



**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 ...**

<https://hdl.handle.net/1874/33796>

The Neapolitan ~~and~~ *Giuse* for *stall*



# CAVALARICE,

OR

That part of Art which containeth  
the office of the Keeper, Groome  
of the Stable, or Coach-man, how  
Horses shal be ordered both  
when they rest and when they  
Journey : With all things  
belonging to their  
places.

*The Fift Booke.*

Newly corrected and augmented.

By Geruase Markham.

LONDON

Printed by *Edw: Allde* for *Edward White*,  
and are to be sold at his shop neere  
the little north doore of Saint  
Pauls Church at the signe  
of the Gun. 1617.

The barbarye running poyse



The Englishe hurringe horse



The Englishe *ambange* *gellange*







To the most Noble and most mightie  
Lord, EDWARD Earle of Worcester, Lord Herbert of  
Ragland, Chesstowe and Gower, Maister of the  
Horse to his Maiesty, and Knight of the  
most Noble order of the  
Garter.

**T**wo strong motives (Right Honorable and most no-  
ble Lord) hath imboldned me to offer this part of  
my labours to your worthy protection; first your  
owne (not to bee controled) knowledge in all the  
best partes of the Art; and secondly your place  
which makes you the Great maister both of the best Horses, and  
the best professors of the best Horse-manship; and albe it may bee  
objected against mee that others of my Country-men have done  
so excellently in this subiect, that mine will proue but a surcharge  
to memory, yet (vnder the reformation of your Honorable fa-  
uour) I suppose they are so much clad in forraigne attyre, that  
their precepts are fitter for reading then practise; and truly for  
Grison and other of his ranke, (to whome is due all the worthe  
praises that possibly can be giuen) and whose memory I both loue  
and admire, this is mine opinion, that were they liuing at this  
houre, and saw but some of the Hors men and Horses of this Na-  
tion, they would confesse that time and perfection had purged  
their skills of many grosse deformities; but of this your Lordship  
can better iudge by your owne knowledge then by my relation,  
therefore it shall bee grace enough for me, if your Honour vouch-  
safe the view of my paines, and please to number mee amongst  
those which euer will be prest to doe your Honour service.

GERVASE MARKHAM.



To all those which either ride vpon  
their owne Horses, or are acquainted  
with Trauell.


**A**S a Horse was at first created for Mans vse  
and seruice, so I imagine in that creation it was in-  
tended that man should in his care and respect of  
the beast, after his iourney, shew both the thank-  
fulnesse of his nature, and the reward due for ne-  
cessarie employment: from whence I gather, and those which  
either haue beene mounted vpon jades, or for want of govern-  
ment haue had their Horses faile them in their greatest needs  
can iudge, how necessarie a thing it is to know how a Horse  
should bee ordered, both in his iourneying, and after the end of  
his labour; in which if I haue in this Treatise following, given  
you such sufficient precepts as may both enable your Horses, and  
discharge you of much care and fearefulnesse, I doubt not but  
whatsoever malignitie shall suggest against mee, yet euerie vp-  
right brest will both fortifie and defend me; and so much the ra-  
ther, in that howsoever I may be thought obscure, yet I know  
I shall not be found absurd. *Farewell.*

G. M.



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CAVALARICE.

*The fift Booke.*

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CHAP. I.

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*How Stables shall be made, the seate and commodities.*

**IN** Orasmuch as all Horses whatsoever, which be of any worth or estimation, are during the time of their serviceablenesse for the most part kept in the house, both because the time of the yeere, when their service is most needfull, is in the winter season; and also because the vnrulinesse of stonde Horses is so great, that they cannot be kept in order or good temper, if they bee not continually vnder the commandement of the Keepers hand: I thinke it is fit before I proceede to the office of the Keeper, to speake something touching the Stable, and such benefits as should perfectly belong

belong thereunto; wherefore first for the site or place where your Stable should stand, I would wish euery Horse-maister, according to the abilitie of his power to place his Stable vpon hard and drie ground, hauing a certaine ascent or rising, by meanes whereof conueyance may bee made with trenches or sinckes to carrie away the pisse, foule water, or other wett which shall fall about it. The ayre wherein it should stand, would as neare as you can be very temperate and sweete, hauing no marrishes, or corrupt places about it, especially no Swine-styes, for the verie smelling and rubbing of swine will breede both the *Farcie* and other foule diseases.

Adi oyning to your Stable, you must euer haue either some good Well, Conduit or Pumpe, and also some faire Ponde or running Riuer: The stufte whereon you shall builde your Stable, would if your abilitie will stretch thereunto be either bricke or other rough stone, and the wall at least eighteene inches thicke, if you want bricke or stone, stude and plaister will serue, or if necessitie compell Lome, or Lime and Haire, or any other stufte which is warme and durable. Your Stable would bee in proportion longer then broad, and not as some vse foure square, placing Horses on both sides the house; which is both ill and vncomely. The windowes of your Stable must bee vpon that side the stable which answers to the Horses buttockes, and would open vpon the East, that a horse may haue the morning Sun: and not as some aduise vpon the North, for though it bee tollerable for some one weeke in the Summer time, yet it will bee most vnwholsome for all the Winter after: each windowe about the Stable must haue a close shut or false windowe of bordes that you  
may



may at your pleasure make the Stable as darke as you will, and as light as you will, the windowes also would bee glazed that neither Birdes nor other foule may come therein, whose feathers are to a Horse both vnholsome, and sometimes poysonous; in the midst of your stable in conuenient place, and against which you may make a lodging for your Groomes, I would haue you build a handsome Chimnie, where when occasion serues, as either in time of a Horses sicknesse or sorenesse, when medicines are to bee made, you may haue a fire, or for the warming, ayring, and drying of the horses cloathes, which at sometimes is as wholesome for him as his meate. Now for the Plaunchers of your stable, I agree both with master *Blundenill* and *Collumella*, that they should bee of the best hart of Oake that can be gotten, but that they should lye (as they aduise) sloping, which is to say, higher before then behinde, I am vtterly against it, and holde it of all errors the grossest, as not to bee tollerated in anie place but in *Smithfield* and amongst Horse-courfers: For first it makes a Horse in his standing rest so much vpon his hinder legges, and that with such painfulness, that it not onely makes him weake pastern'd, but also bringes to his legs diseases and swellings: It makes a Horse also that hee cannot lie easily but taketh most of his rest standing, then which there is nothing more vnhealthfull, wherefore in any case lay your plaunchers as leuell and eeuē as you can deuise to lay them, and in any wise lay the boardes not lengthwaies, that is, from the maunger streight downe to the grub-tree, but lay them ouertwhart the horses stall, so that hee may stand crosse the boardes: let the grub-tree which lies at the neather part of the plaunchers against

