



**Cavalarice, or the English horseman : contayning all the art of
horse-manship, as much as is necessary for any man to
understand ... together, with the discovery of the subtil trade
or mystery of hors-coursers ...**

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CAVALARICE,
Or
The Tracconer,

Contayning the Art and Secrets which
belong to Ambling Horses,
and how that pace is to
be taught to any Horse
whatsoever.

The Fourth Booke.

Newly corrected and augmented.

By Geruase Markham.

LONDON,

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and are to be sold at his shop neere
the little north doore of Saint
Paules Church at the signe
of the Gam. 1617.





To the Right Honorable and most
Noble and mighty Lord, THOMAS HO-
WARD, Earle of Arundell and
Surrey.

Here is nothing (most Noble and mighty Lord) which hath more incyted me to this weary labour (which I hope I haue to good purpose effected) then the grace which I haue noted both your Noble selfe and other Princes of your ranke, liberally bestow vpon the Art of Horse manship both by your own practise and the incouragement of others; which doth not only assure me that no Peoce shall make the glory of Warre neglected, but doth also make me hope to liue to see in this Nation as famous a nurserie of Hors-men and Horses, as euer hath bene boasted in Italy or Naples, and though my boldnesse in daring to present my ruder skill to your honorable iudgement, may iustly be challenged to haue no garments but a naked boldnesse, yet the loue I am bound to beare to that most honorable house (into which you haue now most happily planted your selfe) I hope will be both my defence and protection, by which I knowe you will both take delight to pardon, and my selfe bee prou'd to esteeme my selfe
your seruant.

GERVASE MARKHAM.



To all those which loue their ease
in Trauelling.

AMongst all the partes or members into which the Art of Hors-manship is deuided, there is none so generally followed, or hath got more professors to defend it then this Arte of Ambling, and yet is there no part of Horse-manship more misgouerned or vildely handled by vnskilfull workemen, through whome there is not onely multitudes of Horses spoyled and made in seruiceable, but also a great company of skilfull Hors-men which know the true vse of Art, obscur'd and kept vnder by the vaine boastes of most ignorant impostors, which to preuent and that euen common sence may knowe how to make the best election, I haue in this Treatise following, set downe the rules both of true Art and false practise, reconciling them so together with the strength of my best reasons, that I doubt not but they will giue to any peaceable minde a full satisfaction, in which if any man finde profite, it is the thing I onely wish them, and if they vouchsafe me thanks, it is enough for my labour. And so wishing you all the ease that can be coupled to labour, I leaue you to your owne thoughts of me and of my workes,

Farewell.

G.M.



CAVALARICE.

The fourth Booke.

CHAP. I.

Of Ambling in generall, and of the uses and commodities thereof.

I Did some few yeares agone, partly to giue the world a little taste of that knowledge, which many good Horse-men had neglected in their writings, and partly to shew a long absent friend the remembrance of my loue, writ a little sleight Treatise touching the making of Horses to amble, which because I haue found by many of my worthie friendes gentle accepted, albe the breuitie and obscuretie might well haue bene controled; I thought it not amisse in this booke to demonstrate the whole Art in as large and ample characters as is fit for the vnderstanding both of the better or more duller spirit: wherefore

first

first to speake of Ambling in generall, it is that smooth and easie pace which the labour and industrie of an ingenious braine hath found out to relieue the aged, sicke, impotent and diseased persons, to make women vnder-take iorneying, and so by their community to grace societie; to make great men by the ease of trauell more willing to thrust themselues into the offices of the common-wealth, and to doe the poore both reliefe and seruice: it makes him whome necessity or (as the Proverbe is) whom the deuill driues, not to be vext with two torments, a troubled minde and a tormented body: to conclude, ambling was found out for the generall ease of the whole world, as long as there is either pleasure, comerce or trade amongst people.

Now for the manner of the motion, and the difference betwixt it and trotting, it cannot bee described more plainly then I haue set downe in my former treatise, which is, that it is the taking vp of both the legs together vpon one side, and so carrying them smoothly along, to set them downe vpon the ground euen together, and in that motion he must lift and winde vp his fore-foot somewhat hie from the ground, but his hinder foote hee must no more but take from the ground, and as it were sweep it close by the earth. Now by taking vp of both his legs together vpon one side, I meane hee must take vp his right fore-foote, and his right hinder foote, For as in the contrary pace when a horse trots, hee takes vp his feete as the *Italian* saies *Trauatto* which is crosse wise, as the left hinder-foot, and the right fore-foot, or the left fore-foot, and the right hinder-foot; and in that motion must lift vp his hinder-foot to the full height of his forefoote, presenting a kinde of gallantrie or vaulting pride in his
pace,

pace, so this ambling motion in his smooth stealing away, and as it were with a soft and tender touching of the ground, carries his burthē away gently without shaking, For as if you precisely marke a Horse when hee trots vnder a man, you shall see that the taking vp of his legges crosse wise, doth likewise aduance the mans body crosse wise, as thus : The Horse lifting from the ground his right fore-foote, and his left hinder-foote, raiseth with them the mans right thigh and his left buttocke, and then setting them downe together, giues as it were a kinde of iumpe to the mans whole body, and the higher such a horse takes vp his hinder foote, the harder is his pace, for indeed it is onely the taking vp of the hinder foote, which makes the pace hard or easie; whence it comes that trotting horses which take their hinder feete gently, and but a little way from the ground, and so set them downe tenderly, are cald easie trotting horses : So ambling horses taking vp both their legges, vp together of one side, as the right fore-foote, and the right hinder foote, doe in their motion not lift vp but carry as it were in a direct line, the mans right thigh, and his right buttocke, and so setting down his feete gently, giue the man neither iump nor other distemper, but folowing on with his left feet likewise, carries the mans whole body away in an eeuē smoothnes. Now when a horse either for want of true teaching, or by some other natural custome, takes vp his hinder feete in his amble, either higher then he should doe, or sets them down harder then he should doe, which you shall know by the wauing or shaking of the nether part of his taile (for when a horse goes smooth and right, his taile will hang straight and comely) then such horses are said to roule in their pace, to be rough
and

and vn-easie amblers. Now for the first originall or beginning of ambling, *Plinie* writes it came from that part of the coast of *Spaine*, which wee call *Galicia*, where (saith he) Horses doe amble naturally, and that other men and other Nations from the imitation of them (finding the commoditie of such ease in long and tedious iournies) began the practise of compelling Horses to amble with a certaine deuise made of cordes and lines fettred and bound about horses feet: from whence I gather this, that doubtles the Tramell of which I am to speake more largely hereafter, was the first and most auncientest inuention that euer was found out for the making of horses to amble, and what other deuises or witty secondings haue since those times issued frō mens braines or labors, to bring this worke to passe by any other method, I verily imagine to haue their beginnings from this, as the very fountaine from whence other men draw their riuers.

Now that the horses of *Galicia* doe naturally amble, or that any other horse whatsoeuer doth naturally amble, as in my former small treatise, so in this I differ in the opinion, and thinke as therein I manifest, that where Foales amble, there is either some imperfection of strength, or some casuall mischance, which did alter the first determination of nature: For it is most certaine, that what Horse soeuer doth amble of himselfe without either instruction or compulsion, hath either weakenes in his body, or imperfection in his spirit; so that wanting either abilitie to raise his body aloft forcible, or spirit to thrust out his natural pride gallantly, he is forced to bring his feete to this smooth and humble passage.

Now of ambles there bee two sorts, a thorow amble, and a broken amble, or a certaine amble, and incertaine amble,

amble, the thorow or certaine amble is that which is contained in thorow and certaine strides, where the horse passes his feete forth at the length smoothly, certainly, and with deliberation in short space, and with few paces passing ouer a good quantitie of ground, carrying his burthen iust, euen, and without trouble; and this amble is that which appertaines both to those horses which we call naturall amblers, and to those horses which being of coole and temperate dispositions, are by arte and industrie brought to bee more perfect in ambling, then those which we say haue it by nature.

The broken or incertaine amble, is that which is contained within the compasse of the selfe same motion that the certaine amble is; onely it is done in short, quicke, and busie strides, a horse taking vp his feet both of one side so thicke and roudly together, that a mans eye cannot say, that his feete are downe, before they bee vp againe, with many steppes, and in a long time going but a little way, which of some Horsemen is called a Traine, or Racke, and it is neuer to be seene either in Foales, vnridden Horses, or Horses that are of any coolenesse or sobrietie in iourneying: but for the most part it is euer in hot franticke small Naggs, which trotting exceeding well, are compelled to amble by some disorderly compulsion. It many times comes to Horses by ouer-riding them; so that through wearinesse, not being able to aduance their bodies so lustily as in their best strength, they come to this shuffling and broken incertaine pace, which is neither amble nor trot, but a mixture of both, as taking his time keeping from trotting; and his motion of legges from ambling, and so compound this which is called a Traine or Racking.

Now for the horse of *Galicia*, that they are more subiect to this pace of ambling then any other horses bred in *Spain*, I am easily induced to beleeeve it, because it being the coldest, and most barraine part of that continent, must by good consequence bring the weakest and worst Horses, so that wanting both the heat of the Sunne, and the nourishing benefits which other races haue, out of their want of strength they fall to the pace of ambling: and this besides we know by experience, that euen the best bred *Jennets* in all *Spain* haue those weakneses of ioynts and members, that a man shall not see one amongst ten, but is inclined either to a traine or amble. And yet for mine own part, should I haue written of the originall of ambling, I should as soone haue taken this Empire of Great *Britaine* for an example, as any part of *Spain* or *Galicia*, holding, that sure it is with vs as ancient as the vse of trauell, or the first knowledge of the first English Gelding, which Geldings wee finde more naturally addicted to ambling then any stonde Horse whatloeuere, which I take to proceede either from the impediment of their sores when they are first gelt, or else from the coolenesse of their natures when those instruments of heate and lust are taken from them.

