

had kept those heels down in proportion to the toe, he would have prevented such a bad case of contraction. The heels should be kept low in all cases where the feet are inclined to become contracted.

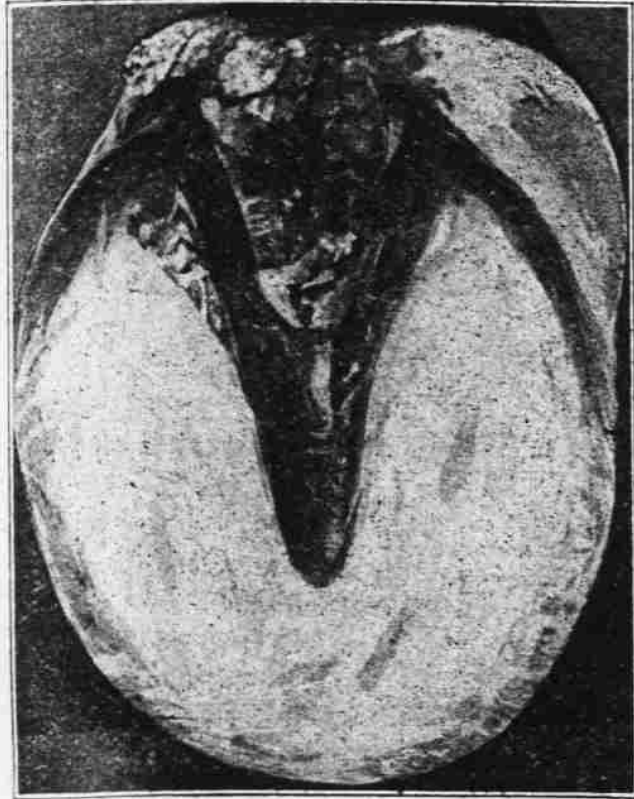


Fig. 6.—This represents the same foot properly dressed. The lowering of the heels has almost removed the contraction from the foot. What is commonly called "opening the heels" and leaving them grow too high, bring on most cases of contraction in horses' feet.

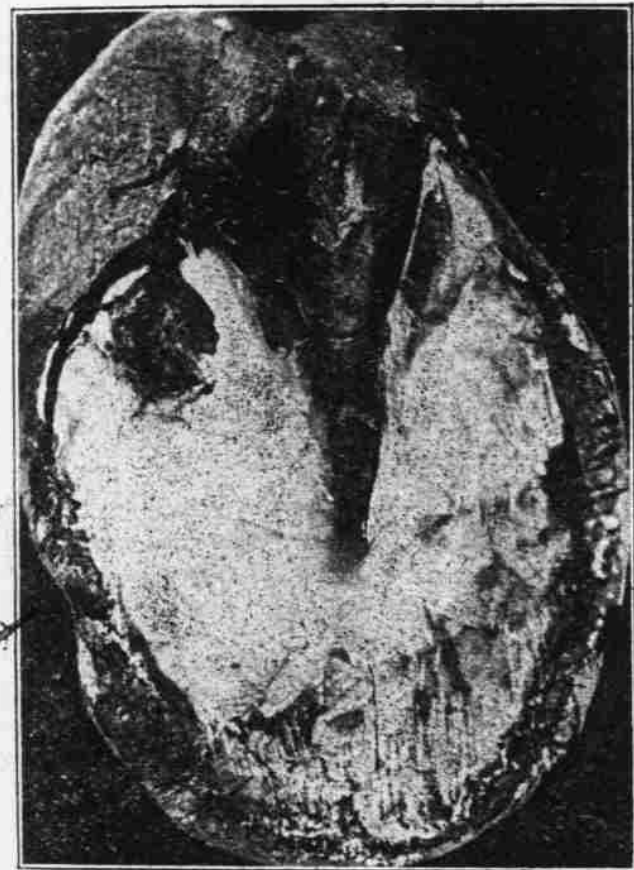


Fig. 7.—We have here a badly contracted foot, caused by opening

the heels and a general unleveling of the foot, where a poor mechanic has been at work.

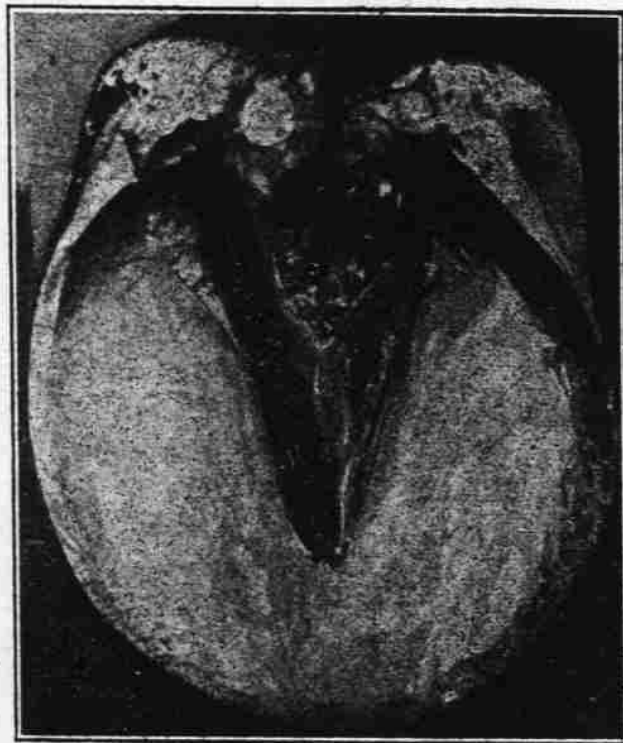


Fig. 8.—This shows us a foot where a good mechanic has been at work, but sometimes a good workman will make a mistake, and in this instance he has pared the heels too low. While the heels should be pared down in proportion to the toe, still they should not be weakened.