which

which the horse will many times rest his hinder heeles, be very strong, & betwixt three or foure inches higher then the plaunchers; for the plaunchers must bee laide euē, and not one board higher then another, yet they must not be so close ioyned together, but that the horses pisse, and other moisture may runne through the creuises vnderneath the plaunchers. All along as your sleepers lye to which you pinne downe the boards, must a trench or sinke be digged, of at least foure foote broad, and about three foote deepe, which may conuay away the horses pisse and other filthinesse, either into some by dike or channell: the flore of your Sable which is without your plaunchers, must be euē with the very height of your plaunchers, that if your horse at any time shall goe backward off from the plaunchers, yet hee may still stand vpon a iust leuell. This flore would be pauered with round small pibble. At the vper end of your plaunchers you shall place your maunger, which would bee of very strong boards, so artificially and close ioyned together, that neither dust, nor any thing how small soeuer, may scatter out of it. Now whereas certaine olde Writers would haue euery horse to haue a little small locker to himselfe, to eat his prouender therein, I for my part like it not; for a horse as he eats his meate, will turne his head now and then of one side or other, and then hauing but as it were a little boxe to eat in, each time he lifts vp his head, hee will scatter the one halfe of his meate: and againe, it is the delight and nature of a horse to spread his meate as thinne as is possible, and so to eat with the better stomacke, whereas when you lay it in a thicke heape together, hee falles to loathe it, and refuse it; you shall euer raise your maunger at least foure  
foote



foote from the ground, and not have it above nine inches deepe, for the higher your maunger stands, the higher your horse will thrust and beare vp his necke, which will bee a good helpe to his reyne and countenance: for howsoever it is an vse in *Italie* allowed amongst some of our horsemen, that there should bee no racke, but that a horse should receiue all his meate downward towards his feete, thereby not to straine his necke with putting it vpward: yet I am of a conirarie opinion, and would haue a horse to stretch vp his head aloft, and to plucke his hay out of a racke about him, knowing that such putting vp of his head doth mend his comeliness, and that taking his hay out of his racke, doth not with blowing vpon it make it so soone loathsome: as for the supposition of the filth or dust which should fall into the horses maine, it is very idle: for if the rack be plac'd right, some small dust (if there bee any) may fall vpon the horses nose, but his maine it can neuer touch; wherfore I would haue the racke to be placed of a proportionable height, answerable to the stature of ordinary horses, and let it stand somewhat vpright, leaning as little forward as may bee. When thus your planchers are laide, and your Racke set vp, you shall deuide your Stable into feuerall stalles, to the intent that euery Horse may lie by himselfe, and those stalles shall be deuided at the neather endes with great poastes. And if the stable be for great Horses, or young Coltes, then from each poast to the manger, shall goe a round peece of timber, which hanging either in writen chaines, cordes, or strong thongs of leather, so that it may swing which way a man will haue it, which will keepe horses from striking one another: or if they do strike, they will defend the blowes:

But

But if the stable be for Hunting horses, or else Running horses, then I would haue you to boord euery seuerall partition from the great poste vp to the maunger, euen so hie before that the horse may not looke ouer it, as well for the warmenesse thereof, as also that one horse may not gaze, smell, ney, or trouble one another, also for Hunting horses, and Running horses, you shall line the walles which are before their face with boardes, so that they may not gnaw vpon the walls, or lick vpon the lime, which is suffocating and vnwholsome; vpon the outside of each post you shall haue plac'd strong hookes of yron, on which you shall hang euery seuerall horses bridle, his cauezan and watring snaffle; then you shall haue vpon each side of the poste fastned in with staples, round ringes of yron, to which when you put on your horses watring snaffle, you shall tye him vp whilest you dresse him; then all alongst the other side of the stable betweene the windowes, shall be placed strong peeces of timber, on which you may hang euerie horses ordinarie saddle, then shall you haue in another place great presses, in which shall bee stored all better furniture; then shall you haue shelues whereon to lay your curry-combes, mayne-combes, dressers, rubbers, haire-cloathes, and other clensing cloathes, both woollen and linnen; in other conuenient places of the stable shall be placed close binggs, or hutches, for the keeping of pro-uender, the stable would be seel'd ouer head, either with plaister, or lime and haire: in the midst of the stable, or according to the largenes of the stable, I would haue either one, two, or three lanthornes to hang so as they may giue a sufficient light ouer all the stable.

Nowe for the generall vse of your stable, whatsoever



*Vegetius*, or other auncient *Italians* write, to dissuade you from keeping it close and warme, as supposing that it breedes raw digestion, hurts nature, and ingenders many diseases, yet I would haue no English Gentleman to holde the rule imitable, for wee daily finde out of our owne experiences, in keeping Hunting and Running horses, that there is nothing more healthfull, or breedes in a horse greater strength or abilitie to performe much then the keeping of the stable in a temperate and proportionable warmnesse; but whereas they say noysome vapours and smells in a Stable are vnwholsome; to that I agree and would wish euery Groome that loues his reputation, to keepe his stable as sweete and as neate as is possible by any labour to bee effected, and to that end I would haue all those which are keepers of Running or Hunting horses, whose stronger kinde of foode makes their ordure to smell so much the viler, neuer to bee without *Storax*, and *Beniamen*, and twice a day at least by burning some vpon a Chaffingdish and coales to perfume the Stable, which to the horse is both wholsome, and delightfull. It is the part of euery diligent and careful Keeper, to haue all his implements, and whatsoeuer hee shall neede about his horse, to bee placed in fit and conuenient places, that when hee shall stand in need of any of them, he may readily finde them: hee shall not suffer any thing whatsoeuer to be throwne amongst the Prouender, or to lie vpon his Hay: for a Horse will finde dislike at the least sent whatsoeuer. Many other observations there are for a diligent Keeper, all which shall in their proper places bee amplie prescribed vnto him.

## CHAP. 2.

*Of a Trauelling horses meate, and the seuerall  
kinds and vses.*

**A**Ccording to the opinion of the auncient *Italian* writers (whome I did euer read more for knowledg then practise) the foodes which belong to Horses are very many and diuerslie compounded, as *Grasse, Hay, Strawe, Oates, Barley, Wheat,* and *Fitches,* or *Pease,* *fitches, Beanes,* and *Wheat-branne* mixt altogether, or common horse-bread which is made of ordinarie Chissell, or branne knodden with water, and the loues in some places are rould in spelted beanes.