Now for the vse of this pace, it is onely for long iournies, where either our necessarie businesse, or seruice to the State, or any other particuler affaيرة calles vs foorth into the world, and makes vs change our domesticall quiet, for such labour and toyle in trauell.

Now for the commoditie thereof, it is the ease of our bodies, preserving vs from aches, conuulsions, chollicks, gallings, and such like torments: it is a maintai-

ner of our healths, by helping vs to vse the best exercise with sufferance and moderation; it is the best preseruer of our estates in this world making vs follow our owne affayres with our owne diligencce, and not like men imprisoned, to trust to halfe-speaking Soliciters. To conclude, take away the ambling Horse, and take away the olde man, the rich man, the weake man; nay, generally all mens trauels: for Coaches are but for Streets, and Carts can hardly passe in Winter. And thus much for the generalitie of ambling, and the profit.

 CHAP. 2.

Why Foales amble from their Dammes, and how to make them amble if they doe not.

THE reasons why a Foale may amble, when it sucks vpon the Damme, or that the first pace which it is seene to tread may bee an amble, are many and diuers, besides those which I haue repeated in my small Treatise, as namely, weakenesses springing from the first generation, or conception; or else mischances in foaling: as when a Foale falles in hollow ground, vneuen ditches, or such like vilde places, where the Foale struing to get vpon the feete, but cannot, doth beate it selfe into such weaknesse, that when it is got vpon the feete, and should goe; it is not able to trot, but euen through extreame faintnesse, shiftes his feete into the pace of ambling. Besides these, (as I sayde) there are other more strong causes of Foales ambling, as namely, if a Foale bee foaled

with weake hooves, so that when it comes to stand vpon the feete, the cronets of the hooves do sinke inward and are painefull to the Foales going. In this case the griefe of the hooves keepe the Foale that it cannot trot, but is forc'd for ease sake to alter the naturall pace, and to amble. This weaknesse of the hooves you may plainly discern, both by the fashion of the hoofe, which will bee flatte and thinne, and also by the cronet of the hoofe, which will not bee swelling outward as it should bee, but flat and sunke inward, without any semblance: and these Horses for the most part doe seldome liue long, nor haue many good conditions: another reason there is for the ambling of foales, and that is, if any man shall come to the Mare when shee hath new foaled, and scarring the Mare, make the foale start vpon it feete before it bee lickt ouer, or that the soles of the hooves are hardned: if this happen, it is most certaine that the foale will not trot, but presently falles to amble: from these and such like occasions hath sprung the opinion that foales naturally doe amble, and owners not seeing them haue any other paces, strongly imagine that ambling is the childe of nature, when indeede it is the bastard, begot by mischance and weaknesse.

But if it bee so, that for as much as those amblers which thus doe amble euen from the wombe of their Dammes, are euer the perfittest, swiftest, and most certaine in their pace, as hardly knowing, at least neuer vsing any other motion. If it be your desire to haue your foales to amble thus vnder their Dammes, albe for mine owne part I haue little fancie or liking therein, yet it is to bee done three seuerall waies: the first
and

and best is, if you take a Foale when it is two or three dayes olde, and that you see it troteth perfectly, and with a fine sharpe Butteris or pairing knife, pare the hoose of the Foale so thinne as may be, so that it cannot treade vpon the ground, but with much forenesse, and then put it to the Dam againe, and you shall see it presently through the tenderesse of the feete, refuse to trot, and instantly strike into an amble. And if after the hardning of the hoofes, you finde that out of spirit and courage it fall to trot againe, then you shall pare the hoofes againe, and so in short time you shall see it will vtterly forget trotting. The second way, but somewhat worse to make a Foale amble, is to take soft linnen ragges, and therewithall to garter vp the Foales hinder legges, three fingers aboue the cambrell, but not to doe it very straight, and so to let it run a weeke or ten daies, in which space it is most certaine the Foale will fall to a readie amble; which as soone as hee doth, you shall immediately vngarter his legges: for the vse of the garters is but onely to bring him to the alteration of his pace. The third way, and worst way, is to watch the Mare when shee is in foaling, as soone as she hath lickt it, and done her office, you shall goe vnto the Foale, and before it be able to arise from the ground, you shall with your hands raise vp the hinder parts from the ground, making it stand vpon the hinder feete, and kneele vpon the fore knees, and so staying it by the hinder loynes, compell it to rise vp before, as for the most part Oxen and Kine doe: and if a man will put any trust in antiquitie, this manner of raising a Foale first from the ground will make it amble; and for mine owne part, though I haue been too scripulous to approue it, yet such strong

reasons to gouerne me, that I doe beleene it is most possible, and as likely as either of the former which I haue experienced.

Now although these three seuerall practises wil bring to effect the thing you looke for, yet each of them hath their seuerall euils, and doe many times create those mischiefes which doe exceede and blemish the vertues for which they were first put into vse, except there bee such Arte, Iudgement, and discretion mixt with the practise, as may both warrant and defend it from following euils: as first, the paring of a Foales hooves so young, and bringing him to such a tendernesse of treading, makes him euer after whilst he is a horse, soft footed; and when he comes to tread vpon stonie or hard ground, you shall see him snapper, and many times tread ye to false; onely out of the tickle and quicke feeling of his feete, besides, the paring a hoofe so young makes it grow thicke and flat, so that when the Foale comes to be a horse, hee will neither beare his shooes so well as otherwise hee would haue done, but also bee much more apt to heat, surbate, or founder with sleight trauell.

Now for the second practise, which is the gartering vp of his hinder legs, that will make a foale haue thicke and foule cambrels, insomuch that his ioynts will appeare gowrie and vsuteable, especially if you garter any thing too strait, it is somewhat dangerous for the breeding of blood spauens in Foales, because the blood being stopt so many daies together within the veanes, doth many times corrupt & take part with other grosse humors, which are the causes of that sorance. Lastly, (and which is the worst fault of all) the ambling pace which is got by this experience is nothing comely to
the.

the eye, (albe it often falls out to bee most easie) for the gathering of the foales legges makes it cramble with the hinder parts, and goe both crookedly and ilfa- uouredly.

Now for the last practise, which is the raying vp of a Foale first behinde when it is new falne, besides that, it is not decent to handle or meddle with such young creatures, till their Dams haue discharged their kindnesse, and that they haue taken naturall and orderly stifning: It is with Horsemen held both vnwholsome and dangerous to the life of the Foale; for it is most certaine, that the compulsion which is therein vsed, brings the foale to a most extraordinarie weaknesse and faintnesse, from whence, and from no other secret, proceeds the alteration of the pace: wherefore since there are thus many dangers in these two carely tryalls; and that the working of these single benefits in foales, may lose all the future hopes and seruices which a man expects when they come to bee horses; I would for mine owne part wish all Gentlemen, how much soeuer they are naturally inclined to their owne ease, to omit and let passe this practising upon foales (except it bee at some speciall time, when, for the bettering of their knowledges, they will try the examples of their reading) and onely to put in vse those practises which are fit for the horses of elder age, as foure, fiue, sixe, or seauen, which hauing both strength and power to performe, and abilitie of bodie and member to endure the vttermost which Art can inuent to impose vpon them, trace more worthy of your labour, and more neere to your present seruice: and of them I purpose wholly to intreat hereafter.

CHAP. 3.

*How to teach a Horse to amble by the helpe of a new
plowde field, and the faults therein.*

THere both haue beene and are many questions raised (not by horsemen, for they know the truth of Arte, but by such as beare the false shapes of horsemen, as amblers, common horse breakers, (alike in qualitie to Mountebanks and Horse cossers) touching the making of horses to amble, some inuaying against one practise, some against another, neuer contented with any one certainty, but with that which either they haue most vsed, or is last in learning, so that to reconcile them, and bring them to an vnitie, both in art and opinion, were a labour tedious and infinite, neither will I spend mine houres so vnprofitably: yet it is most certain, there is but one truth, and one true way to hit the marke we shoote at, which because my knowledge shall neither be a judgement nor Oracle, I will not so much arrogate to say, this is it; but vnfold at large all the severall practises which either my selfe haue experienced, or else noted in other mens labours, together with such errors as pursue and follow euery such method, so that euery ripe and industrious braine, may by comparing the fruits and faults together, easilie iudge which practise deserues the best entertainment, and is most worthy a popular imitation; wherefore to begin with the manner of making horses to amble, the first way that I found, which carryed in it any substantiall ground of reason,

was

was to make a horse amble with the helpe of a new deepe plowd field, where a horses legges might sinke deepe into the earth, and make his labour painfull: and it is to be done in this sort: You shall first put into your horses mouth (if it bee tender and good) a Snaffle, very round, smoothe, and full, of a size somewhat bigger then an ordinarie travelling snaffle, and with that ride your horse into some deepe new plowd field; all the way as you ride into the field, not suffering your horse to trot, but rather to goe foot-pace. Adioyning to this field you shall haue, either some faire Hie-way, or else some plaine greene Meare; and then being vpon the Hie-way, you shall plucke vp your bridle with both your hands, so that your Snaffle may not rest vpon his chap, but vpon the weekes of his mouth, and then spurring him gently forward, see if he will alter his pace, which if hee will not (as it is most likely) you shall then thrust him vpon the deepe Lands, and there you shall toyle him vp and downe for a quarter of an houre, in as swift a foot pace as you can make him goe, suffering him not by any meanes to trot, although hee be neuer so hastie, nor labouring much to make him amble, though you should finde him willingly inclyned thereunto, but onely keeping him to the height of his foot pace, and bearing your bridle reine aloft, as was before told you. After you haue thus toyled him a pretty while vpon the lands, you shal then bring him to the hie-way againe, and then approue to make him amble by holding vp your bridle hand, carrying the reynes thereof straight, and by helping him with the calues of your legges, one after another, and somtimes with your spurres one after another also: as thus; If when he begins to breake and alter his
pace,

