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THE THOROUGHBRED RACEHORSE HOW TO BREED, REAR AND TRAIN THEM.

BY AN OLD TRAINER.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Continued—Shoeing and
Plating.

(From the Spirit of the Times).

If horses were plated with sharp instruments upon the feet, a protest would be offered by the owners of horses not similarly shod. Yet they are not more dangerous than the pisted shoe, for, if they should out the cord clear off the horse, the plated horse has done the same, and would continue to do it as long as he is allowed to wear plates.

It is not only dangerous to run a good horse with these horses are plated, but there is a danger of his being crippled from the weight of some vicious horse before starting. When a dozen horses starting on a space of six or eight feet, have a poor chance of separating of the way of kicking horses, and, if they do not keep his horse in the rear, and, in the case of vicious or kicking horses will get in front of it. The starter or judge should, in the name of humanity if nothing else, send the vicious and kicking horses to the rear, so that the well-disposed horses would have a fair chance of coming out of the race without being tripped.

The day will come when horses wearing plates will be hoisted behind, and that will bring about the discontinuance of the use of plates, when the rider, owner, and groom, should rejoice at horses not nailed to injure or kill each other. The plate is much more dangerous than a shoe for shoes are not used in racing, and, though in kicking whilst shod, the horse may kick a leg or eye, he cannot cut a tendon in two, as he can do with the plate.

Many horses have been broken down by the kicking or twisting of a plate under the foot. In the case with the renowned Longfellow in his last race.

Longfellow, in his celebrated time race, twisted the plate on his forefoot, so that it was under every one that he did not cut himself, and, after the saddle was removed, his cautious owner, observing it, picked up each foot, and put the plate back under his foot before he allowed him to walk to the stable. In this case the plates might have lost a \$10,000 and had the horse tired in his race, which would have caused a spreading of the forefoot, and not have helped cutting his hind

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Feeding, Wintering, Exercising, Training
in the Spring—Cooling Out—Cool and
Warm Water—Drinking Water.

Another great error that trainers commit, is that of permitting their grooms to jerk, kick, and otherwise abuse their horses, both on the track and in the stable. He may not permit it when present, but does sanction it from being absent from the stable while the horses are being groomed.

When you see a colt or filly come out upon the track prancing or fretting at every step, becoming more and more excited, half frenzied with fear, you can put it down as a fact that that animal has been roughly handled in the stable, or over trained upon the track, and perhaps both. If it be a delicately organized filly, she may as well be turned out, for she will be worthless for racing purposes, unless the mode of treatment is entirely changed. She must be kindly treated in the stable, and receive a great deal less work upon the track, and, if convenient, should be worked without company. Her exercise should be slow, merely walking and trotting. With such treatment her courage and confidence may be restored, and her dread of the track entirely abated. All horses are made wild and bad tempered, if they fall into the hands of those who train and treat them roughly.

Another injurious error committed by many trainers, is that of walking their horses twice a day. After working them in the morning, some trainers walk their horses in the evening, from one to three hours. This is frequently done in hot weather, with blankets, hoods, and saddles on, and riders up. The place generally selected is a very small circle, where they travel round and round upon the same leg, until the joints become sore. Most of the weight, during this exercise, is upon the rear hind leg, producing fatigue in that limb, and when fatigued, the toe will touch and knuckle over, which shows extra strain on the extensor, and, if continued, will make them drag the hind leg, for it affects the stifle, whirlbone, and hip. In this way many horses are lamed behind, by long continued walking upon a narrow circle. If they have rough and careless riders upon their backs, who force them beyond a reasonable pace, when they become fatigued, they are sure to box or strike their fetlocks in front, and then the trainer puts boots upon them, and these have the effect to stiffen the joints, and prevent easy action.

If he had walked his horses a reasonable time, not so long as to allow them to become fatigued, on a larger area of ground, there would have been no necessity for boots or knockers, as the horses would not hit themselves. This constant walking will, eventually, wear out with fatigue all the younger stock of the stable. The English system of training is not to take a horse out of his stall but once in four and twenty hours and it is not a bad plan, but necessity forces

The Trigger.

SARNIA SHOOTING CLUB.

The fourth annual meeting of the Sarnia Shooting Club was held on Friday night of last week, at the Secretary's office, when, after the usual routine business, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Dr. Pousett; Vice-President, E. A. Vidal; Secy.-Treas., W. Taylor; Committee of Management, R. Glynn (chairman), J. C. Balster, D. McMaster, G. C. Dow, H. T. Bell, T. G. Vidal and J. Chester. The first regular competition for the Club's Prizes will commence on the 3rd of April.

Mr. George Barnett, of Wallace, shot a large wild cat last week.

Snow birds will be furnished to Clubs and others by Mr. John Grunskill, No. 9 Power Street, Toronto, for \$4 per 100, delivered at express office here.

The Michigan State medal was shot for on the 8th. In accordance with the English rules, adopted at a meeting of the Detroit Gun Club, each sportsman shot at eleven birds at thirty yards rise, and from five ground traps. E. H. Gillman won the medal for the twelfth time.

Mr. W. McCulloch, who purchased six greyhounds for shipment to Australia, it is stated, offered \$5,000 for Coomassie, the winner of the Waterloo Cup. The offer was declined. Victory adds wonderfully to the value of a dog. Coomassie is a light fawn in color, and is two years old.