Of Grasse.

Now for the property of these foodes: first the *Grasse* questionles is nourishing during the time of Summer, whilest the strength of the Sunne abides within it, and is food good inough for ordinary trauelling horses, but for ston'd horses of great pride and courage, it is somewhat too colde and moist, and therefore onely to bee giuen phisically, as for a month together in the beginning of summer, onely to scowre them, which is called the soyle time, and if when you giue them grasse, you giue them blades of greene corne, it is passing good also.

Of Hay.

Hay is nourishing, and fillles out the bodie, yet it must haue some other prouender ioyned with it, or els by reason of the driness thereof, it will neither nourish sufficiently, nor digest in conuenient time, but lying in the horses body, make his bellie great and vnfashionable.

Strawe



Strawe is a hot drie food, and neither nourisheth nor <sup>Of Strawe?</sup> filleth, therefore it is onely to bee giuen but seldome, as when a horse is new taken from Grasse, or when he is in strait dyet for Running; more for the cleansing and scowring of their teeth, then for any other sustenance.

Oates are exceeding nourishing, light of digestion, <sup>Oates,</sup> and ingendreth the best blood, and whatsoeuer either *Galen*, or any of the *Italians* write, wee finde it by daily prooffe, the best food that can bee continually giuen to a horse. Now of Oates there be three kindes; one is a great white Oate, the other a great blacke Oate, and the third a short yellow Oate, called a cut oate, and although some of our English authors preferre the black Oate for the best, yet I assure you the great white Oate which is full, and heauy, is the best and most nourishing, of which kinde I haue seene in *Darbishire*, some which haue (with- in a verie little) way'd as heauie as wheate, next the great white Oates, the yellow cut Oate is to bee esteemed, and the last is the blacke Oate, for of all the three kindes it is the lightest and least substanciall.

Now there is a fourth kinde of Oate, which is a Skeg- oate, which is a small light naughtie Oate, and indeed is fit for pullen rather then horses, for it is but one small degree better then Chaffe.

Barley is colde and drie in the opinion of Physitions, <sup>Of Barley?</sup> but according to the naturall working of Horses, wee finde it hott, drie, and vnsauerie, it nourisheth not at all, but makes a horse thirstie, full of heart burning, and subiect to faintnes.

Now if any man demaund if it haue those faultes why it is vsed so much in *Italy*, I answer, that their Barley and ours is of a contrary nature, & doth not offend so much,

yet neither of them both to bee esteemed for good prouender, where Oates are to be got.

Of Wheate.

Wheate is the greatest nourisher, but yet a food that of all other a horse will soonest loath and forsake, for it suffocates and cloyes the stomack, I haue not knowne it vsed in any place but in Spaine amongst the *tenets*, nor would I haue it to be vsed at all, for it is neither needfull for the horse, nor profitable for the owner, if it bee not onely in the time of sicknes.

Of Fitches.

Fitches are a ranke grosse foode, ingendering corrupt blood, and vnwholsome humors, and if they be not well dry'd before they be giuen to a horse, they will breede the pestilence and burning feauers.

Of Pease.

Pease are a pursie and stopping foode, filling vp the wind-pipes, and disabling the horse in trauell; if they be not exceeding well dried, they breede in a Horse the Botts, Grubbes, and all sortes of wormes, together with paine in the stomacke, lunges, and generally all ouer a horses intralles.

Of Beanes.

Beanes are nourishing and strong, and highly to bee preferd before Pease or Fitches, because if they be giuen to a Horse, when they are well dried they breede good blood, and are more light of digestion, yet whensoever they are giuen they must be mingled with Oates, for to giue them simplie of themselues; they are somewhat too cloying, and offend a horse in his eating.

Of Blende  
sorne.

Now for mingling Pease, Beanes, Fitches and Wheat-bran together, it is a most vnwholsome prouender, for there is corruptiō in the Fitches, pursiuenes in the Pease, and fulsomnes in the Beanes, joyn'd vnto a most scalding and vnnaturall heate in the Branne, so that I would wish all that loue their horses not to loue this kinde of foode.

Now



Now lastly for common horse bread, which is made of nothing but Chissell or Bran bak'd, it is neither nourishing nor yet wholesome, but is the originall cause of many filthy diseases, as I haue shewd at large in a former treatise, so that were all Hors-men and Trauellers of my minde; either Bakers should compound their breade better, or neuer sell any to Inne or Stable, for I will stand to it, that bread made of all the dust of a Mill or a Barne-flore, is as wholesome as any that I haue seene come from a common Baker.

Now out of these seuerall Prouenders to shew you which is best, for which purpose you shall vnderstand that for your horse for seruice in the warres, or the horse kept for hie-way travelling, or long iourneyes, your best prouender is Beanes and Oates well kilne dry'd and mingled together, as thus: to euerie bushell of beanes two bushell of oates; For the hunting or running horse cleane Oates wel kilne dry'd, or bread made of cleane Beanes, as is shewed in the booke of hunting: for the cart or plow-horse, Pease, Beanes, and Fitches mixt with Barly-chaffe: as thus, to a pecke of pease, beanes, and fitches, at least a bushell of barley-chaffe. For the horse that is kept for sale, and is in the hands of the Hors-courser, if hee be fat, the best foode is a fewe Pease or Beanes mixt with oate-hulls, which are taken from oates when you make Oate-meale, but if he be leane, olde, or lacke teeth, then either boyled barley whilest it is sweete, or else boild bucke, for both these feede suddainly though corruptly.

Now for the quantitie which you shall allow; I thinke for great Horses, or Princes or Gentlemens priuate saddle horses, which euer should be kept as fatt and faire as may be, that 2. pecks a day is the best proportion; for the

ordinary traueiling Gelding a pecke a day is sufficient, and for the Cart or draught horse your measure must be to fill his belly before his worke and after his worke, or else hee will giue ouer his labour.

Now if there happen into your charge either *Turkes, Ienets, Arabians*, or other Countrey horses, which haue bene vsed to other foodes then these which we imploy in England, you shall first as neare as you can, either by inquirie of those which formerly had the keeping of such Horses, or by proofes in your own practise, learne what foode the horse best likes, and in what sort he hath bene before kept, and if you dislike either his foode or keeping, you shall not alter him suddainly, but by little and little, bring him to that dyet you shall finde best for his body.