pace, hee giue you now and then a little iumpe vpon your right buttocke as hee goes, then you may knowe that he treads false with his right hinder legge, so that then you shall giue him either the calue of your right legge or your right spurre hard to his side; but if hee doe the like with his left hinder foote, then you shall giue him the helpe and correction vpon the left side: for you must knowe that in Ambling it is euer the hinder foote, and not the fore-foote which treadeth false, and if you doe but precisely marke of which of your buttockes, or of which side of your body you feele the most shaking or jogging, you shall easilie perceiue which foote treads amisse, and therefore it is necessa-
 rie that before you take vpon you, to teach Horses to amble, you be so well experienc'd in the knowledge and feeling of the pace, that you may at the first apprehend the least step that your Horse can treade amisse. After you haue thus the second time approu'd your horse vpon the hie-way, if yet notwithstanding hee will not fall to any Amble, you shall then labour him againe vpon the deepe landes, in the same manner as you did before, onely in a swift foote-pace, and thus continue from the landes to the hie-way, and from the hie-way to the landes, without ceasing, or giuing any rest till what through his wearinesse, and what through the restraint and helpe of your hand, hee in the end breake his pace, and beginne to strike an amble, which as soone as hee dooth, you shall cherish him therein, and so faire and softly ride him home, giue him some prouender, and let him rest three or foure houres: then take him foorth againe, and if you finde him any thing vntoward, or forgetfull of what hee last learned, you shall then in the
 same

same manner, and with the same labour, practise him againe, till you make him doe somewhat more, and somewhat better then hee did at the first teaching, and then ride him home againe.

In this manner you shall exercise your Horse, at least thrice a day, till you haue brought him that hee will strike out his Amble truely and freely, which beleeuie it hee will very suddainly doe, because (for mine owne part) I haue neither seene, nor in mine owne practise found any Horse which this manner of labour would not bring to strike a faire amble in lessthen an houre and a halfe trouble, the toyling vpon the landes, and the temper of your hand, which neither restraines him so much that hee can stand still, or vse disorder, nor giuing him so much libertie that hee may trot or gallop, breeding such a confused amazement in his minde, that he can finde no way to ease himselfe, but by the alteration of his pace.

Now whereas the principall respect a man is to haue in teaching Horses to amble, is that they strike their hinder feete home, rather halfe a foote over, then halfe an inch short of their fore-feete; this manner of teaching doth performe it without any trouble or toyle of the Rider, because the Horse being brought to his amble out of a foote pace, hee dooth euer strike out his feete to the vttermost length, and begins his amble in the longest strides that may be. Also this kinde of instruction hath no neede of masse or heavy shooes, to bring downe the hinder feete, but the very toyle in his foot-pace vpon the deepe earth, is as sufficient as any poysse or waight a man can denise for the purpose.

Of all the seuerall wayes to make a Horse amble
with

with the hand onely, there is none in my conceit so absolutely praise-worthie as this: both because it deli- uers the pace in easiest and best manner, which is out of a foot pace, and also is governed and accompanied with so many seueral corrections, that a horse cannot so soone erre, as euen the ground on which hee treades (which is deepe plowed lands) and the paine of his owne motions when his feete are misplaced, will giue him notice and helpe for amendment; insomuch, that had not mine experience waded into some better tryals, surely I should giue this method the onely precedencie and superioritie; but so it is, that as it hath in it good show and ground of reason; so it hath also many errors and inconueniences depending vpon it, which doeth blemish much of the better perfection: as first, the carriage of the hand, which governeth the whole mouth by the least and worst part of the mouth, which is the weekes onely, doth pull the best seiled reyne that is, quite out of order, and brings a horse to the putting out of his nose, a gaping with his mouth, and such a generall incertaintie ouer all his bodie, that albe you bring him to the end you desire, which is to amble, yet hee doth by the maner thereof lose so much beautie, grace, and other more carefull perfections, that a Horseman will euen be ashamed of his labour. Againe, if the horse be young and vnwayed that is thus taught, the very toy- ling him vpon the deep lands, will bring him to a weak- nesse in his limbs, to a faintnesse and dispaire in labour; and instead of those encouragements which his youth and ignorance should haue giuen him, he receiues such distast and grieffe, that he will be worse for trauell whilst he liues after: yet I know this maner of teaching horses

to amble, is practised by diuers men of the best fame in this Art, with whome I haue for mine vnderstanding many times argued, and though they haue beene out of their long practise onely addicted to this rule and none other, yet could they not deny the inconueniences; but haue beene faine to stop my discourse with this addage; That there is no profite without discommodity: and he that will haue his horse amble, must indure the inconueniences which follow ambling; but haue esteemed their answeres like their Artes, that is, to bee meere deceites, Fallaces, and Sophistications.

CHAP. 4.

Of making a Horse Amble from his Gallop, or by ouer riding.

FROM this former practise of the plow'd landes (according to my imagination) I thinke hath sprung vp this second practise of making a Horse amble from his gallop, which is deriued from selfe like violence, though in another fashion: for the first doth but bring him to his amble by toyling him in his slowest pace, and this by amazing him in his swiftest; and it is to be done after this manner.

You shall first ride your Horse into some peece of ascending ground, I doe not meane against the side of any steepe hill, or vpon any hanging ground, but vpon such ground as is onely rising apparantly to the eye, and no more; then putting your Horse into a leasurely gallop for some twenty or thirty yardes, you shall vpon the suddaine

sudden by giuing him a hard chock or two in the weeks
 of his mouth, not make him stoppe, but at first as it
 were in a confused manner, make him leaue off his gal-
 loppe, and shuffle his legs disorderly together (which
 naturally euery horse will doe) and so by giuing him ma-
 ny of those chocks and breakings off, you shal in the end
 feele him strike a stroake or two of a perfit amble, which
 as soone as you feele, you shall presently hold your bri-
 dle hand straight, and putting him forward with the
 helpe of your legs, or with your spurres, keepe him vnto
 that pace as long as you can, spurring him somewhat
 hard vpon that side of which you shal feele him to tread
 false, which is euer that which shakes your body most:
 but when you feele him in despite both of your helpes
 and of your corrections, wilfully giue ouer his am-
 ble, and that hee will continue it no longer, you shall
 then put him into his galloppe againe, and as you
 did before, so you shall againe the second time chocke
 him in the mouth, and so bring him to his amble againe.
 This you shall doe so oft, till your Horse come to the
 perfit vnderstanding of your minde, and that he knowes
 all his corrections, labours and torments onely proceed
 from the handling of his secte, contrarie to your dispo-
 sition, which knowledge you shall easily bring vnto by
 making a difference betwixt his well doing, and euil do-
 ing, with cherrishings and punishings, neither anima-
 ting him when hee erres, nor correcting him when hee
 doth as you would desire, which obseruation will so for-
 tifie him, that through delight and feare, he will whol-
 ly frame his actions and motions according to your will
 and Arte in riding.

Now when you haue thus by hourly and incessant
 labour,

labour, brought your horse by litle and litle, as from one step to two, from two to three, and from three to foure, to such perfittnesse, that he will amble some twelue or twentie score yards vpon plaine ground well and truly, then you shall onely by exercise and riding him euery day more and more, and putting him euery day to grounds of more incertaintie and roughnes; In the end make him so cunning and perfit, that no ground or hie-way will be too difficult for him to tread vpon: and truly, thus much I must say for Ambling, that as it is a motion of all motions most easie to be taught vnto any horse, so it is the hardest of all other lessons to bee confirmed and made of continuance in any horse whatsoever, except there bee a certaine naturall inclination in the horse settled and adicted to the pace of ambling, before the beginning of your labour, whence it comes, that many of our horse amblers will make any horse amble for a small road, or the length of a Faire or Market; yet when hee comes to incertaine waies, or long iournies, then he is as farre to seeke in his easie pace as if hee had neuer beene taught the motion; wherfore mine aduice is, when you haue brought your horse thus from his gallop, to strike an amble (which euen nature it self driues him into) that you be not too hasty either to put him vnto foule, durty, or rough waies; or by iourneying to ouer-toyle him in that hee hath but newly learnt, till by former exercise, and increasing by degrees, you finde him both apt and able to performe as much as you shall put vnto him.

This method of teaching I haue seen pursued by sundry of this profession; and haue heard many arguments in defence of it, against other manner of instructions: but for mine owne part, I thinke of it as I thinke of the former,

former, that the toyle is vnorderly, the vnderstanding thereof thrust into a Horse barbarously, and the good effects, which it should worke, are both incertaine and voyde of continuance; it doth, as the method before described doth; that is, marre the Horses mouth, disorder his reyne, and takes from him all the beauties of a good countenance, it puts a Horse in great danger of ouer-reaching, and striking one foote vpon another, from whence many times comes *Quitter-bones*, *Crowne-scabbes* and such like sorances, which are euer to be auoyded, where there is a better way to compasse that which wee labour for.

