



OLEKKENWELL 147 (6688).
Imported Hackney stallion. First prize and sweepstakes winner in Carriage class,
Toronto Exhibition, 1902.
OWNED BY WILLIAM MOSSIP, ST. MARY'S, ONT. (SEE GOSSIP, PAGE 38.)

respective word of command. This is imperative in the breaking of polo ponies, and is of great advantage with all riding horses. A steady feeling of the reins to diminish speed, or a flourish of the whip to increase it, will come in useful; but above all things, the detestable habit of jerking the reins should be studiously avoided. When a man jerks the reins to make a horse go on, and goes through the same procedure to make him stop, no wonder that the animal gets confused and becomes liable to resent orders which he does not understand.

In teaching a horse to rein back, we should bear in mind that this movement of the mounted horse is one of two time (near fore and off hind, and off fore and near hind); and that, to perform it in a well-balanced manner, he should be light behind and heavy in front; and, consequently, he should have his head low down. Here we require the alternate feeling of the reins, while the opposite long rein prevents the hind quarters swinging outwards. If a horse should be light in front when proceeding forwards, the distribution of weight should, of course, be reversed when he reins back.

In lunging with the long reins, weight, gradually increased, can be put on the driving pad, so that the animal will learn, without resistance, to carry a weight equal to that of his future rider.

In lunging a horse with the long reins, the action of the outward rein on the hind quarters is most valuable in preparing the animal to obey the outward leg of his rider.

When a horse which has been taught in this way is mounted, his temper or nerves are in no way upset by the feeling of weight in the saddle, and when his lately-introduced rider manipulates the reins, he fully understands their indications. Hence, the risk of a fight, which may entail disastrous memories, is reduced to a minimum.

The best bit to use is an unjointed snaffle, because its indications are direct.

A curb is a complicated machine, which will spoil the horse's mouth, temporarily or for life, if any of its component conditions are defective, a fact which is fraught with danger, because these conditions are numerous.

In the use of a bit, we require indications, not agonies. If we examine the longer jaw of a horse, we shall find that the bare portion of the jaw, upon which the mouthpiece of the snaffle or curb rests (on each side), is fairly broad just above the tush of the stallion or gelding (or at the corresponding part of the jaw of the mare), but becomes very narrow higher up. Hence, the mouthpiece should be put low down. Also, when a curb is used, the curb-chain should rest in the chin-groove, the bone of which is smooth and rounded, but the edges of the branches of the lower jaw being sharp, they are unfit to bear pressure. To obviate pain arising in this manner, it is well to cover the curb-chain by means of an India-rubber tube, or to place a leather guard between it and the jaw.

In teaching a horse to jump, we should, above all things, impress on his mind that if he "chances" a fence he will hurt himself. Consequently, he ought, for instance, be practiced over a stone wall or stiff timber of suitable height. As a mistake in a mounted lesson of this kind might give the rider a dangerous "cropper," the equine pupil ought to learn how "to throw a

leg" in good style before his instructor gets into the saddle. Mr. Harding, of Mount Vernon, New Zealand, has sent me several capital photographs of himself and Miss Harding riding horses over wire fences nearly five feet high, and in each of these photographs it is easy to see that the horse takes particular pains to leave a wide margin between his legs and the iron strings. Mr. Harding tells me that he prefers to jump his New Zealand horses over wire than over any other kind of obstacle; because, being well acquainted from their youth upwards with wire, they are particularly careful to avoid catching their legs in it. Unmounted lessons in leaping had best be given with the long reins; at liberty, or by leading the animal. The only reliable way to carry

out the last mentioned procedure is by means of a rope which serves the double purpose of a leading rein and crupper. Pulling on an ordinary leading rein is generally the best possible means of making a horse "hang back." The hint under his tail, on the contrary, is always acknowledged by a forward movement.

