

DISCARDING THE WHIP.

FAMOUS REINSMEN WHO SELDOM RESORT TO THE LASH.

GEERS, DOBLE, MARVIN AND OTHERS RELY ON A HIGHER ORDER OF SKILL. DOBLE'S STYLE AS ILLUSTRATED AT ROCHESTER IN 1891. A VETERAN LONG ISLAND HORSEMAN'S EXPERIENCE.

[Published by request.]

It is a significant fact that the most successful reinmen on the trotting turf are those who make the least use of the whip in training and driving their horses. Edward Geers, the man who drives Robert J., 2:01 3/4; Hal Pointer, 2:04 1/2; Fantasy, 2:06; and all the other fast trotters and pacers owned by C. J. Hamlin, of Buffalo, seldom resorts to the whip, even when driving the tightest kind of a finish. No matter how desperate the contest may be, he sits as still as a statue, steadies his horse, and relies almost wholly upon rein and voice to rouse the animal to his best effort. Once in a long time, Geers will tap a horse sharply in the last few strides of a mile, but nobody ever saw him strike a horse hard enough to punish him, either in a race or in his work. He seems to possess a knack of getting the last ounce out of the trotter without it. His horses uniformly finish more gamely and resolutely than those driven by any other man on the turf. "A Geers' finish" is a stock expression among the trotting fraternity, and every circuit follower uses it when he wishes to convey the idea of a regular grandstand rush in the homestretch.

Budd Doble, who drove Dexter, 2:17 3/4; Goldsmith Maid, 2:14; and Nancy Hanks, 2:04, to their champion records, is another famous driver who uses the whip only on rare occasions. Like Geers, he is one of those master reinmen whose talent is away above the crude standard of the man who relies on force and punishment to get his horse to the front. One of the most brilliant drives that Doble ever made was at the Rochester Grand Circuit meeting of 1891 with the shortbred Missourihorse McDoel. He had won two heats, forced out in fast time by the Canadian horse Alvin, while his most dangerous competitor, Rosaline Wilkes, took matters easy waiting for the third round to make her play for the overthrow of the favorite. In the third heat McDoel and Rosaline turned into the homestretch on almost even terms, but the latter, a fresh mare and a game one, had all the advantage over the yellow Missourian, who was both soft-hearted and in distress, and every turfman who had followed the line expected to see the Wilkes mare win handsily at the wire.

DRIVING AS A FINE ART.

McDoel began to falter and swerve before he reached the distance post, 100 yards up the stretch, but Doble roused him with such wonderful skill that he hung on in spite of himself. When it came to the last fifty yards the driver of Rosaline Wilkes was whipping with all his might, while Doble, lifting at every stride the exhausted horse that he had on his hands, never used the whip at all, relying as it seemed on some occult power more potent than punishment to rally the tired McDoel. After the horses had crossed the line, nose and nose, in a dead and the tension was relaxed. Doble's trotter reeled and wobbled and came to a standstill within thirty yards of the wire, while Turner's mare went on strong, straight and true, as if she were good for another mile. The two styles of driving were never better illustrated than in this heat. Doble did not win, but the storm of applause which followed the finish was all for him and his wizard-like work with McDoel.

In his work on "Training the Trotting Horse" Charles Marvin cautions young reinmen to use the whip sparingly with sluggish horses, and with high-mettled ones not at all. Marvin came into prominence twenty years ago as the backwoodsman who converted Smuggler from a pacer to a trotter, and at the latter gait drove the blaze-faced stallion to victory over Goldsmith Maid, the queen of the turf. Other trainers are probably superior to Marvin as race-drivers, but in the field of developing speed in colts the man in gray is in a class by himself. While he was in the employ of Governor Stanford at Palo Alto he brought out more champion colt trotters than any other five men in the business, and at one time, in 1891, he enjoyed the unique distinction of having developed, trained and driven the holders of the fastest all aged record for trotters, the fastest record for stallions, for yearlings, two-year-olds, three-year-olds, four-year-olds and five-year-olds.

Perhaps his greatest success

was with Sunol, now owned by Robert Bonner. From the day she was foaled the big daughter of Electioneer and Waxang was a veritable bundle of nerves, requiring the most careful treatment to prevent her becoming unmanageable in the excitement of a race. Marvin took the high-strung filly out of the Palo Alto kindergarten, and in successive years captured with her the champion record for two-year-olds, three-year-olds, four-year-olds, five-year-olds and full-aged trotters, a feat which no other harness horse has ever accomplished.

On the subject of whips, the famous trainer says: "A few colts are so dull and sluggish that a whip is necessary to infuse ambition into them; but, while I always carry a whip, it is more for ornament than for use with youngsters. With a nervous, highly organized colt, it is seldom necessary, and its abuse is absolutely ruinous in results. How often you see a man apply the whip to a young colt when he breaks, yet that is something that a boy ten years old ought to have too much sense to be guilty of. To frighten and punish a colt at the very time when he needs to be steady and reassured is certainly not a sensible thing to do, and a man who will do it is not fit to get into a sulky, especially behind a well-organized youngster of fine fibre."