To this manner of teaching Horses to Amble I may very well ioyne another, which many yeares agoe I saw practised by a *Scottish* Ryder, whome then (in my first beginning) I had heard great commendations of for this Art; so that when I found him curious to show me his skill, I haue watch'd and dogd him in priuate to take notes from his ryding; and I found his order to make a Horse amble was, first to ride his horse into some deepe new plow'd field, and there to gallop him vp and downe till the Horse for want of winde was not able to gallop anylonger, then to giue him breath, and so to gallop him againe till hee found the horse grow faint, and then to bring him from the landes, and some eeuē faire way to put him to amble, by the straitning his bridle hand, and holding vp his head aloft, so that the Horse might not well see the way before him. The wearines hee had formerly brought the horse vnto, vpon the deepe lands, would make him vnwilling to trot, the straitning of his head, and putting him forward with his spurres, would thrust him faster forward then foote-pace, and the want
of

of seeing this way, would make him take vp his forefeet in such a fashon, that hee could well vndertake no pace but ambling: this I haue seene him do twice, and sometimes thrice a day, so that what horse soeuer hee began withall in the morning, hee would euer make amble before night, by which meanes hee got much fame and wealth: but for mine owne part, although I know there is nothing brings a horse sooner to amble then wearinesse and ouer-riding; yet that it should be my practise to instruct horses by such a rule, I cannot but infinitely dislike it, and it needes no further discommendations then the bare title it most properly beares, which is to make horses amble by ouer-riding them; and surely I thinke it was first found out, either by some chollericke person, who seeking to make his horse amble by one of the former rules, and finding him not at the first dash to answere his expectation, hath presently out of his furie false to spurre and galloppe him whilst he could stand, and so almost tiring his horse, hath vpon his wearinesse (as all horses are) found him a great deale more willing to amble: or else it hath proceeded from such a one, who riding some long iourney vpon a trotting horse in hard waies hath whē the horse was weary (as it is the property of al horses) found him of his own accord alter his pace & fall to plain ambling; but whosoever, or howsoeuer it was found out; for mine owne part I cannot either cōmend, or giue allowance vnto it, only for your satisfaction deliuer the maner therof, that when your own desire shal take frō you the beleefe of reason, you may then out of your own experiēce, either allow or disallow what herein hath beene dilated vnto you. And thus much for this kinde of ambling which proceedes from the worst violence.

CHAP. 5.

*How to make Horses to amble by the vse of
Waights.*

NOT farre different in nature, though much more temperate in qualitie, is this manner of teaching Horses to amble by the vse of poise or waight, for albe it do not wearie a horse in bodily labour, yet it weakens and makes feeble his members by suffering an extremitie greater then his strength is able to contend with: for if his burthen bee kept within the abilitie of his power, then it works no new thing, but keepes him still in the state of his first creation, whence it comes to passe, that if you will make a horse amble by waight, eyther that waight must excede in massines, or troublesome, or else no more preuaile, then if such waight were not vsed at all.

This manner of ambling is very generally vsed in this kingdom by sundry professors, yet not al of one fashion; but according to the humors or inuentions, so the manner thereof doth alter: for I haue seene one horsman bring his horse to amble by waight after this manner: he hath first caused to bee cast in the fashion and compass of a pasterne, great rowles or wreathes of Lead, of the waight of some sixe pound a peece, and lapping them in lists and wollen cloth, hath made them fast about the neathermost ioynts or pasternes of the horses hinder legges, and then riding the horse abroad, haue with the helpe of their bridle hand, as is explain'd in former Chapters, tride to alter the Horses pace;

but

but if they haue found, that either the horses courage, or the smoothnes of the way, hath made the horse either not feele, or not respect the waights, but to hold the trotting pace still, then they haue with those waights ridden the horse into some deepe new plowd field, and there with the waights about his heeles to labour him vpon a swift foot-pace, till the horse out of his wearines hath altered, or at least shaued his feet so confusedly together, that hee hath gone betwixt an amble and a trot, then the rider hath brought him into the plaine way, where the horse hath had libertie to cast soorth his legs, and there with his hand hath put him into his amble, which presently I haue seene the horse to vndertake; for what through the waights about his legs, & the wearines he was formerly put vnto, it is impossible the horse should trot, and so by little and little the rider encouraging him, and the horse feeling the ease of the amble to be much more then his trot, I haue seene many horses made very perfit and ready in the pace. Other horsemen I haue seene, which to make their horses amble, haue laid great waights vpon the hinder parts of the horse aboue his fillets iust behinde the saddle, as namely, the waight of ten or twelue stone, and so to ride him first in deepe hie-waies, or plowd ground, and if he doe trot away with any lightnes, then to augment the waight, till he begin to solter or strike his feet false, & then to bring him into some plaine hie-way, and there to put him into his amble with the helpe of his hand & legs, checking him in the mouth with the bridle, & spurring him vpon that side of which you feele his hinder foot treade the softest false. The waight which is vsed for this purpose is most comonly earth, lead, or some such like heavy stuffe:

then needeth little or no Arte to be vsed in this manner of teaching, more then to haue this discretion, that though the waight be more then the horse with conuenience can beare, yet not to be so much as to bruisse his limbes, albe such mischiefes oft spring from such teaching: you must also when you teach a horse thus to amble by waight, let him haue very little rest, but be riding and exercising him euery houre, or once in two houres at the furthest, and as he becomes perfit in his pace, so by degrees to make his burthen lesse and lesse, till he will amble verie readily without any more waight then the Rider only, and then by little and little to traine him vpon rough and vncertaine waies, as sometimes vp the hill, sometimes downe, sometimes oretwart lands, or ouer alyes or dry furrowes: and when he knowes how to take his way vpon such vneuennes, then you may presume his cunning is sufficient. This manner of teaching a horse to amble, is both easie and certaine: yet in my iudgement not of such value as is worthie of any painfull imitation, because the dangers and inconueniences which doe attend it are more then may bee tollerated in so small a benefite: for first, besides the manner of the toile which is vpon deepe lands, and so hath all the mischiefes which are formerly spoken of, the waights also which are to be borne vpon the hinder pasternes, doe not only beat and bruisse the sinewes in those parts, but also vpon the least slippe or false treading, doe hazard those straines which are seldome or neuer cured. Then for the waights which are to be laid vpon his backe, which must so farre exceed as to alter a horses pace, a man shall hardlie carry that temper either of iudgement or hand, as to poise him to a due proportion, and then if hee exceede, hee cyther
 breakes

breakes the backe, swaies the back, or brings him to the consumption of the backe, and if hee make it but a little too light, hee either wastes his labour to small purpose, or else brings to the pace a hacling and vncomelinese, how euer, this is certaine, that a horse which is trayned to his amble by weight, hath euer for the most part danger or disorder brought to his hinder partes; besides the horse that is thus to be trayned, must bee of such a colde and frozen nature, that he will neither start at boggard, stirre with the spurre, or bee troubled with any passion; for if hee shall, there is not then the least affright which will not put him to the hazard of much mischiefe; and if a horse shall but get the smallest cricke in his backe, it is a grieffe that will trouble the best Farrier to know how to amend it, and for the most part they are mischiefes which I have scene seldome repaired.

Now for the taking away the tendernes and constancy of his mouth, the spoyling of his reyne, and the beauty of his countenance, they be so generall both in this, and almost all other courses, which are to make horses amble; that I may very well spare speaking of their losse, because it is most commonly the first worke Amblers goe about to deprive their Horses of those good vertues.

Nowe lastly the labour which a man must take in this manner of teaching is so infinite and incessant, that it both robbes a man of the delight hee should inioy after his wish is effected, and also deprives him of much hope by making him dispaire in so endlesse a labour; to which I may adde this mischiefe, the worst of all other, that I haue not knowne more good horses spoyld and made vtterly in seruiceable by any wilfull course whatsoeuer,

ever, then by this prescript cruell method of making horses amble by weight, and the former intollerable labours.

C H A P. 6.

Of making a Horse to amble out of the hand.

SOME horsemen who haue beene of more temperate and milde dispositions, hauing seene horses brought to amble by the rules before described, and noting the tyranie of the man in tormenting a beast that is created for his vse, seruice, & familiaritie, worse then a ravenous monster or an impoysoning Serpent, haue out of their milder cogitations found out another way to make them amble, which though it be somewhat painefull to the man, yet it is nothing so cruell to the beast; and that is, first to make them amble out of hand, by which I meane that a horse shall be brought to amble perfectly of himselfe, without either carrying the man vpon his backe, or hauing any especiall vse of the mans hand in his ambling, it might more properly be called, *Ambling in the hand*, because the horse is brought thereunto, as the man leads him in his hand, and not rides him; after this manner: First you shall take your horse in a bridle, and lead him alongst some straight wall, and ioyning the horses side thereunto, you shall place your owne bodie close to the shoulder of the horse which is from the wall, that you may, whether hee will or no, hold him vp in a straight furrow: then with your rod, turned backward in your hand, so that it may reach to his buttocke,

you

you shall iert and force him forward, and in the very instant that the horse presses forward, you shall with that hand which is vpon the bridle, giue him a good chocke in the mouth, that you may make him stammer, & shuffle his legs confusedly together; & then presently ease your hand againe, so that hee may neither stand still, nor goe backward, but still keepe his way forward, and at euery two steps to giue him a chocke or two in the mouth to make him shuffle his legs, til you perceiue him to take vp two legs of a side together, and then presently to cherish him, & then to exercise him again after the same maner, till you haue made him to strike two or three strokes of his amble together, and then you shal cherish him more then before. And thus you shall continue to doe, till you haue giuen him a perfit vnderstanding of your minde, and that he may with assurance perceiue wherefore hee is corrected, and wherefore he is cherished.

You shall, during this maner of teaching, by no means suffer him to trot: but if perforce he will, and that at first you cannot keepe him from trotting (as it is very hard in the beginning) you shall then euery stroke that he troteth, turne your bodie about, and with your rod giue him a good iert or two ouer the hinder houghes, and vnder the bellie, because it is euer his hinder parts which tread false in ambling; and then fall to your businesse againe. After this manner you shall be euery houre in the day doing somewhat vnto him, neuer suffering the horse to rest an houre at peace, till you haue brought him to the true handling, or the taking vp of his legs, increasing his labour daily in such sort, that in the end you bring him to amble the whole length of the wall, or an ordinatie road, which is for the most part 5. or sixe score yards:

yardes : when you haue made him perfite thus farre foorth, you shall not then ease any part of his toyle, but continue him still in his houely labour, till you haue made him perfite, and giuen him such delight therein, that hee will amble in your hand, without the vse or neede of any correction whatsoener. This being done, you shall then take the bridle foorth of his mouth, and put vpon his head a plaine chaine, or the gentlest Cauazan, and make him onely with either of them amble as perfity as he did before with his snaffe, obseruing that as hee growes perfiter in skill, so you ease his restraint, and beare the Chaine or Cauazan as gently as may bee, till hee will amble of himselfe, without any touch of the Chaine or Cauazan : then you shall make him amble onely by the vse of his coller, without any restraint. And lastly that he will of himselfe (you running by him with loose reaynes) amble as perfity as when hee hath the greatest restraint whatsoener.