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CHAP. 3.

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*Of the seuerall kindes of Waters, which is best  
and which is worst.*

**H**Aving in mine imagination tolde you sufficiently what foode or meate is best, and most naturall for a Horses body, it resteth now that wee tell you what drinke also is fittest, which by the opinion of all men, and the rule both of kinde and custome is onely water.

Now forasmuch as there be diuers and sundry kindes of waters, as namely the cleare spring, or fountaine, the Ponde, and the running Riuer, and forasmuch as euery one of these according to their scituations, so doe alter



In their properties, as the fountaine which doth come from the Rocke is smallest and most scowring; that which comes from chalke, limestone, or salt water most nourishing, and that which comes from Brimstone or Sulphure most vnsauiory yet wholesome: so of Pondes that which is fed by a fresh spring is smallest, that which is fed by the land flood best nourishing, and that which is onely maintayn'd by raine water is most infectious.

Lastly of Riuers, that which comes from a cleare spring, and runnes vpon sand or pibble, being very shallowe is euer the sharpest: that which in his running clenseth common shoares, and beares away corruption is the best feeding: but that which is deepe, muddy, comes from bogges, and runnes slowest, is naught and offensive. Wherefore if your horse be fatt or subiect to grosenes, your best water is either the Spring which comes from the rocke, the Pond which is fedde by a fresh fountaine, or the shallowe brooke which runnes vpon pibble, for they clense the body and raines, purge the kidneys, and coole the blood if it bee inflamed: but if your horse be leane, olde or tender, then your best water is either the fountaine which comes from chalke, limestone, or from the seas saltnesse, the ponde which comes of the land flood beeing cleared by standing, or the riuer which clensing Citties or great townes, makes himselfe cleare with his running; for these hauing in them a mixture, or compounded strength, are the pleasantest and most nourishing. In the Summer season your running fountaine is the best, for it is the coolest, and in the winter your deepe Well water is best, for it is the warmest.

Water for a  
fat Horfe.

Now there bee of our English writers which would

haue your horse to drinke verie much ; and if hee be not naturally inclined thereunto , to rubbe his mouth with salt and wine , to make him thirstie ; but it is a most vilde precept, for the lesse a horse drinks at one time, the better it is, for many surfeits are taken by drinke, but few or none for want, and therefore if you see your horse subiect to drinke much, you shall then water him the oftner that he may not drinke much at once. To gallop and chafe a horse gently after his water, is the wholsomest motion that may be, for it keepes him from colde, and dropfies, and disperfeth the colde vapour of the water through his bodie, and recouers his stomacke.

Now for letting your horse stand any long time in the water vp to the knees, as many Hors-men doe, I for mine owne part like it not, for it numbes and cooles the leggs too much, and makes the horse apter to surbait : onely when you shall perceiue your horses codds or sheath to swell, then I would if it be in the heate of Summer haue you to swimme your horse once a day either ouer some deepe riuer, or in some deepe ponde ; but if it bee in the Winter, then I would onely haue you to bathe his cods and sheath with colde water in the stable.

Now lastly, if you haue the charge of great Horses, who out of their couragious spirits are not easily to bee ledde, the best is euer to water them in the house : but if your charge bee of journeying Geldings, then 'tis best wating them abroade, and to chafe them a little in your hand vp and downe after his water, And thus much for Water and the vses.



## CHAP. 4

*Of the Dressing, Combing and Currying of Horses,  
and of their Dyet in the time  
of rest.*

**T**O enter into any Phisicall distinctions or allusions of Dressing and currying of Horses, comparing them with the fixe severall kindes of frictions belonging to mans body, or to repeate vnto you vse-lesse obseruations, prescribed by the auncient *Italians*, which neither agree with our clime nor the conditions of our Horses, were a labour vaine, and a great depriving of the industrious Keeper of his best knowledges; wherefore that I may in the plainest manner I can, vnfolde what necessary precepts belong to the office, I thinke it not amisse to begin after this manner: First after your Horse is taken into the house, you shall put vpon his head a strong Coller of broad double leather, with two reynes of leather, or else round writen chaines with short linckes running easilie through holes made for the purpose in the vpper great tree of the maunger, in such sort that when the horse puts down his head, the chaines may fall downe to the ground; and when he thrustes vp his head, they may rise to the top of the maunger: now the first night that your horse is brought into the house, you shall onlie giue him a bottle of wheat straw into the racke, and so let him stand without litter, or any thing else, for that night hee will doe nothing but emptie his bellie of grasse. The next day about nine of the clocke in the morning, you shall take a double rope made

of:

of wheate strawe twound exceeding hard together, and with it rubbe his head, face, necke, breast, body, bellie, buttockes, and legges, then you shall giue him as much water as hee will drinke (and a fresh bottle of wheate straw if the other be eaten) and so let him stand till foure of the clocke in the euening, at which time, as you did in the morning, so you shall then rubbe him ouer with new ropes of strawe: then water him, giue him fresh strawe into his racke, and let him stand till eight a clocke at night, at which time you shall take a great bottle of wheate straw, and spread it vnder his body, laying it thickest before his fore-legges, both because his head may haue as it were a pillow to rest vpon, and also because Horses naturally will with their fore-leggs put the strawe backward. This is called littering of horses: and when you haue thus donne, you shall let him rest till the next morning.

The third day I would haue you come to your Horse at seauen of the clocke in the morning, and the first thing you doe after you haue opened your windowes, and washed your owne handes, you shall take a shakeforke, that is to say, a forke of wood without any yron about it, and with it you shall shake vp and thrust backward all the horses dung, and wett litter, putting it from the planchers; then you shall shake vp all the dry litter which is vnsoyl'd, forward: and with your shakeforke thrust it vp as hard as may bee vnder the maunger; then with a shouell well shodd with yron for the purpose, you shall shouell away all manner of filthinesse from the planchers, and then with a beesome either of Birch, or Broome, you shall sweepe the planchers and Stable so cleane as is possible, & so gathering all the filthines into one place,  
put