GOVERNOR STANFORD'S THEORY.

Governor Stanford, who was himself a horseman of remarkable practical knowledge and sagacity, on the subject of training trotters, and who, more than any other man, is responsible for the advanced training methods in vogue among trotting horse drivers of to-day, was even more strongly opposed than his head trainer, Marvin, to the promiscuous use of the whip. He used to spend day after day under the spreading oaks by the track at Palo Alto watching the young trotters take their work, and woe betide the employe who lost his temper and vented his anger on the colt he was driving by an application of the whip when the Governor was around. The offender never drove another colt at Palo Alto. It is well known, that on one such occasion a man who stood next to Marvin on the stall of trainers was summarily dismissed at the height of the trotting season when his services were most needed for a single stroke of the whip.

Two or three years ago, when Directum, Little Albert, Mattie H. and other famous trotters were in Monroe Salisbury's hands, the California turfman and trainer came in for a good deal of severe criticism on account of the way his drivers used the whip. Little Albert and Mattie H. were drubbed numerically at times under instructions from Salisbury, but everybody who followed the horses through the circuit saw them grow less and less formidable under this treatment toward the close of the campaign. Little Albert, one of the gamest trotters that ever set foot on a racetrack, got so he would sulk and sour and settle back in harness, refusing to try whenever struck with a whip. Salisbury says he has learned a good deal about training and racing trotters during the last two or three years, and this subject seems to be one of those on which his notions have undergone a change, for McDowell, his driver, scarcely touched Alex with a whip last season, and there was a noticeable absence all round of the practice for which the Pleasanton turfman had gained an unenviable reputation in former years.

A WORD IN THE COLONEL'S EAR.

The following story is told of the Forty-eighth Georgia Regiment in the Atlanta Constitution. As the regiment was on the march to Gettysburg some of the soldiers stepped out of the ranks and confiscated a couple of geese, and one of the drummers unheeded his drum and put the captured birds in it. Shortly afterward the Colonel came along, and, noticing the drummer failed to give his usual drum whacks, rode up and said:

"Why don't you beat that drum?" "Colonel," said the startled man, "I want to speak to you." The Colonel drew close to him and said:

"Well, what have you to say?" The drummer whispered: "Colonel, I've got a couple of geese in here."

The Colonel straightened up and said:

"Well, if you are sick, you needn't play," and then rode on.

That night the Colonel had roast goose for supper.

show pleasure in doing so. My advice to all trainers is to discard the whip and try a better and more satisfactory and humane way of teaching these willing and obedient servants what is required of them."

DR. BUCHANAN TO BE ELECTROCUTED IN JULY.

The New York Court of Appeals ordered this afternoon that Dr. Buchanan be executed by electricity during the week beginning Monday, July 1st.

A Reward of \$100 For Two Men.

Governor O'Ferrall, of Va., has offered a reward of \$50 each for the arrest and conviction of two men who assaulted with rock Private Bayless, of Company B. Blues Battalion, and Private Fields, of the Petersburg Grays, while doing picket duty at Pocahontas.

Carlisle Hanged in Effigy.

A special from New Orleans says that Secretary Carlisle was hanged in effigy in Natchitoches Thursday night on account of his anti-silver speech. There appeared on the streets in the evening a placard announcing that there would be a hanging at the bridge at 8 o'clock. A large number of people assembled, imagining there was to be a lynching. They found, instead, the effigy of the Secretary of the Treasury hanging on the bridge. Natchitoches is a mit for free silver.

ROBBED OF THE WEEKLY PAY ROLL.

Alfred Oxley, paymaster and bookkeeper at the foundry of John Wood, Jr., in Conshohocken, Va., was assaulted and robbed on Saturday while making up his weekly pay roll of the employes. A strange man entered the office and asked for Mr. Wood. Being told that Mr. Wood was in Norfolk, Va., the stranger drew a package of black pepper from his coat pocket and threw the contents into Oxley's face. Blinded by the pepper, Oxley staggered, and was followed by the man, who struck him with his fist and felled him to the floor. Before Oxley could arise or call for help the man grabbed a bag containing \$300 and fled. He has not yet been captured.

THE DOG DIGESTED THE CASH.

A Pottsville, Pa., telegram says: John Sheehan is wondering how he is to recover his hard-earned wages. He was paid \$11 in paper money, and taking it home, placed it on the cupboard for his wife. Joan has a dog and a little son. The boy took the money off the cupboard to play with it, and the dog wanted also to enjoy the sport. He made a grab for the money, pulled it out of the boy's hand and chewed it up. Sheehan was frantic when he learned of his loss. He took the dog out on the hill and shot him. Then he dissected the canine, but found only one corner of a \$1 bill.

THE DOG DIGESTED THE CASH.