Now you are to remember, that when you first teach your Horse to amble thus by you, if hee be of a slow and dull nature, so that when you carry your hand any thing fraite he will not presse forward, but either stand still, or goe backe; or if hee doe goe, it shall be so slowlie that it shall not exceede a foote pace. In this case you shall haue a foot-man to come behinde him with a rod in his hand, who as you restraine him, shall force him to goe forward, either as fast or as slowlie as you will, till you haue brought him to the knowledge and true vse of the pace, and then you shall vse his helpe no longer; for whatsoener you are to doe after this is effected, onelie vse and practise will bring your horse vnto, without either scruple or amazement; for there is nothing after a
horse.

horse knowes how to take his legges vpright, which brings a horse either to perfitnesse or imperfitnesse, but onely practife. I haue seene some Horsemen (and my selfe also haue done the like) which haue taught this kinde of ambling in a close house or barne, but it is nothing so good, nor so voide of difficultie, as is the vse of the straight wall, if a man can haue one conueniently: but where the straight wall is not to be had, there I preferre the close house, because there a man may lead his horse, either close by the walles, or otherwise, if he lead him in the midst of the house, yet the horse cannot flye much out of order, because the compasse of the walles will not giue him any great libertie.

After you haue made your horse thus perfit, that he wil amble by you in your hand (which amblers call ambling out of hand) so that when either you lead your horse to the water, or to sport, or about any other exercise, he wil vse no other pace but ambling; then (& not before) you shall saddle him, and mounting his back by a temperate carriage of your hand, and by laying your leggs close to his sides, you shal thrust him forward, and make him amble vnder you, which if at first (as I haue often found, and it was the first reason which made me disallow this practife) you perceiue that he falles into a trot, and refuseth to amble, as if he had neuer beene acquainted with the pace; which indeede is so naturall to many horses, that you shall behold many (and my selfe haue had the riding of some) which ambling euen from their first foaling, haue, when they haue come to the Saddle, and carriage of the man, presently falne to trot, which they were neuer seene to doe in all their liues before; by which I haue gathered, that a horse doth take an extraordinarie pride.

pride and delight in the seruice & carriage of the man. If then your horse thus refuse to amble vnder you, immediately you shall twich vp his head, and giuing him a good chocke or two in the mouth, and striking him with your spurs, one after the other, you shall thrust him into his amble, which your correction and amazement ioyned with his former knowledge, will soone bring him vnto; and then after he strikes a stroke or two, and is che-rished, comming to vnderstand your meaning, hee will then fall more readily to his amble, and with so much more comlinessse and truth as hee was formerly experi-enc'd in the pace before.

Now that this manner of teaching horses to amble, is either so full of art, ease, or comlines, that it deserueth either your labor, or a generall imitation, I am not of the opinion, because as the former methods, so this is accompanied with many foule & grosse inconueniences, such as a horse by no means should be acquainted withall; for besides the losse of time in the man, bestowing a long labour to little purpose, and spending his houres to bring his horse to an vnprofitable exercise, which is to amble without the man; the very manner of bringing a horse vnto it, which is by chocking him in the mouth, & distempering his head, is most vilde & insufferable; for if the horse be of spirit & courage, by such corrections the horse instead of ambling, falls to rearing, plunging, and other restife qualities, one of which wil aske more labor to amend, then to make twenty horses amble: and indeed to say truth, I haue not seene a horse of any good mettall that hath beene brought to amble by this manner of teaching, or if they haue, yet it is impossible that they should continue long therein; for euen their owne cou-
rages

rages will transport them, and make them weary of such an intemperate motion: and on the contrarie part, if the horse be dull and heaue, his sloth & vnnimbleness will be so contrarie and rebellious against this practise, that the Rider had need of a more then an ordinarie patience to endure the slacknesse and vntowardnesse of his incapable spirit, which will neither vnderstand, or if he doe vnderstand, yet will not execute anything any longer then correction and torment lyes vpon him. Thus you see, that neither the hot fierie horse, nor the dull slowe jade is fit for this kinde of instruction; insomuch, that if you haue no other method to teach a horse to amble by but onely this, you shall eyther runne into many inconueniences, or the losse of your time; or else deale with such horses which are of such well mixt qualities and dispositions, that they are neither too fierie, to rebell or contend against instruction; or not so dull, as not to conceiue what you would teach; or when they do conceiue out of sloth and idlenesse, to leaue your will vnperformed: it is the mediocritie with which you must deale, which being seldomest found, you may liue an age ere you meet with a Horse of that temper. And thus much for the making of horses to amble out of the hand.

CHAP. 7.

Of making Horses to amble by the helpe of the hand onely.

SVch horsemen as had practized this former way to make a horse to amble out of hand, that is, before a man come to ride him: when they found that the horse

horse comming into hand, that is, when hee came to be ridden, was in their first iudgements, as imperfit in ambling, as if he had beene neuer taught to amble before, and that they haue beene as it were drawne by a new method to bring their horses to amble, they haue presently by looking into the losse of the former time, and to the benefit of their present exercise, condemned the former manner of teaching, and onely held tollerable no other way to teach a Horse to amble, but the vice of the hand and legge onelie arguing with other Riders (which did not the like) of the faultes which were in their practise; but not beholding any in this which now was last brought to their memories.

And this manner of teaching horses to amble seemed at the first so strange and artificiall; that euery Rider of Ambling horses, was thought vnworthy which taught by any other forme; and euery Horse-maister thought his Horse not well taught, which came not from his hand, who was reported to teach by the help of the hand onely, the manner whereof is, After you haue put into your Horses mouth a rough rround snaffle, such a one as through the cruelty thereof will commaund from the horse an extraordinary obedience (for in this manner of teaching, you must haue your horse exceedingly tender mouthed) you shal then take his backe, and holding your bridle reyne in both your handes, a handfull one from the other, you shall walke your horse gently into some plaine high way, and there first thrust your horse into the swiftest of his foote pace, and if he offer to trot, you shall list vp your handes, and gine him a good chocke in the mouth with your bridle, and then put him forward againe, holding him at the swiftest of his foot-pace, and

to ride him vp & down for an houre or more, straining stil to make him goe faster & faster; and euery time that he doth but offer to trot, to giue him a good chocke in the mouth, and a stroke with your spurre on the side which he treadeth false with his hinder foot; and by this meanes correcting him both in the mouth, and vpon the sides when hee trots, and yet vrging him continually to goe faster in his foote-pace then he is able, you shall in the end bring him to strike foorth an amble, which when he doth, you shall then carry your hands constantly, and without spurring him, shew that you are contented with that motion, obseruing that you keepe him to such a temperate pace, that you, neither by making him go to fast, vrge him to trot, nor by causing him to go too softly, keepe him within the ease of his foote-pace; but let the first be made troublesome to him by correction, the other painefull by too speedie passage. This course will not onely bring him of himselfe to finde out the true stroke of an amble, but also by keeping him in his foote-pace, make him to stride and stretch out his legges, that his pace will be both more comely, more certaine, and more easie.

After you haue thus by the helpe of you hand, held strait vpon the bridle, and the correction of your legge and spurre brought your horse from his foot-pace to an amble, you shall then continue him, and augment his pace thereupon in swiftnesse, euery houre a little more and more, till you haue made his amble swifter then euer was his trot, and that he will strike the same, both vp the hill, downe the hill, ouer crosse paths, rough waies, mirie new plowed lands, or wherefoeuer else you shall haue occasion to trauell, which onely continuall exercise

cise must bring him vnto, and his owne nimble cunning, obseruing by no meanes to put him too soone to trauell, or to amble him long together at any time, till hee be so perfit and skillfull in the pace, that hee will take it both cunningly and freely of himselfe, albe the bredle reyne lie in his necke, and you haue no vse of the same: You shal also obserue, that if this round twound snaffle which I did first prescribe vnto you, bee either so rough that it cut, or gall the Horses mouth, or if the horse bee so exceeding tender of mouth, that hee is not able to indure the sence of such sharpnesse, you shall then instead thereof vse onely a smooth snaffle made full, round, and of an extraordinarie bignesse, about which if you folde certaine wreathes of some fine linnen cloath, to make it as full and bigge in the Horses mouth as may bee, it is much the better and more sweeter, and the Horse will take his pace with more delight and chearefulness; but if you feele that albe hee take the stroake and manner of his pace truelie enough, yet with the raising vp of his hinder feete somewhat too high (which motion hee taketh from his trot) you feele hee doth not goe away easie inough, in such a case it shall bee meete for you to make his hinder shooes of an extraordinary weight, and thicknes, each shooe weying at least fise pounds, which will so tyer and load his feete that he wil be glad to keep them downe and euen sweep them close by the earth as hee goes. Now although this manner of teaching horses to amble bee both generally commended, and most of all other waies practisd in this Nation; yet for mine own part if it be so good as men do imagine, I must confesse my selfe to bee a great heritique in my beliefe therein, for I can neither allow it to be contained within any rule,