put it either into a Barrow or Basket, and carry it into such backe places as are for such a purpose. This done, you shall bring into the stable a Peale full of faire water, and place it hard by the hinder part of the stall where the horse standes: then you shall take a waring snaffle, and a headstall, and after you see that the snaffle is cleane without dust or filthinesse, you shall dip it into the peale of water, and then put it into the horses mouth, and so turning him about, that hee may stand with his head where his tayle did stand, you shall with a seperated reynetye vp the Horse to the two ringes, which are fastned into the postes of each side him: This done, you shall take your rope of strawe well twound together, and therewith first rubbe the Horses face and cheekes all ouer, then with your finger and your thumbe, you shall twich away all those long and stiffe haire which growe close about his vpper eye-brees, and close vnderneath his neather eye-brees, for they hinder sight: You shall likewise pull away all those long haire which growe about his nostrrels, vnderneath his chappes, and downe his necke to his breast; then as you did before, you shall first rubbe the right side of his necke, his breast, right shoulder, and right legg, the right side of his body and bellie, the right buttock and right leg, and then you shall goe to the left side, and in all thinges doe as you did vpon the right side. This done, you shall take a great Sponge, and hauing put it into the water, you shall take it forth, and presse it a little, then therewith you shall rub ouer your Horses face, then lay by the sponge, and with your handes rubbe his face till it bee as drie as may be, then wash your handes cleane againe, for there will come much filth and durtinesse from the horse; and take  
the

the wet sponge and rub the right side of his necke therewith; then with your hand rub that part drie againe also, and thus rubbing euerie feuerall part of his body with the wet sponge as you did with the twound straw rope, and drying them againe with your handes, you shall bring away all the loose haire which are about his bodie: this done, you shall picke his sheath cleane from all dirtinesse, and you shall wash his coddies and make his yerde cleane, then you shall lift vp his docke, and with a cleane cloath rub his tuell and the partition of his haunches, then you shall take hogs-grease, soote, and a little tarre mixt together, and dipping a cloath therein, anoint all his foure hoofes, or for want of it, you may rub his hoofes with the vpper skinn of bacon, for it is verie good also; then you shall take a yard of haire-cloath, and rubbe his head, necke, breast, bodie, buttockes and legges all ouer therewith, after it, take a housing-cloath made of Sackcloath of such largenesse, that it may lappe ouer before his brest, and with a fursingle both broad and flatt, gird it about him, putting halfe a dozen soft wispes betwixt the cloath and the fursingle vpon the top of his backe, and halfe a dozen likewise betwixt the cloath and the fursingle, of each side of his heart, iust behinde the elboes of the horse, which doe not onely keep the horse warme, but withall defend the fursingle from pinching or galling: If it bee either Hunting horse, or Running horse you keepe, then you shall for warmenesse sake wispe the fursingle round about, yet you must bee verie circumspect that your wispes be made very soft, great and flat, and not as I haue seene amongst some that are esteemed cunning, so little and so hard twisted together, that after a horse hath been laide downe, you  
 may



may see the print of his wispes in his sides when hee is bared, which both puts the Horse to great paine and makes him more vnwilling to lye downe when hee is wearie.

Now there be some in this Land which cannot indure to haue their Horses cloathed at all; and therefore happily will dislike this precept of mine for the cloathing of Horses, saying it makes horses too tender, and takes from them abilitie of induring hardnes, to them I say they are exceedingly much deceiued, for it is only those hard customes, which makes them vnable to indure any hardnes at all, and the reason thereof is this, that nature by such hardnes and extremity, being put to her vttermost force and strength, to maintaine her liuelyhood, when that hardnes at any time is exceeded, she presently faintes and forgoes all her vigor and vertue; as thus for example: it is asmuch as nature can well do to maintain a horse in any good state & strength, without cloathes in the stable: if the by extremity he come to be compeld to liue without clothes in the field in the extremity of cold and bitter weather, hauing indured his vttermost before now feeling it exceeded, he presently growes faint, sicke and oft times dies sodainly, whereas on the contrary part, when nature is cherisht & fortiesied by the helpe of housing, clothing and such like, he gathers that strength and powerfulness that no extremity can daunt him, the experience wherof we see daily amongst hunting horses, and in their extreame matches. Againe, to come to a more familiar example, let vs looke into our owne constitutions, what creature is kept more hard, both for hunger and colde then the plow Clowne, and who more dainty and voluptuouslie then the Gentleman? yet bring them  
both

both to one equall extremitie, and one Gentleman will both indure and bee seruiceable, when a hundred Clownes will dye like sheepe in a rotte yeare, because the straitnesse of their liues kept Nature ever leane and in weaknesse: and of this, when I was a poore commander in the Warres, I euer tooke a principall notice; and held it for a maxime, that the more choise either Man or Horse is kept in the time of rest, the more hee shall be able to indure in the time of trouble. When you haue cloath'd your Horse vp as is before specified, if hee be a horse of any esteeme, it shall bee good if you haue a hood for his head and necke made of Sackcloath also, which you shall tye to the noseband of his collar, and to that part of the suringle, which is ouer his backe: when all this is done, if hee be a horse that will not bee quietly ledde abroad, then you shall bring him a pealefull of verie faire water, and let him drinke his fill, then hauing both with a hard wispe, and a clean cloath made his maunger verie cleane, you shall take off his Snaffle and turne him to the maunger, then washing the snaffle and hanging it vp, take halfe a pecke of Oates, and putting them into a meale sisse, dust them verie cleane, and giue them to the Horse to eate, then put a bottle of Wheat-straw into his racke; sweepe the planchers and stable very cleane againe, then locke vp the doore and let him rest till it be twelue a clocke. Attwelve a clocke you shall come into the Stable, and first you shall make cleane the stable and planchers; then dipping his watering Snaffle in some faire water, you shall put it on his head, and turne him about as you did in the morning; then you shall take a sharpe paire of colling sheares and colle the inside of both his eares, as close to the  
skinne



skinne as may bee, and the vpper part of his mayne next his eares, from the noddle or crowne of his head downward into his mayne, for the breadth of three fingers, if hee be a great horse or traouelling gelding, but if he bee either hunting or running horse, then for the length of fixe inches, both because his haire shall not flie about his face as he gallops, and so trouble him, nor yet cause him to sweate about his eares, to which a horse is too much subiect. When you haue cold his eares and mayn, you shal then looke about his chaps, and if he be subiect to much haire or roughnesse in those partes, you shall then clippe it close away that thereby you may the easlyer feele the kirkels, and grosse matter which is about the rootes of his tongue, by which you know when a horse is cleane, when not cleane, when hee hath a colde and when no colde. Lastly, you shall take his tayle in your hand, and stretching it downe straight by his hinder legg, with your sheares clippe it close by the vpper part of his hinder heele, then taking a wet mayn-combe, and a wet sponge-combe, first his fore-top downe, then his mayne, and lastly the vpper part of his tayle from the setting on thereof, to the vttermost end of the short haire. When this is done, and your stable swept and made cleane againe, it will be at least past three a clocke, at which time I would haue you fetch in a cleane peale of water, and place it as you did before, then put your great sponge therein, and your mayne-combe also; then lay your writhen straw roapes, and your haire-cloath in some place adioyning vnto you, then pull your wispes one by one from your surfingle, and open euery wispe, and mixe the strawe with the litter, and not as sloathfull Keepers doe, make your wispes last a wecke together, so  
that