John Reese, of Great Neck, one of the old st horsemen of Long Island, who has had a vast experience with all sorts of vicious and fractions horses, says the whip is a damage to all horses whose spirit and ambition prompt them to sufficient action. His experience leads him to believe with Marvin that the natural effect of whipping in case of fright or nervousness is simply to add to the excitement. "If the animal is vicious or balky," he says, "the whip increase the angry temper, while gentle, patient treatment with quieting words in a reassuring tone dispels fear and calms excitement. In my early experience with horses I used the whip as others did and as I thought I must use to compel submission to my demands, and I may say that good success as any trainer I met and better than most, but I soon found that forced submission with many dispositions was neither as good nor as lasting as willing obedience. By degrees I learned that patient treatment brought better results than severe methods, and discarding the whip for the correction of first one fault and then another, I came to look upon it as worse than useless, and cast it aside altogether and for all time to come. And now, after sixty years' constant practice with all kinds of untrained and badly trained horses, it is a genuine pleasure to see how soon horses will learn to execute my wishes and many of them to

"It Saved my Boy"



MASTER GROVER REYNOLDS.

Daniel W. Reynolds, Watson, Ill. writes Dr. Fenner, Fredonia, N. Y.: "For nearly two years my little son Grover, aged about four, suffered from Kidney and Bladder disease. Finally a gravel was forced into the urethra and remained there producing Blood Poisoning and dropsical effusion. I refused consent to a surgical operation fearing the result, and commenced giving your Kidney and Backache Cure."

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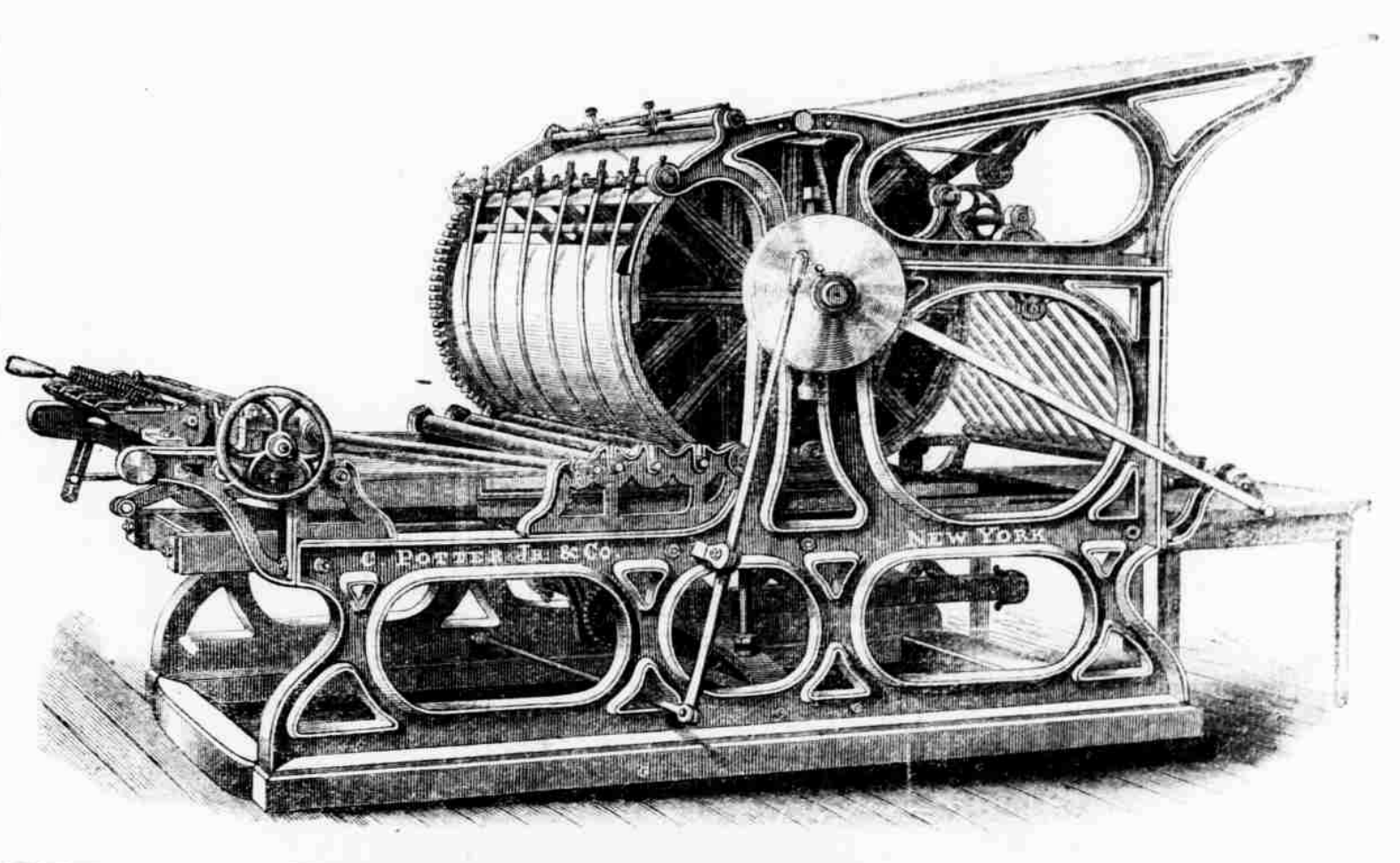
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