rule of good horsemanshippe, nor that it is worthy any mans labour to endeouour to learne it, both because it is accompanied with as many errors as any other of those methods which goe before it; and also because there be a great deale more artificiall waies to bring a horse to this pace, without the faults that this holdeth, which faults are these: The wasting of more profitable time vainly, the marring of the horses reine, the distemperring of his mouth, & spoile of his countenance, which these checkings and suddaine chocks do, besides the breeding of a generall inconstancie ouer all the horses body, which is the grossest fault which can at any time be found in horsemanship. So that to conclude, howfoeuer men may be conceited, & speake in the commendations of making horses amble thus with the hand onely, I for my part cannot be induced either to giue it any tolleration in mine owne opinion: or to preferue it for any other practise then only for the knowledge of generall experience. Thus you see I haue hitherto shewed you sundry waies how to make horses amble; as namely by the fallow field, by waight, out of hand, with the hand, and some others; yet to euery one I haue shewed you such errors and inconueniences adioyned, that in my conclusion I made them both vnprofitable and not to be practised, wherby I must confesse I haue hitherto left you in amazement (that since ambling is so necessary, and of such general vse, that we cannot trauel or iourney without it) what course is there to be taken to bring a horse vnto it without either the grosseffe of these former errors, the misexpence of time, or the losse of a horses beautie & good countenance, which laborinth to bring you out of, & that you may see what I haue formerly written,

is

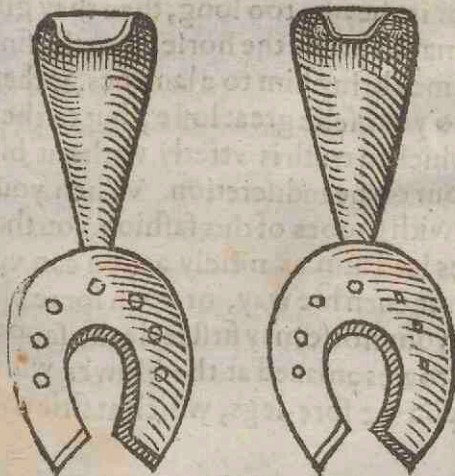
is but to inable your memories with euery feueral knowledge and experiment which hath at any time been practised for bringing this worke to passe: And that the knowing of errors may inable you the better to shunne errors, I will now proceede to those waies in teaching which are compleate in Art, and worthie imitation, without any error but such as shall proceede from the fault of the Rider.

CHAP. 8.

of making Horses to amble by the helpe of shooes onely.

After these former waies of teaching horses to amble came to be put in practise by men of Arte and skill in horsemanship, and that they came to finde the errors and inconueniences which doe necessarily belong to such insubstantiall instructions, presently they out of their better iudgements and inuentions, began to finde out meanes to make horses amble without either marring their mouthes, vnsetling their heads, or breeding any other vncomely disorders, conceiuing thus: that since the making of horses amble, was but onely to bring them to an alteration of the naturall motions of their legges, why should not those motions bee as well taught without disorder to the head and reyne, as either the *Cornets*, the *Capriole*, and other motions daily vsed amongst horses of pleasure & seruice: and hence it came, that doubtlesse some man, both of good skill and iudgement, found out this way, which I will here deliuer vnto you, and which I haue lately, to good effect, practised,

fed & found both agreeable to art, reason, & al the strictest rules in horsemanship; which is to make a horse amble with the helpe of two hinder shoes onely, & this is the manner thereof: First you shall cause a Smith to take the measure of your horses hinder feet, and to make him two shoes of an extraordinary thicknes, and from the toe or fore-part of the shoe, to beat out as it were a thin plate, scarce halfe so thick as the shoe, and being at the toe of the shoe, not about two inches, or a little better broad; but at the vttermost end of the plate better then 4. inches broad: this plate must from the very toe of the shoe forward, rise a little shoaring frō the ground, so that the horse standing full vpon his feet, the outmost end of the plates must be as high frō the ground as the horses fetlock, & they must haue their ends turned vward back againe towards the horses hinder leggs, so that as the horse puts forward his hinder feet, if he chance to hit vpon his foreleggs, yet the plates being so turned forward, may haue no force to hurt or bruse the horse, but only to giue him a flat blow & no more. The fashion & proportion of the shoes are contained in these figures.



To appoint or set downe any certaine length for these fore plates I cannot : for they must keep their size according to the proportion of the horse, or largeness of the stride he takes: for if he be a horse that takes a long step & strikes his hinder foot forth euē close to the setting downe of his fore foot, then these plates may be the shorter : but if he be a horse that takes small steps, and doth as it were set his hinder feet downe where hee takes them vp, then must the plates be made so much the longer : yet because I will not leaue you in amazement, you shall vnderstand that the best obseruation you can take for making these fore plates of a true length, is to let your horse walke in some sandie way, where you may see the print of his feet, and then looke how much you see his hinder foot to tread short of his fore foot, to make your fore plates about some 3. inches longer, & no more: as thus for example, if your horse bring his hinder foot to his fore-foot by 3. inches, then you shall make your plates 6. inches; & so according to this rule, you shall either increase or deminish; of the two choices, rather making it with the shortest, then the longest: for if they be too long, then they giue the forer blow, and may so bruise the horse vpon the sinewes of the forelegs, as may bring him to a lamenes, & therby not onely procure to your selfe great losse, but to the art greater discredit, which in truth is vtterly without blemish, but onely for your owne indiscretion. When you haue shod your horse with shooes of this fashion, you shall first with all gentlenes lead him as mildly as you can vp & downe, either in some euen hie way, or vpon some plaine greene walke, that your horse may first feele the shooes, and that when hee growes amazed at the blowes which they will giue him vpon the fore-legs, which at first will be sharpe
and

and painefull, yet you may stay him, and with cherishings fortifie him, and incourage him till he come to an vnderstanding how his torment comes, which only proceedes from this reason: that if when he moues his right hinder-foot, he doe not also in the same instant remooue his right fore-foot, then those plates must perforce beate him vpon the fore-leg, and make him whether he will or no remoue it, which the horse no sooner will perceiue, (and finding the motion which keeps him most from torment) but he will presently follow it, and by no meanes afterward in a whole day hazard the knocke of one blow: I would haue you thus for at least the space of two or three daies to do nothing but lead your horse vp and downe in your hand, making him one while goe softly, another while swiftly, till hee be so perfit, that hee will amble in your hand, if it were an houre together, without giuing himselfe one rap with his shooes, and during those first two or three daies, you shall apply him in this hard lesson at least halfe a dozen times a day, and when you haue made him so perfit that hee will amble by you both readily and cunningly; then you shall mount his backe, and ride him either in some faire greene close, or some euen road way an houre together; in all which time of riding, you shall neither chocke him in the mouth, nor distemper his reine, but carrie an euen and sweet hand vpon him, giuing him encouragement in all his doings: for there is no fault which can any way belong to his pace, which the shoe will not sufficiently correct and put in order. When you haue ridden him thus an houre in the morning, you shall then ride him as much in the afternoone, and as much also in the evening, obseruing this order for at least foure or five daies together; which done, you shall then take his backe

in the morning, and ride him without either rest or ceasing till it be noone, and then bring him home, and if hee haue gone orderly, and kept his pace in such good and perfit fort as you would wish, without either stumbling or willingnesse to giue ouer his pace, you shall cause the Smith to take off those shooes, and to set vpon him a good paire of ordinarie shooes, onely in the waight and massinesse, they would be extraordinarie; for they must waigh at least as much as two paire of any common shooes. With these plaine shooes without any plates, you shall ride your horse at least a fortnight together, and then remoue them and set such shooes as are both fit for the horses vse and trauell, without either extraordinarie weight, or any other deuise whatsoeuer.

Now for any errors or inconueniences, which this manner of teaching a Horse to amble shall bring vnto him, there is in truth none at all: for the Rider hauing free libertie to vse his hand, bodie, and legges at his owne pleasure, if then he commit any euill, it is his owne fault, and not the necessitie of the instruction; for there is not any man, if hee can but sit vpon a horses backe, which by this method shal not make a horse amble in as good manner (touching the motion of his legs) as the best Arts master whatsoeuer: the reason whereof is, that the very shooes doe of themselues correct all those vices, which in other practises is the dutie of the horseman to do, as thus for example: if the horse doe not strike out his feete as he ought to do, but offer to tread short, the very knocks which the plates wil giue him vpon the legs, wil put him to such paine, that he will for very feare, & to auoid the torment, stretch his feet forth so far as he is able: they wil also make him raise his fore-feete nimbly from the ground, and
through

through their waight and troublesomnesse make him keepe his hinder feet close and neere to the earth, they will make him that hee shall not straddle or goe too wide behinde, neither will they suffer him to goe so straight, that hee shall bee in hazard of interfering: to conclude, they doe as much in this worke as any man can wish, and is a manner of teaching, which if any wit can iudge, or mine experience were worthie to perswade, I would haue practised before any other way whatsoeuer, except it bee the tramell, which I preferre and esteeme an equall, both in vertue and goodnesse.

CHAP. 9.