I deeply regret that the exigencies of space have precluded both argument and explanation. I have one great consolation, and that is that I hope next year (1903) to come out to Canada and practically demonstrate the details of my present subject to a horse-loving audience, from whom I can obtain much valuable instruction. Manners make the horse quite as much as they do the man, especially when the rider has an impartial seat. In Leicestershire, a nine or ten year old hunter will always fetch more money than a four or five year old of similar make and shape, because age is supposed to confer sedateness. In the formation of a riding horse, the breaker has quite as much to say as the breeder, with not a hundredth part of the time and expense. Hence the immense value of the knowledge of this art.

The Spring Horse Show.

At a meeting of the Spring Horse Show Committee, held in Toronto, Ont., Dec. 16th, it was resolved to hold the first spring stallion show, under the auspices of the Canadian Horse Breeders' Association, at Grand's, corner of Simcoe and Nelson streets, Toronto, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 4th, 5th and 6th of February, 1903. Mr. Joseph Watson, of Lincoln, Neb., U.S., was appointed expert judge. F. W. Hodson, Ottawa, was added to the committee. The committee anticipate a large entry for this show, and visitors are expected in large numbers from the Northwest Territories and the United States to attend this valuable exhibition and to select stallions from among the number to take to their different homes.

"How can I best improve my stock?" is a question often asked. Try the "feed plan," be very liberal, then note results. We believe you'll continue, for it pays every time.

STOCK.

Is Western Competition Not Wanted?

In past years Eastern and Western live-stock men have been working together very harmoniously. The overplus of good pure-bred foundation stock of the East has found to a large extent ready markets in our West, and our need here for stock of that class has been a boon to many an overstocked Ontario farmer. This state of affairs ought to continue for the weal of each, and any act which directly or indirectly tends to lessen this bond of goodfellowship can only be a backward step in the interests of both.

Months ago, one of our most prominent breeders of high-class stock was solicited to contribute to the sale of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle which will be held in Hamilton, Ont., on January 28th, 1903. He agreed to do so, and accordingly made the necessary selections from his herd, settled all negotiations, forwarded pedigrees, and arranged for shipping, when, behold, a telegram arrived stating that a number of the Ontario breeders requested that this Manitoba contingent be left at home, giving as a reason that the prices might not suit, and offering the suggestion that a sale be instituted in Crystal City, or some other place, some time next spring, when perhaps some of them might attend. This was not answered, and before long another came, to which the following reply was sent, "Have your own way, it was you who invited me in the first place."

What kind of treatment is this? To request that choice animals be forwarded from this noted herd, and then, after many weeks, when they had undergone much of the necessary preparation for sale, to politely suggest that they remain at home. Even the mention of such a compromise as an extension of patronage, should a sale be held in this Province, is hollow in itself. Probably the secret is told in the assertion that "prices might not be satisfactory to all concerned," and yet, we may ask, are these men withholding their own cattle? Decidedly not. Had they done so, their action in so wiring the Manitoba breeder could be commended as being at least unselfish. They are evidently quite willing to face the imaginary risks themselves, but do not wish their invited guests to suffer!

Yearly many of our Western breeders tour through Ontario buying large numbers of the best stock that can be obtained, and surely it is poor policy, even if simply looked at from a financial standpoint, to attempt to antagonize the Western buyer against the Eastern producer. When an agreement is formed, and a man has made his plans, depending upon such being carried out; has shaped his affairs to fit in with expected results, it is seldom any rearrangement can prove equally satisfactory. Men usually consider consequences before issuing invitations, and when an unavoidable mistake has been made, they quit themselves like men. This case, however, seems to be an exception, and to say the least about it, was a most unbusinesslike procedure, whoever the parties were that suggested it. The extensive Southern Manitoba breeder has now intimated that buyers on the outlook for good stock will reap the advantage, owing to this carload not going East, and the best is all required in this country.



HAFOD CARBON (16170) 340 C. S. B.
Imported English Shire stallion.
OWNED BY WILLIAM MOSSIP, ST. MARY'S, ONT. (SEE GOSSIP, PAGE 38.)