

Many a tired horse, not thus fettered, droops his head while waiting, and so obtains the rest, which helps to repair his wasted energy before he again starts on his toilsome journey. Even a loose check-rein must prevent the horse from obtaining complete rest, and we must conclude that this strap is cruel, just in proportion as it prevents his head from falling into its natural position.

The check-rein is considered valuable to prevent horses from grazing or lowering the head. The same end may be equally attained by substituting a simple bridle rein, to be fastened to the saddle without passing through the loops of the throatlatch.

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### **The Arching Neck and Bended Head.**

The Creator formed the horse "with arching neck and bended head," a perfect combination of usefulness and beauty. If man by taking thought reins up a horse's head, thereby trying to improve the natural arch, he defeats his own object, because the neck is forced above and beyond the lines of beauty, which "lie within narrow limits," and the result is a stiff and stretched out appearance—to say nothing of the pain and inconvenience occasioned the animal.

If a horse has been abused, and under continued abuse has lost spirit and courage, his head will droop and decline below the lines of beauty, exactly on the