*Of teaching Horses to amble by the vse of the
Tramell.*

There will bee multitudes which will in their arguments oppose themselues, as violently against me as may bee, both to condemne this which I commend, and also to diswade men from the vse of this practise, which I most allow; I doe not doubt, for I haue not in Table or Stable discourses, heard any thing more enuaid against, then the teaching of horses to amble by the helpe or vse of the Tramell: some saying it lames and straines horses: some, that it makes a horse not take vp his feete right: some, that the pace so given is not easie: with a world of such like discommendations: but for mine owne part, I am by experience and practise so vndoubtedly resolved, and know so assuredly the contrarie, that I can neither credit their surmises,

or loue the experiment one jot worse, no though they should bee esteemed most approued Horsemen, from whose mouthes should come the discommendations, for I know what error soeuer happens to a Horse by this manner of teaching, proceedes either from the indiscretion or ignorance of the Rider, and from no part of the worke, if it bee truely handled; wherefore to those that will credit truth, and obserue those rules which are most agreeable with art & reason, I frame my discourse; and to others who scorne all guides, but the strength of their owne opinions, I wish them saue the labour of reading this booke, which in that case will giue them no satisfaction. And now to my purpose: if at any time you will make your horse amble by the helpe of the Trammel, you shall thus doe; Take any horse of what age, condition, or qualitie soeuer he be, and first place him so with your hand, that he may stand iust and euen vpon all his foure legges, without putting any of them forth, or standing stradling, or crooked; which done, you shall put vpon his right fore-leg (which wee commonly call the farre leg) a broad peece of leather, lined soft with cotten, & hauing at the one end a small buckle, in bredth and shape made like a pasterne, onely it must not bee so thicke and stubborne, but smoothe and gentle; yet verie strong. This peece of leather you shall buckle about your horses farre fore-legge, some foure or fise fingers or more about his knee, and you shall buckle it so gently, that by no meanes it pinch him, or with the straightnes stoppe the passage of the bloud in his veines: also, when it is buckled on, you must so place it, that a strong tournell of Iron being cunningly fastned within the leather, may stand iust behinde his legge, looking towards his hinder

hinder legge: this done, you shall take another peece of leather, made in euery proportion like to this former, and buckle it about your horses farre hinder legge, some foure inches, or thereabouts, aboue his cambrell, and the iron tournell therof shall stand before his legge, looking to his fore-legge: then you shall take a strong cord made all of haire, and fasten it to both the tournels, making it by no meanes either longer or shorter, but of the iust and due length which is betwixt his legges; and then looking vpon your worke, you shall see that you haue so linckt his hinder legge to his fore-legge, that the horse cannot possibly put foorth his fore-legge to goe, but hee must draw his hinder-legge after him. When you haue done thus to his farre fore-legge, and his farre hinder-legge, then you shall take other two peeces of leather like the former, and another cord of haire of the same length, like the former also, and in euery respect as you haue linckt together his right legges, so you shall also linke together his left legges, which we call his narre legges: then you shall take a peece of garthwebbe, and making it fast to the midst of the haire rope on the farre side, you shall then bring the garth-web ouer the horses backe, and make it fast to the haire rope on the narre side: this garth-web is but only to hold vp the cords from falling to the ground, or troubling the horse as he goeth. Now forasmuch as I cannot in words so perfittly describe this manner of tramelling as may giue satisfaction to those which haue neuer seene it before, I thought good by a more lively representation of this figure to better your knowledge in the doing it; wherefore when your horse is trammelled aboue the knee, hee will carry the forme of this figure following.



Many I know will wonder at this manner of tramelling a horse about the knees and houghs, because it hath bene seldome or neuer vsed by any man: and for mine owne part I haue neuer seene it vsed by others, but haue bene induced thereunto out of mine owne reason and practise, because the faults and dangers which I can any way behold to belong to tramelling is, if a horse bee at first tramelled vnderneath the knees and houghs, and be of a hot & fierie spirit, if then the Rider indiscreetly shall compell his horse to goe any thing hastily; or that the horse, out of his owne furie, will not stay the leasure of the man, in such a case the horse may happen at the first setting forth of his feet to ouerthrow himselfe, and then being downe, what with his striuing, and the strength of his tramels, hee may get that mischiese which will

neuer

neuer forsake him whilest hee liues after. This to prevent, I would haue you in any case at the first to tramell your Horse aboue knee, as is before shewed you, for in so dooing you shall giue his legges that libertie, helpe and aimplenes, that neither your owne rashnes, nor the Horses madnes, shall bring him within the compasse of any euill, as good prooffe in your tryall shall witnes.

When your Horse is thus tramelled aboue knee, which in any case I would haue you doe, either in some emptie Barne, or in some faire greene Close, you shall then as gently as you can, lead him forward, and by little and little make him goe faster and faster, till you see him strike into a faire amble, which he cannot chuse but doe, because his feete are so linkt and tyed together, that hee cannot remoue any of his fore-legges, but the hindmost legg of the same side must follow it: you shall practise him thus, to leade and amble in your hand three or foure times euerie day for the space of two or three daies; then if it be in the Summer time, I would haue you turne him into some Close, or conuenient peece of ground (thus tramelled as is before said) and there let him run at grasse for the space of a fortnight, or three weekes, nor failing, but euery day twice a day to take him vp, and ride him either vp and downe the close, or in some other conuenient peece of ground, for the space of an houre together; in which time you shall see he will get the perfecte vse of his legges, and the true stroake of his amble, without stumbling or other manner of amazement.

Now you shall vnderstand that this manner of tramelling Horses aboue knee bringerh one other commodity, and that is, it maketh a horse to stretch and put forth his legges in large strides, bringing both ease and comeli-

comelineffe to his pace, and not to twitch them vp suddenly, and set them downe againe, as if he did dance, or stood stamping all in one place; which fault onely procedes from tramelling a horse somewhat too early vnder the knee, and making his tramels for want of true measure a little of the straightest.

After you haue thus practised your horse in the tramels about the knee, and made him both through riding and running in them at grasse day and night, so perfit, that he will take his pace forward, both cunningly, and speedily, you shall then take them off, and put the leathers which are vpon the fore-legges about the knees, vnder his knees about the small of the legs, some handfull or there-about about his neather pasternes: and the leathers which were about the houghs of his hinder legges, you shall put vnderneath his cambrels about an handfull about his fetlocks; then you shall take the haire cords, and when the horse stands euen and iust vpon all his foure legges, each legge standing opposite and iust one against another, you shall fasten them of their true length (which is from legge to legge of a side) vnto the iron tournels, as was aforesaid, so that when your horse is thus tramelled vnderneath the knee, he may carrie the proportion of this figure following.

When



When your horse is in this sort tramelled vnderneath the knees and houghs, you shall then in the selfe same manner as you did before; when you trameld him aboue the knee, first with all patience and gentlenesse lead him vp and downe in your hand, making him goe in his tramels, which will at the first bee very troublesome vnto him, and a great deale more vnnimble; by as much as they are of more force and correction then the former, as commanding the weaker and more pliant members; but how vnnimble or vntowardly soeuer hee goes at the first with these tramels, it matters not, so that you be but patient, & indure euery disorder in him without trouble

or rigor, for euen the very paine which he shall feele when he giues any disorderlie twitch or straine, will to molest and torment him, that he will amend euery thing of himselfe (if you will giue him time) without any other molestation, and I perswade my selfe (for I haue euer found it so) that the former cunning which he learned in his first Tramels, will haue brought him to such a perfinesse, that when these are put on, hee will finde no more trouble, or difficultie then if he wore not any tramels at all; but howsoeuer, after you haue thus made him perfect in these kinde of Tramels, that he will leade gentlie in your hand vp and downe, either as slowlie or as swiftlie as you please, you may then set a Saddle vpon his backe, and put the garthweb which holdes vp his Tramels behinde the hinder crouch of his Saddle, iust ouer-twhart his fillets, and then you shall mount his backe, and ride him in some faire euen roade halfe an houre together, and then bring him home to the Stable and giue him some prouender, then about two houres after, you shall take him foorth againe, and ride him as you did before, and thus you shal ride him three or foure times a day, for three or foure daies together; and if it be in the Summer time; if then you let him runne at grasse night and day with his Tramels on his legges, and ride him as is before described, it will be much better for his pace; obseruing, that during all the time of your riding in this first beginning, you put not anie thing into his mouth but a plaine, smooth, and full snaffle, neither shall you by any meanes giue the Horse any chokes in his mouth, or gag vp his head, but beare your hand in an orderlie and constant manner like a Horse-man, being assured that what fault soeuer the Horse shall commit in his
pace,

pace, or the motion of his legs, the tramels will correct sufficiently without any other assistance. After you have thus for a fortnight ridden your horse in these Tramels vpon plaine and smooth grounds, you shall then for the next fortnight exercise him in his Tramels vpon rough waies, as where hee may treade sometimes in ruttes, or vpon broken swarthes, you shall also now and then ride him ouer plow'd landes, and sometimes vp hilles, and somtimes downe hills, till you haue brought him to such nimbleness and courage in his pace, that no ground hee can treade vpon shall come amisse vnto him, you shall also this fortnight bring his pace to all the swiftnes you can; by thrusting him forward with all the life and courage you can deuise, and sometimes by giuing him a good jert or two with your rod, or by giuing him now and then a good stroake or two with your spurres. Thus when you haue brought him to the perfittnes of his pace so that he will doe it both cunningly, readily, swiftly, and without anie stammering or straining of his tramels, so that you might very well aduenture to ride him without any tramels at all, you shall then for a weeke before you take off your tramels (if hee be a Horse which you make for anie great mans saddle) put into his mouth such a Bit as shall be fit and answerable to the temper, sweetness or hardnesse of his mouth, and with it you shall ride him in his Tramels all that weeke three or foure times a day, first vpon plaine smooth groundes, then by little and little, vpon rougher and rougher, till you haue exercised him vpon euerie kinde of ground whatsoeuer, and that he will take his pace both as readily and as speedily with the bit, as before he did with his snaffle, neither offering to strike falser, shorter, nor with faster motions then hee did

did with his snaffle; when you haue brought your Horſe to this perfection, ſo that neither exchange of way, nor the exchange of Bits or Snaffles moues him to any diſorder, then you may boldlie take away his Tramelſ altogether: and onely make good thicke thumb-roapes of Hay, you ſhal ſolde and wreath them as you make a ruſh ring about the neather paſternes of all your horſes foure legges, which is betweene the cronet of the hoofe and the fewerlockes, as you may ſee deſcribed in this figure following.