that a horse had as good lye vpon stones, as vpon such wispes; then you shall vn buckle your fursingle, & roule it vp, that it may be flat and smoothe, then take off his cloath, and going foorth of the Stable, shake it and dust it very well, then lapping it vp, lay it by, and as you did dresse, trimme and picke your horse in the morning, so shall you, without sayling in any one point, dresse him in the euening, and cloath him againe as before; then combe downe his fore-top, his mayne, and the vpper part of his tayle, with a wet mayn combe; then water him and giue him prouender, make cleane your Stable and plaunchers, giue him strawe into his racke, & so let him rest till eight a clocke at night, at which time you shall litter him, & so let him rest till next morning.

These three daies being spent in this order, your horse will haue emptied all his grasse, and his belly will be taken vp well within his ribbs, so that now you may both alter his keeping and dressing; wherfore the fourth day by sixe a clocke in the morning; I would haue you come into the Stable, and as you did the former dayes, first shake vp his litter, and make cleane both his racke and maunger, bring in your cleane water, wet his watering Snaffe, put it on his head, turne him about, tye him vp, plucke out his wispes, folde vp his fursingle and take off his cloath, then you shall take a currie combe made answerable to the coate and skinne of your horse, as thus: if your horse haue a thicke rough coate and a foule skin, then the teeth of your currie combe shall be made somewhat long and sharp: if his coate be smooth, & his skin cleane, then the teeth shall keep their length, but be filde very blunt, but if his coate be like a Mouse coate, exceeding thinne and smoothe, and his skinne very tender, as  
for



for the most part *Barbaries, Ienets, and Turkes* are, then the teeth shall bee very thicke, yet both short and blunt. With your Currie-combe in your right hand, and your face being placed against your horses face, you shall lay your left hand vpon the side of his brydle, and fetching your stroake from the roote of the horses eare, to the setting on of his necke to his shoulder, you shall currie him with a good hard hand, not leauing anie part of his necke vncurried, then turning your face about, and placing the side of your bodie to the side of the Horse, laying your left hand vpon his backe, you shall fetch your stroake from the top of his wythers, downe to the neather part of the pitch of his shoulder, and at euerie second or third stroake, you shall strike your combe before and about his breast, and thus you shall with a more moderate and temperate hand currie his shoulder, halfe breast and legg downe to his knee, but in any wise no lower; then you shall with a like moderate hand, currie his backe, side, flanke and that part of his bellie where his garthes rest, as for the chyne of his backe, and the barre part of his bellie next vnto his sheath, that you shall currie with such a gentle and light hand as is possible; then with a hard hand againe, you shall currie all his buttocke and thigh close downe to his Cambrels but no further: hauing donne thus much vpon one side, you shall then currie him as much vpon the other side.

Now you shall obserue, that whilest you currie your Horse, if hee keepe a fridging vp and downe, or offer to byte, strike, or bee impatient, that then it is a signe your Currie-combe is too sharpe, and you must amend it, but if you finde his vncomeliuesse onely procedes from

ticklishnesse or delight, which hee takes in the friction, you shall then euer when you currie him haue a small sticke in your left hand, and with it correct him for his wantonnes. Hauing thus curried him all ouer the body and raised vp the dust, you shal then take a dead horse taile nayl'd about a handle of wood, and with it strike off all the dust which your currie-combe raised vp: then you shal take a round rubber, which rubber is a round peece of wood all stucke as thick as may bee with round tuftes of Swynes bristles cut close and eeuē within a strawe bradth or more of the wood, and hauing a loope of leather on the backeside, through which you must thrust your hand, so that the rubber may lye in the very palme of your hand. This rubber (but that it is round and the bristles shorter) is in all pointes like a common rubbing brush with bristles, such as are vsed about foule garments: with this rubber you shall currie your Horse ouer in all pointes as you did with your currie-combe, only your hand shal carry all one weight & temper, and if your Horse bee so finely skinn'd that hee will not indure any currie-combe at all (as there bee many) then this rubber shall serue instead thereof. When you haue thus gone ouer him with your rubber, you shall then with your horse taile strike away the dust the second time; then you shall take your wett sponge, and first wetting his face and checkes, you shall with your handes rubbe it drie againe, and not leaue whilest you discerne a loose haire to come away: then you shall looke about his eyes, his nostrrels, vnder his chappes, and about his foretop, & if you finde any superfluous haire or otherwise, which grow out of order, you shall either pluck them away, or with your Sizars cut them in order.

This



This done, you shall with your wett sponge and your handes goe ouer all his body, not leauing whilest any loose hayres will come away (as was declared vnto you in the third dayes dressing) you shall with your wett handes rubbe his eares, both within and without also, first making them wett, and then rubbing them drie againe: you shall also not omit with your wett handes, to cleanse his sheath, his yarde and his cods. This done, you shall take a cleane wollen cloath of cotten, and therewithall beginning at his face, you shall so proceede and rub the horses necke and body all ouer, especially betweene his fore-legs or fore-boothes, vnder his belly, betweene his flanke and his body, and vpon the chine of his backe; then you shall take a haire-cloath, and therewithall rub him all ouer likewise, but especially in the places before rehearsed: this being done, you shall spread your haire-cloath ouer his buttockes, and then lay on his cloath vpon him againe, and hauing girded the fursingle, you shall stoppe him with wispes as was before declared: then you shall take a wett mayne-combe and combe downe his fore-toppe, his mayne and his tayle, then you shall take a peale of faire water, and putting his tayle therein close to his midd sterne or docke, you shall with your hands wash it very cleane, then taking it out of the peale, you shall wring out all the water from the haire into the peale againe, then you shall tye vp his taile in ten or twelue seuerall hankes, that it may drie againe; this done, you shall take such hard writen strawe-roapes as was before declared, rub and chafe exceedingly both his fore legs from the knee downward, euen to the cronets of his hoofes, & likewise his hinder-legs from the cambrels to the hoofes also, picking and rubbing his sewer-

