

BREAKING THE COLT.

Teaching Him to Take the Bit and Wear the Harness.

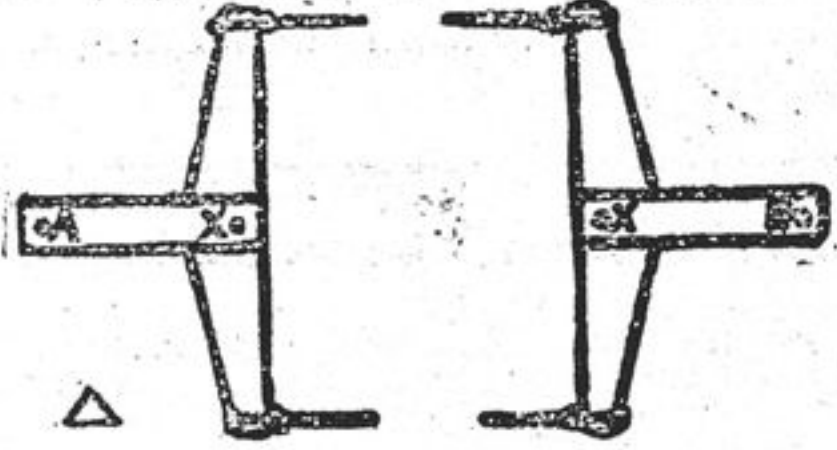
Bitting and harnessing should not be done by driving or riding, but by putting a light bridle with an ordinary snaffle bit on the colt and leaving it on for a few hours each day until he ceases to "fight the bit," after which gentle pressure by the use of the checkrein attached to a surcingle should be given and the pressure gradually increased by shortening the check until we get him to hold his head in about the position we want. This teaches him to carry a good head and at the same time to yield to pressure upon the bit. His mouth becomes accustomed to it, and we avoid the sore mouths so often seen in colts when they are driven or ridden without preliminary fitting.

Then harness should be put on and the colt allowed to run in a large box stall or paddock for a few hours each day until he becomes accustomed to having the harness put on, to wearing it and having it removed without fear or nervousness. He is then ready to be driven, which may be done either with a good mannered mate or singly. I do not think it wise to drive two colts together at first. In fact, I prefer teaching a colt to go singly first, and then we seldom have trouble when we want him to go with a mate, but many prefer driving him with a steady but prompt old horse first. Whichever we do, I think we should drive him a few times with just the harness before hitching to a rig.

It is well to give him a few lessons this way first. Teach him to stand, go on, back, etc., and allow him to see all the sights that are liable to frighten him. When he is hitched we should see that both harness and rig are strong. The idea that "any old thing" is good enough to hitch a colt to is entirely wrong. The "old thing" may break and the colt injure himself or run away and thereby learn habits that he is very slow to forget. Have things so strong that they are not liable to break, and be in a position to conquer him without violence or harshness if he acts badly, as will sometimes occur notwithstanding all our trouble. If driving singly it's wise to use a kicking strap for the first few times.—Farmers Advocate.

Power For a Pump.

In answer to several requests for a device to transmit power from a windmill to a pump where the well is several hundred feet distant we give the following plan, says Iowa Homestead. The illustration shows two triangles, one of which is to be attached at the well and the other at the mill. Each



DEVICE FOR WINDMILL AND PUMP.

triangle is supported firmly to a post or beam by a bolt which acts as a joint at the hole marked X. At the hole marked A the pump rod is attached, while the windmill rod is attached to the other triangle (at B) correspondingly. The two triangles then face each other as in illustration and are attached to each other by strong wire at the eyes in the upper and lower ends. The triangles are made of two inch hard wood to be satisfactory and lasting. The principle in which the device works will be seen at a glance.

Results of Fertilizing.

Heavy applications of fertilizers do not always give results the first year. Often the effects are more apparent the second year, says a writer in American Agriculturist. Several years ago I fertilized an asparagus bed with tankage in March. A big crop was looked for the same season, but I did not get it. After cutting was stopped that year the plants made a tremendous growth of tops, and the following spring I harvested a record breaking crop. This seems to be evidence that it takes two seasons or more to get the full benefit of fertilizer. Some other peculiarities I have noticed are that when one year roots are set out, all grow well if properly planted, but five year roots will nearly all die. When shoots come through the ground, a stone may scratch one side so that it will gradually contract and become crooked, often resembling a gigantic fishhook.

Getting Rid of Striped Beetle.

Remember this, from a Pennsylvania adener, for next spring: Last spring he striped cucumber beetle attacked my cucumbers, squashes and melons by the millions, it seemed. Instead of applying bone dust or tobacco dust I this season applied dried blood with most excellent results. The ground among the plants, as well as the leaves of the plants, was covered with the stuff. Of course the dose must be repeated after a rain. I think I shall hereafter make use of it, bugs or no bugs, as the deep green foliage of the plants is ample evidence of its value as a fertilizer.

Chicks In Cold Weather.