Hauing thus wiſpt all his foure legges, and made them that they will ſtick cloſe and faſt about his paſternes, you ſhall

shall then mount vpon him: and as you rid him with the Tramels, so you shall ride him with these wispes, that is to say, the first weeke you shall ride him very gentlie, and onely keepe him in a moderate and reasonable amble, suffering him to take his pace of his owne accord, without either your aide or compulsion; the next weeke you shall for the first three daies put your Horse to the swiftnesse of his pace, and make him amble out thorowlie, giuing him now and then the jert of your rod, or the stroke of your spurs: and the three other latter daies, you shall thrust him vpon vn-euen and rough waies, where the hollownes and incertaintie of his treading may expresse vnto you the perfittnes and vnnimblenes of his pace, and in all this fortnights riding, you shall carry your bridle hand a little more constantlie and firmlie then you did before when you vsed the tramels, that you may be ready to helpe the Horse, if at anie time hee happen to treade false, which I am perswaded he will verie seldome or neuer do, if you rightly keepe the obseruations before prescribed; when you haue thus exercised your Horse with these wispes, and found his pace perfect as before, then you shall take away the wispes from his fore legges, and keepe onlie those about his hinder legges on still, and so ride him for another weeke, the vertue whereof is that those wispes will both make him keep his pace, and also cause him by keeping his hinder feete neare to the ground to follow his fore legs close, and make his pace more easie. After you haue finished this weekes exercise also, then you shall take away his wispes which are behinde, and make account that your worke is fully perfited, so that now you may aduenture either to ride or journey your horse when you please, and whether you please,

please, for bee well assured the pace which is thus giuen vnto a horse is the most certaint of all other, and will neither alter nor be forgot, either through difficultie or want of practise: for the vnderstanding and manner thereof, is giuen vnto a horse with such ease and plainnesse, and the faults are corrected so instantly, and with such a naturall comelines, that euery horse takes an especial delight and pleasure in the motion, and the rather when hee feeles that the pace is (as indeed it is) much more easie to his owne feeling then the trot, and as it were a reliefe vnto him when his ioyntes with trotting are feebled.

Now forasmuch as there bee sundrie principall obseruations to be kept and vsed in this manner of practise, for want of knowledge whereof many errors both grow and continue in a Horses doings, from whence hath risen most of these imputations, which are laide vpon this Art, making the abuse of the art and the art it selfe all one, I will before I proceede further giue you the full knowledge of these rules; that you may be euer the better assured to make your worke perfit. The first therefore is to note well when your horse is first of all tramelled, and comes to strike foorth his amble, whether hee strike his fecte home or no, that is, whether hee doe not strike his hinder foote at least fixe inches farther then where hee tooke vp his fore-foote, as in the true rule of Hors-manship he ought to doe (which Horse amblers, call striking ouer) you shall then to amend that fault if it be whilest your Horse is tramelled aboue the knee, then you shall make the cord of haire, which goes from legg to legge, a full inch shorter then it was, and it will make him strike ouer, but if it doe not at the first bring his feet

to

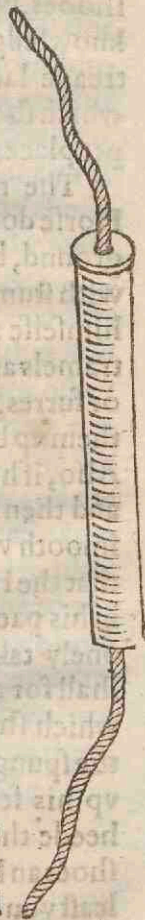
to ouer-goe one another, but as it were to treade step vpon step, that is, to set his hinder foote in the same place where his fore-foote did stand, then you shal straiten the cordes a full halfe inch more, and that will compell them to strike ouer very sufficientlie. But if this fault of striking short doe not happen whilest the horse is tramelled about knee, as for mine own part, I haue not often scene, because the great libertie of his legges makes him naturally treade forth and take long strides, but that it cometh after a horse is tramelled vnder the knee, which because of the greater commaundment, makes the horse treade more short and suddainly, then you shall onely but shorten each of the cords a quarter of an inch, and it will be sufficient: for a quarter of an inch when the tramell is in that part, is asmuch as if you did shorten it two whole inches when it restes vpon the vpper part, and will make a horse strike as farre ouer; also if in his ambling you helpe him by thrusting your legges hard forward stiffe vpon your stirrops, it will make him bring on his hinder leggs, and strike much farther then otherwise hee would doe.

The second obseruation which you shal keepe in your memory, is to marke if your horse do not erre in excesse of this former motion, which is to say, whether he doe not strike his feet to far ouer, and take such vnreasonable long steps, that he both indangers to ouerthrow himself, and also in his ambling claps one foote vpon another, which is both noysome to the eare; vncomly to the eye, and very hurtfull both for the man & horse, for the man, if he shall happen to fall, for the horse if by clapping one foot vpon another, he either bruse or wound his heeles from whence many times growes dangerous diseases, where

When at anothertyme you perceiue this fault, you shall first by the temper of your hand carrying it a little straighter then ordinarie, and feeding the horses mouth with gentle motions, you shall make him treade shorter, which if hee be a horse of fierce mettall he will immediatelie doe without anie other helpe, for his owne pride and spirit, ioyn'd with the temper of your hand, will worke all the effect you can wish, but if he be a horse of sloathfull nature, and altogether giuen to the loosenesse of pace, then you shall as soone as he will in any reasonable good sort amble in his tramels put him to amble in rough waies, and after he is growne somewhat cunning thereupon, you shall then ride him into some high way which in the winter time, hauing beene rutted and the prints thereof still remaining in the ground all summer, and there exercise him vp and downe for at the least an houre or two together, and doe thus thrice a day at least, and in one weeke belecue it, you shall make him treade as orderly and as short as either your selfe can wish, or the easinesse of that ambling pace, may anie way suffer without bringing either disgrace or hardnes.

The next obseruation you are to marke, is whether your horse in his amble do not straddle or goe too wide with his hinder feet, which fault is most generall and ordinary with all ambling horses whatsoeuer, but if you do perceiue that naturallie he inclines himselfe thereunto, you shall then for the preuention thereof (because if once hee make it a custome it is almost impossible after to reclaime it) ride him into some great road-way, which hauing been worne and rackt in the winter, will haue a narrow deepe path way worne a foote deepe & more; and therein exercise your horse daily till you perceiue him to amend

amend his fault, & draw his feet vnto a decent comelines, but if you cannot finde such a rutted way because for the most part they are proper but onlie to clay groundes, it shall not bee amisse then if you get such a straite path or furrow of some twenty or thirty paces in length, beeing twelue inches deepe, and but sixteene inches in breadth, and therin ride your horse being tramelled euerie day, till you beholde that his fault be amended; but if it happen cōtrary to this motion, you do obserue that your horse goes to straite with his hinder leggs, so that he doth enterfaire, or knock one foote vpon another, which is a vice seldome found in an ambling horse, yet if at any time it bee, it is most insufferable, you shall then to amend it whilst you ride him with the Tramels, haue a small line made fast to the vpper part of his docke, which line shall runne through a long pipe of leather, made round and bigger then a mans arme, which pipe shall come from his docke between his hinder thighes, and with the other end of the small line bee made fast to the garthes vnder the Horses belly, the fashion of which pipe and line is contained in this figure.



With this line and long pipe you shall ride your Horse whilest you vse your Tramels, but when you take away your tramels, and put on your wispes, then you shall also lay away this pipe and line; and only be sure to make the wispes as thicke againe vpon the inside of the feete as vpon the outside, and

there is no doubt to be made of the amendment of the euill, except it bee a vice so proper and naturall to the pace, that euen from his first foaling hee hath held it, then your onely remedie is after you haue laide by both tramels, pipes and wispes, to haue an expert Smith, who may shooe him continually with good enterfayring shooes, which if they be made indeed with good art and knowledge, they will keepe him open, and make him treade largely inough, the fashion and property of which shooes shall be shew'd more largely in their proper places.

The next obseruation you are to marke, is if your Horse doe not take his feet cleane and nimblie from the ground, but sweepe them closely alongst the earth, that with stumbling and carelesnesse, hee oft in dangers both himselfe and his Rider, then you shall ride him with his tramels amongst thistles, or amongst short young gorse, or furies, which pricking his legs, will make him winde them vp both decently and without feare of stumbling: Also, if hee be a Horse of good courage, it is good now and then to amble him ouer plow'd landes, or in plaine smooth waies, at such time as the nightes are darkest, so that the Horse cannot discerne his way: but if he onelic in his pace dash or strike his hinder toes vp^o the ground, onely take vp his fore-feete in good order, then you shall for a weeke or more, ride him with shooes behinde which shall haue little loose ringes jingling behinde in the sponges of the heeles, and they will make him take vp his feete sufficiently, yet in any case you must take heede that you ride not your horse with these ring'd shoes an hour longer then the amendment of his fault, least you make him take vp his hinder feete higher then
you

you should doe, which is the spoyle of all ambling; for I had rather beare with the lowe sweeping of his hinder feet, then with his too hie taking them vp: for the first is a great signe of an easie pace, and this latter is a most assured testimony of very hard treading, which being contrary to the worke you labour for, may by no meanes haue any tolleration.

Wherefore for a conclusion of this worke, if you doe at any time obserue that your horse doth take vp his hinder feete too high, you shall then make him weare his wispes so much the longer, and if neede bee, during the time of your teaching, cause the Smith to make your hinder shooes a great deale the heauier, & thus by applying to these errors, the remedies which are prescribed, you shall bring your Horse to all the perfection & goodnes which can any way belong to this easie pace of ambling; And if any other tutor in this Art, shall either find fault with my precepts, or prescribe vnto you any other materiall rudiments, which may in your iudgement run in opposition with these which I haue published, my desire is, that out of the wisdome of an euen minde, and the true iudgement which shall issue from a laboured experience; to wey and censure both our reasons, and neither out of will, nor loue to nouelty, become a pretise to any precepts but those which haue the greatest alliance both with Art and reason; for no man possible can haue that perfection either in this Art or any other, which wil not at sometimes bee accompanied with error. And thus
much touching mine experience in this easie
Art of ambling.

The end of the Fourth Booke.