lockes with your fingers, leaning neither dust, dirt, nor any skirffe within them, then rub both with the roapes and with your hand his pasternes betwixt his fetlockes and his heeles, then take a haire-cloath kept onely of purpose, and as you rubb'd his legges with the hard roapes, so rub them with the haire-cloath also, then take vp his feete, and with an yron made for the purpose, picke all his foure feete betweene the shooes and his hooves as cleane as may bee, then stop them close and hard either with Cow-dung, or else with Hogs-grease and branne molten together; then annoint the outside and cronets of his hooves with the oyntment before declared, then washing your hands cleane, combe down his mayne and taylor with a wett mayne-combe, then water him, and so turne his head to the manger, and put on his collar, then if hee be a great horse, you shall sift in a siue halfe a pecke of Pease and Oates mingled, or else cleane Oates, which is the fourth part of his allowance, and the maunger being made cleane, giue them him to eate, but if he be but an ordinary gelding, then a quarter of a pecke is sufficient, which is the fourth part of his allowance also, and whilest he is eating his prouender you shall make him a bottle of sweet hay somewhat bigger then a penny bottle in an Inne, and put it into the racke, then sweeping the stable cleane, you may let your horse rest till noone.

Now if it bee either Hunting horse or Running horse that you keepe, you shall when you are ready to depart out of the stable put downe the litter vnder your horse, and then shutting the windowes close, depart: In which absent time you must busie your selfe in making your hay bottles, or straw bottles for litter, or if your horse be too fat and pursie, by mingling wheat straw & hay together  
for



for your horse to eat, or providing such necessarie im-  
plements as are to be used in the stable. At twelue a  
clocke at noone you shall come into the stable, and first  
hauing swept it, and made it verie cleane, you shall then  
take a faire linnen cloath, white washt, and therewith first  
rubbe your horses face and necke, then turning vp his  
cloath, rub downe his buttockes, his flankes, and leskes,  
then turne his cloath down againe, and then with warme  
Beefe-broth (which is neuer wanting in great mens hou-  
ses) bathe his fore-legges from the knee downward, and  
his hinder legges from the cambrel downeward, but if  
you want beefe-broth, then take Traine-oyle, Sheepe-  
foot oyle, or Neates, foot oyle, for any of them is very so-  
ueraine, either if your horses legs be stiffe and vnnimble,  
or if they be subiect to swell, or if his greafe haue bene  
molten in them. When this is done, you shall sift him  
into a sine another halfe pecke or quarter of a pecke of  
Oates, according to your allowance, and giue them him  
to eat; then hauing made cleane the Stable, let your  
horse rest till three a clocke in the afternoone.

Now you shall vnderstand, that if your Horse bee of a  
tender and daintie stomacke, and that hee is verie apt to  
grow gaunt, and to loose his belly, or if he be leane, then  
I would haue you to offer your horse at noone a little  
water also, but not other wise; at three a clocke in the af-  
ternoone I would haue you as soone as you haue made  
your stable cleane, to vncloath your horse, and to currie,  
rubb, picke, dresse and trimme your horse in euery point  
as you did in the morning: then to water him, and to  
giue him another fourth part of his allowance of pro-  
uender, & another bottle of hay, and so to let him rest till  
eight a clock at night, at what time you shall come to him

and in all pointes as you vsed him at twelue a clocke at noone, so you shall vse him at that time; then putting downe his litter, and making his bed, and giuing him the last fourth part of his allowance of prouender, and hay to serue him for all night, let him rest till the next morning. After the order that you haue spent this day, you shall spend euery day whilest your horse restes without exercise, that is to say, dressing him twice a day morning and euening, and feeding him foure times a day, that is, morning, noone, euening and night, as for his water it must bee according to the constitution of his body: If hee be fat and foule, twice a day is sufficient: if of reasonable temper thrice: if leane & weake, then foure times. Euery Keeper shall obserue, by no meanes to come to his Horse suddainly or rashly, but first to giue him warning, by crying *ware I say*, or *Holla*, or such like wordes: hee shall neuer come or stand directly behinde a Horse, but alwaies vpon one side or other; if your horse bee of bolde or fierce courage, you shall euer keepe a paire of pasternes made of strong double leather, and lyn'd with cotten, put through two tournels fixt to a chaine twelue inches long, about his fore-legges vnderneath his fetlockes: If your horse haue a quallity that hee will either tear his cloath or pull his wispes out of his fursingle, you shall then tye a long staffe alongst his necke, the one end being made fast to his coller, hard by the rootes of his eare, the other end to the fursingle close by the vpper wispes, so that he cannot writhe or turne his head backward; if your horses mayne bee too thicke or ilfauour'dly growne, you may with a rasler made of yron with three or foure teeth, make it both as thinne as you please and lay it vpon which side of his necke you please.

And



And thus much for the Dressing and Trimming of a Horse, during his time of rest: which method if you diligently obserue, you shall bee sure to haue his coate as smooth and sleeke as glasse, and his skinne so pure and cleane, that (did you rub him therewith) hee would not staine a garment of veluet.

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CHAP. 5.

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*Of a Horses labour or exercise, and how he shall be ordered when he is iourneyed.*

**V**Nder this tytle of Exercise I intend to figure those moderate and healthfull motions, which increasing the naturall heate of those moouing partes which sustaine the body, giue both strength and liuelyhood to all the inward Organs and vessels of life, as when a man either for his owne practise, or to continue his horse in those lessons which he hath formerly learnt, or when hee would procure his horse an appetite, or giue him the benefite of the fresh ayre, he doth in the morning ride him not till hee sweate, but till hee haue brought him to the point of sweating, and this exercise dooth the most belong to great Horses trayned for seruice in the Warres.

Now vnder this tytle of Labour, I comprehend all necessary trauell or iourneying, wherein being drawne by our worldly busines, we are forc'd to trauell our horse both to the decay or hazard either of his strength or courage.