Give chickens a chance to get out into the sunshine as often as possible. They can endure quite cold weather without feeling it. In fair weather, if the wind does not blow, do not keep chickens confined any day when the temperature is not lower than 15 above zero. Corn is a good feed for winter. Give the fowls a full feed of it at night. They like it very much if it has been boiled, feeding it to them while it is warm.

A Small Flock of Sheep.

It is surprising how few farmers keep sheep. If they knew how little it costs to maintain a small flock, almost every general farmer would have one. Further than this, a small flock always supplies wool, which can be sold at a time when there is little ready money coming in. This income is exceedingly convenient and should always be considered. Wool and mutton can be produced at almost no cost and with very little trouble. With most farmers it is simply a matter of getting started. Begin with eight or ten sheep, and if the farm is small do not let the flock exceed thirty. One of this size can be easily maintained and will bring in more ready money and be a source of greater satisfaction than any live stock that can be kept.—Orange Judd Farmer.

What Tuberculin Is.

Tuberculin is the result of many experiments to obtain a curative antitoxin, or serum, for tuberculosis. It is a product of the growth of the tubercle organism in artificial cultures, but it is a perfectly harmless product when properly used. It will neither cure nor cause the disease to spread in an affected animal; neither will it injure a healthy one in any way. In skilled hands it is almost infallible, and with ordinary judgment the errors are only a few per cent. In Pennsylvania 4,000 animals that had given characteristic reactions were slaughtered and examined, and the presence of the disease was demonstrated in all but eight.—Farming.

The Cornish Indian Fowl.

The popular notion of the origin of the Cornish Indian, formerly known as the Cornish Indian Game, is now said by some one who professes to know to be wide of the mark. According to this gentleman, the Cornish In-



CORNISH INDIAN MALE.

dian was originated in India by crosses of the Malay, Sumatra and native common stock found in the vicinity of either Bombay or Calcutta. The name, he says, was given to them in honor of their originator, an English fancier named Cornish. The Cornish Indian is not a heavy layer, but is a very fine table fowl of large size, with perhaps the greatest percentage of breast and thigh flesh to total weight of any fowl in existence.

Cows Need Fresh Air.

Do not keep the cows too closely confined this winter. Let them become accustomed to remaining out every day that is not stormy. Unless ventilation and sanitation be perfect, confining cows all the time weakens their constitutions, and their health is liable to be damaged. Cows in this condition are also much more liable to disease by infection, such as tuberculosis.—Farm Journal.

Loss of Nitrogen.

The following shows conclusions arrived at as a result of experiments at the Minnesota experiment station: The loss of nitrogen from four grain farms in ten years amounted to from three to five times more than was removed by the crops. This loss was due to the rapid decay of the humus and the liberation of the nitrogen, which forms an essential part of the humus. The losses of nitrogen from these grain farms were practically the same as from the experimental plots at the university farm. The results of the tests on the small plots are in accord with the field tests in different parts of the state.

Grooming a Horse.

If the horses are brushed off every morning the first thing, they are ready for business at any time during the day. Many persons dread grooming a horse; but, like other things, it is easy when you know how. There is a right and a wrong way. The right way: Take a stiff brush in one hand and a soft one in the other. With the stiff brush, preferably a rice root brush, rub the coat, loosening the dust. Have the soft brush follow it closely and clean and smooth the hair until it shines. Keep both brushes active all the time. At the legs and fetlocks rapidly work both brushes back and forth with the leg between. It is excellent exercise.

The Horse Stable.

It is more conducive to the health and hardiness of horse stock to be kept in barns that are well ventilated and not warmed by artificial heat than in close and steam heated stables. Pure air is as essential to pure blood and good health as is pure food.—Horse Breeder.

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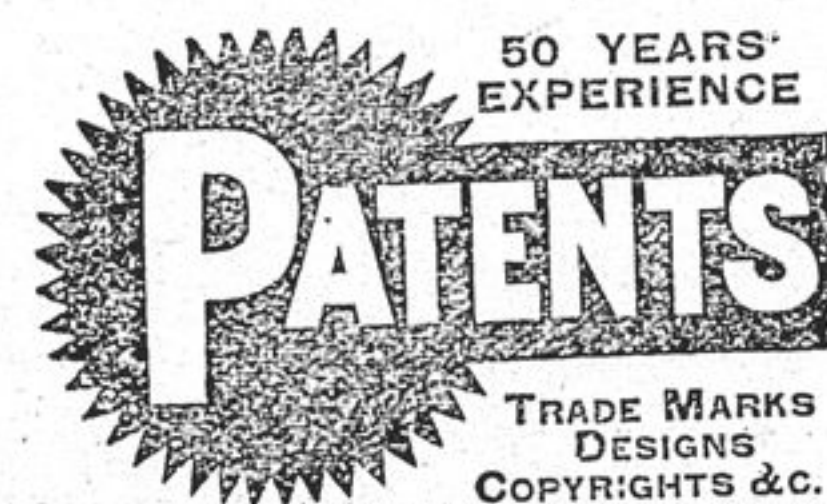
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