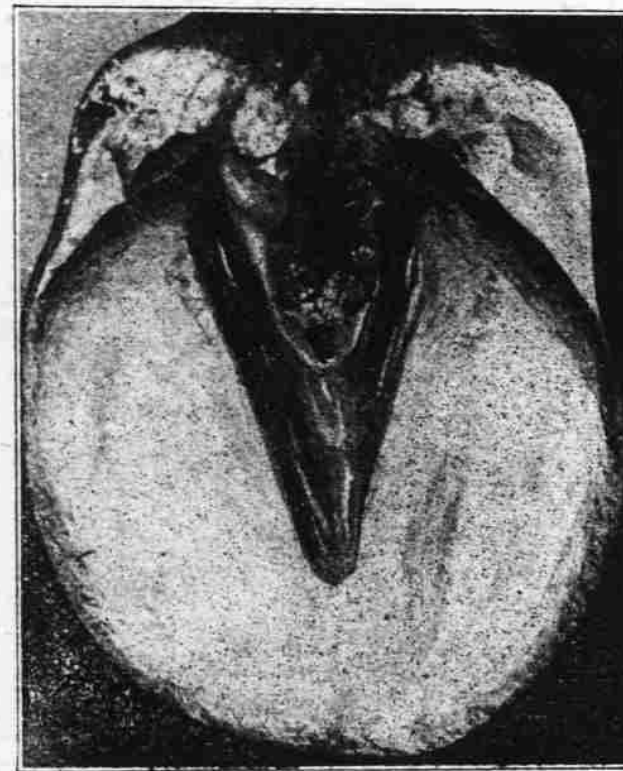


Fig. 9.—Here is a foot properly leveled for the reception of the shoe.



Fig. 10.—We are shown here the shoe properly fitted by a good workman. The shoe is fitted level; the heels are not sprung and it is properly nailed on.



Fig. 11.—This illustrates a poor job of clinching and finishing a foot

and also a poor job of driving the nails,



Fig. 12.—We have here the same foot with the shoe properly nailed on; the foot properly finished and the heel nail left out, as it is better to leave a nail out altogether than to drive it poorly into the foot.

These few illustrations give some idea of the possibilities of injury to a horse by malpractice. The right to earn a livelihood in any trade

does not carry with it the right to destroy. Shoeing is a profession, acquired only by the hardest manual exertion as well as by the largest experience and closest study. The ignorant, lazy, and unskilled man, when not so known, is now in States without license on a parity with the most skilled, studious, and experienced, and is a menace not alone to owners but to the intelligent, studious, and hard-working shoers. He destroys the property of the one and injures the business of the other. He is a curb upon the ambition of the profession to find its due reward for the highest class of service, and society would be bettered by his exclusion until he has become sufficiently skilled.

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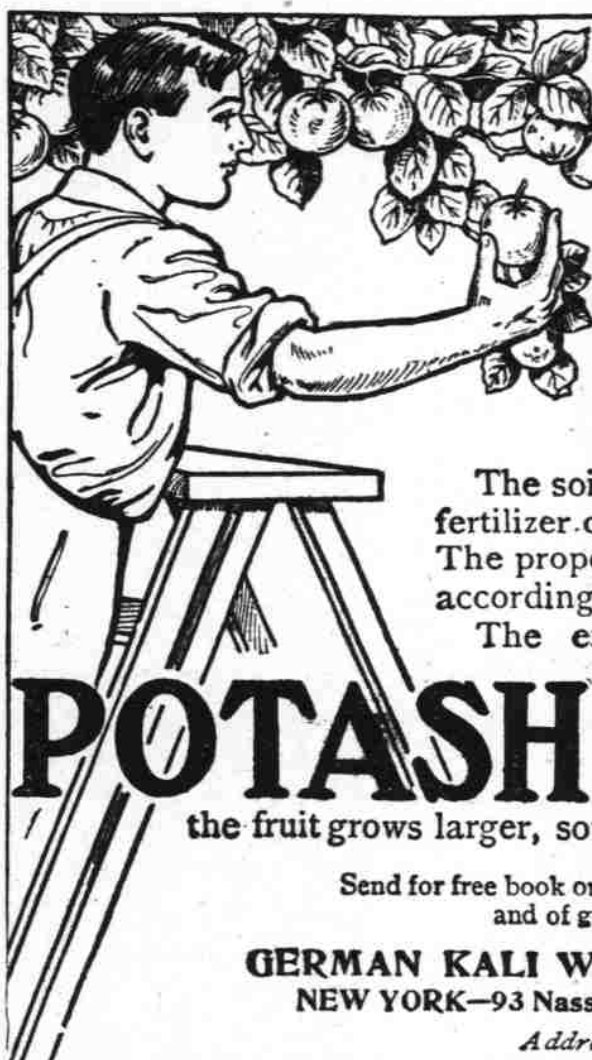
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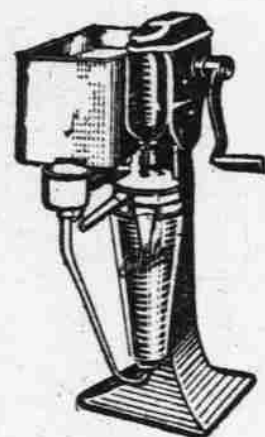
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