as it does not promote the growth of any part of the form, such as the bone and viscera, which is most desired in the building up of a large and robust constitution, but is a detriment to his growth, by increasing his fat which prevents his growth, and, in fact, will prevent the growth of any other animal if fattened too young, as well as the thoroughbred horse. I often use corn myself in training horses, but it is only when they become somewhat stale from previous hard work. Then it is beneficial, as a dram of whisky or toddy is to a tired man, but only in such cases would I advise the use of Indian corn, and then not more than a quart or two per day, with other feed.

In giving illustrations of the pernicious effects of the prevalent system of severe training, in a preceding chapter, I omitted to cite two prominent cases of recent date. I refer to those of Stockwood and Wanderer, both trained from the spring they were coming three years old until the spring they were four, and with the same result as in the cases already referred to. Their trainer was one who worked his horses very hard, and mostly under heavy clothing. They were both good horses, but met with little success while under his management. By drawing the life blood, as it were, from their systems by heavy sweats and severe trial runs they became almost worthless as racehorses, and their owner, in despair of ever winning with them, sold them, both together, for the nominal sum of \$2,000, when either of them, had they been properly conditioned, would scarcely have lost a race, and would have readily sold at from three to five thousand dollars. After they changed hands, their new trainer, Mr. George Rice, told me himself that Stockwood was so completely dried up and so much out of condition, that it took him one entire season to doctor him up and get him in shape to take on flesh enough to train; that during that time he must have given him between two and three hundred grains of calomel before he could get a proper action upon the viscera. After getting him in condition he sold him for \$2,500, which was \$500 more than he gave for him and Wanderer both. Stockwood, from that condition, continued to run sometime after, winning at two miles, two miles and repeat, and three miles showing that, had he been properly treated in his colthood, he would have won a great deal of money for his first owner. The other horse, Wanderer, won many races at all distances, beating the best horses in the country in remarkably good time, and retired from the turf after driving Fellowship home in the four-mile dash at Saratoga, in 1914.

I mention this to show owners and trainers that heavy clothing, severe sweats, and many trial runs is not the way in which to condition a thoroughbred racehorse, either for speed or bottom, and particularly a young horse that is still growing. And if my readers will reflect they will remember many instances where horses, from improper training, have become worthless as racers during the continuance of that mode of treatment, and where many a good two and three-year-old has been sold or almost given away as worthless, when, by nature, they were equal to the best.

So in training the racehorse this must be observed: That he is flesh and blood and not cast steel or gum elastic, and though he may open and shut with snap and vim for some time under bad treatment, as a constant dropping of water will wear away a stone, so will continuous hard work wear out a horse. Two noted instances, which very recently occurred, are in the cases of Bill Bruce and Big Sandy, both of them racehorses, and of different style and form, yet they were so severely trained down that their owner sold one of them, Big Sandy, for less than a thousand dollars, and Bill Bruce was offered that sum, but not realizing it, for he took him home, has nursed him up during the winter, had him trained and brought to the post in good order, and, I see, he has recently won, at Lexington, two races, in most excellent time. Big Sandy has also, since changing stables, been successful, and is now considered as standing a fair chance to win some important race this season, and if he is continued in condition, he will not only show speed at short distances, but will also show that he can go any distance, even as far as four miles.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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