TOURNAMENT—The pigeon shooting tournament at St. Catharines, will commence next Wednesday, 28th inst. \$200 will be given in prizes. Entrance \$5. Each shooter to furnish 13 birds. 1½ oz. shot allowed. St. Catharines rules to govern. Entries close on 27th. Mr. J. C. Woodruff is the Secretary.

FROM OTTAWA.

OTTAWA, March 16, '77

To the Editor of Sporting Times:—

DEAR SIR,—The Dominion Track Association purpose to give a meeting some time about the end of June, when they intend to give \$2,000 for trotting and running.

The colored rider "Happy John" came pretty nearly putting an end to his existence this morning. He had been engaged by Doctor Coleman to gallop Col. Boulton's

American Turf.

RACING AT SAVANNAH, GA.

SAVANNAH, March 6—Purse \$100, running; three-quarter mile dash.

C W Medinger's ch g First Chance, 6 yrs, by Baywood, dam Dot.....	1
O West's b h Ascot, 5 yrs, by Enquirer, dam Hinda.....	2
L Jones' b g Jim Hinton, aged, by Rogers, dam Madam House.....	3

Time—1:29.

Same Day—Purse \$100, 3.00 class.

P Somers' gr g Robin Hood.....	3	3	1	1
W T Birch's ch m Nellie.....	1	1	2	2
A B Cooke's rn g Roanoke.....	2	2	dr	

Time—2:59, 3:00, 3:06, 3:06.

Same Day—Purse \$125, running; for all ages; mile dash.

L Jones' br m Maria Barnes, 5 yrs, by Asteroide, dam Black Rose.....	1
C W Medinger's br g Little Fellow, 5 yrs, by Lynchburg, dam Mary Good.....	2
O West's b g Prang, by Vandal, dam Annetto, by Wagner.....	3

Time—2:00.

SAVANNAH, March 7 Purse \$100, half mile heats.

L Jones' br m Maria Barnes, 5 yrs, by Asteroide, dam Black Rose.....	1
O West's b c Ascot, 5 yrs, by Enquirer, dam Hinda.....	2
C W Medinger's ch f Libbie L, 4 yrs, by Bay Dick, dam by Joe Stonor.....	dis

Time—:56½, 5½.

March 7 and 8—Purse \$200; free-for-all.

W T Birch's Nellie.....	2	1	1
P Somers' Robin Hood.....	1	2	2

Time 2:54½, 2:59½, 2:58½, 2:59½.

Same Day—Purse \$125, running; mile and a quarter dash.

L Jones' br m Maria Barnes, 5 yrs, by Asteroide, dam Black Rose.....	1
C W Medinger's br g Little Fellow, 5 yrs, by Lynchburg, dam Mary Good.....	2
O West's b c Ascot, 5 yrs, by Enquirer, dam Hinda.....	3

Time—2:30½.

Same Day—Purse \$150, running; mile and a half dash.

C W Medinger's ch m Libbie L, 4 yrs, by Bay Dick, dam by Joe Stonor.....	1
L Jones' b g Jim Hinton, aged, by Rogers, dam Madam House.....	2

Time—3:01½.

March 8 and 9—Purse \$200.

W T Birch's Nellie.....	1	2	2	1
P Somers' Robin Hood.....	2	1	1	2

Checkers

A TOURNAMENT AT OTTAWA.

The checker match between members of the Caledonia and Curling Clubs took place in the Orange Hall, on the evening of the 18th, resulting in a decided victory for the organized players. There were eight sets of players, and the play was on time, the limit being two hours. One hundred games were played 59 being in favor of the Caledonia Club, 36 in favor of the Curlers and 11 drawn. The following were the individual scores:

CURLERS	OS.	DN.	CALEDONIANS	OS.
Robert Lees.....	2	0	D. Smillie.....	6
Wm. Chalmers.....	2	2	Wm. Stuart.....	7
Thos. McKay.....	4	2	P. Arnold.....	4
And. Campbell.....	6	1	D. Farquhart.....	10
Geo. Hutchison.....	3	2	J. M. Rose.....	10
Henry Ingles.....	3	3	D. Robinson.....	6
C. J. Egleson.....	4	0	H. Macdonald.....	10
A. Dunlop.....	6	1	J. Mills.....	6
Total.....	30	11	Total.....	59

Ald. Henderson occupied the chair, acting as umpire, and gave every satisfaction, being tendered a vote of thanks at the close. The match was played according to Anderson's rules.

PLAYING AT MONTREAL—The draught tournament which has been going on at the St. Andrew's Home for the past six weeks, under the auspices of the Caledonia Society of Montreal, terminated on the 15th. The following shows the result:—Andrew Robertson won 58 games out of 60 played; Alex. Ross, 52 out of 60; William Rattray, 50 out of 60; A. A. Stevenson, 40 out of 60; Alex. Murray, 38 out of 60.

Mr. Murdoch McKenzie of Guilph, won the championship of Wellington on Friday last. His opponent, Mr. James Smith refused to play, and the umpire ruled in favor of the former gentleman.

Cricket.

The annual meeting of the Cobourg Club was held on March 15th, at their rooms, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mayor Gaillet, Captain, Mr. E. H. Osler, Secretary, Mr. J. H. Munson; Treasurer, Mr. J. D. Hayden; Executive Committee, Messrs. E. H. Osler, J. D. Hayden, J. H. Munson, H. Allen and Geo. Ellis.