Now for these two, namely Exercise which doth the more it is vsed, bring the horse more strength and vigor;

and labour which the more it is vsed, the weaker and fainter it makes him, doth belong two severall orders of government or keeping; if therefore your charge be the keeping of a great Horse whose exercise is but to be ridden an houre or two euery other morning, you shall thus prepare him thereunto: at eight a cloeke at night, which is the night before your horse is to be exercised; after you haue made cleane your Stable, rubbed your horse with your cloathes, and littered him, you shall then sife him a double allowance of prouender, that is to say, that which is due to him at that time, and also that which he should haue the next morning; then looke what hay you did ordinarily allowe him other nightes, you shall now giue him halfe so much this night, and to let him rest till siue of the cloeke the next morning, at what time as soone as you rise (hauing made cleane your stable) and put vp his litter, you shall wet his watering snaffle, and put it on, and turne him about, then loosing his suringle, and taking off his cloath, first with a haire-cloath rubbe his face, necke, and bodie all ouer, then with a woollen cloath, and a linnen cloath doe the like, especially rubbe his legges passing well; then take his Saddle, hauing three garthes, and a paire of sufficient stirrops, and stirrop-leathers, and set it vpon the horses backe in due place, that is, (if the horse bee not low before) rather more forward then backward, and gird it on in this manner: take the garth which is fast to the formost tabbe of the right side, and buckle it to the hindmost tabbe on the left side, and the hindmost garth on the right side, to the formost tabbe on the left side, and the middle garth to the middle tabbe on both sides, and this is called crosse girding, being the comlyest, surest and least hurtfull



hustell manner of girding, for it galls the least, and holdes the saddle fastest: you shall not at the first gird the girthes hard, but in such sorte that the Horse may feele them and no more: this done, you shall buckle on his breast plate, and his crooper, making them of equall straintesse: then you shall lace on his saker or docke, and make fast his twinell to the hindmost girth on the left side; then with a wet mayne-combe, combe downe his fore-toppe and mayne, and then throwing his cloath ouer him, let him stand till you haue warning to bring him to his Ryder, at what time you shall take his bitt, and hauing both the Chaule-band, and the nose-band open, and the Kurbe loose, you shall first wet it in a peale of cleane water, then laying the reyne ouer your left arme, you shall take the vpper part of his headstall into your righthand, and laying the mouth of the bitt vpon your left hand betweene your thumb and your little finger, you shall put the bitt to his mouth, and by thrusting your thumb and little finger betwixt his chappes, compell him to open his mouth, and to receiue the bitt which by obseruing this order, hee can neither will nor chuse but doe: when the bitt is in his mouth, you shall then buckle his Nose-band, Chaule-band, and Kurbe in those due places, as you haue scene his Ryder formerlie doe; then you shall wet his fore-top, and winde it vnder the forehead-band of his headstall; then hauing comb'd his mayne againe, and drawne his girthes to their places, you shall buckle a paire of large close spectacles made of strong leather before his eyes, which will occasion him to lead quietly: then with your right hand you shall take him by the left side of the headstall close vpon the mouth, and with your left hand holde both the reynes

close

close together hard by the bitt, and so going close by his left shoulder, lead him either to the blocke, or to such place as the rider shall thinke conuenient, then as soone as the rider hath put the reynes ouer the horses necke, you shall presently shift your right hand to the right side of the headstall, and laying your left hand vpon the right stirrop leather, you shall whilst the rider mounts the horses backe stay the Saddle that it swarue not; then when the rider is settled, you shall vn buckle the spectacles, and take them away, referring the Horse to the discretion of the Rider.

As soone as the horse hath beene exercised sufficiently, and is brought home, the rider shall no sooner dismount his backe, and deliuer him into your hand, but you shall first vnloose his Kurbe, and then presently lead him into the stable, for of all things I cannot indure this walking of Horses, knowing that it was a custome first foolishly inuented, and now as vnprofitably imitated; for there is not any thing which sooner makes a horse take cold, or breedes worse obseruations in the body then this cooling of horses by walking. When you haue brought your horse into the stable, where you must haue formerly prouided great store of drie litter, turning his head downe from the maunger, and hanging the reynes of the bitt vpon some hooke for the purpose, you shall first rubbe his face, then his necke, fore-boothes, belley, flankes, and legges with drie strawe, so cleane as may be; then with a wollen cloath you shall rubbe him all ouer againe, not leauing any place which he hath wette with sweate till it be as drie as may be; then you shall loose his garths to their vtmost length, and thrust round about betwixt his garthes and his body as much drie  
 strawe



strawe as you can conueniently get in, then vnlace his saker and take it away, rubbing the docke of his tayle dry with a wollen cloath, then cast his cloath ouer the Saddle, then take off his bitt and put it into a peale of water, then wash his watering snaffle and put it on, tye him to the rings, and so let him stand for at least two houres, during which time you shall take his bitt out of the water, and with a drie linnen cloath rubbe it as drie as may bee, and then hang it vp: you shall also wipe his saker within, folde vp the stringes, and lay it by also.

Now when your Horse hath stood vp thus vpon his brydle at least two or three houres, and is sufficiently cooled, you shall then come to him, and first taking off his cloath, you shall loose his garthes, and take away his saddle, which done, you shall first with drie strawe, and then with drie cloathes rubb his backe till there bee not one wet haire left, then you shall lay on his cloath again, and girding it slacke with the fursingle, you shall stoppe him round about the body with great wispes: then you shall with hard wispes of strawe, and woollen cloathes, rubbe all his foure legges exceedingly, then combe his mayne and tayle with a wet mayn-combe, take off his snaffle, turne him to the maunger, put on his collar, sift and giue him his allowance of Oates, and putting a bottle of hay in his racke, let him rest with his litter vnder him till the euening: then you shall hang the Saddle where the Sunne shines hottest that the pannel may dry, and if the Sunne shine not, then you shall drie it before the fire, and then with a small sticke beat the pannel, and make it soft; you shall also rub the stirrops, stirrop-leathers, garthes, and euery buckle about the Saddle exceedingly cleane: then in the eueing about foure of the  
clocke

clocke you shall currie, drasse, rub, picke, anoynt, water and feed him, as hath bene formerly shewed you in his daies of rest, keeping euery tittle; & euery obseruation.

Now if your horse be not for exercise but for labour, and iourneying about your worldly businesse, you shall then thus prepare him, first the night before you are to take your iourney about eight of the clocke, as soone as you haue made cleane your stable, rubd and littered your horse; you shall first giue him ss much water as he will drinke, then a double allowance of prouender, and as much hay as he will conueniently eate, then you shall annoynt all his foure legges with trayne oyle, and see that his shooes be good, strong, tough, easie, and his feete well stopt, and so let him rest till very early in the morning, at what time you shall currie and dresse him as sufficiently as in any of his dayes of rest; then you shall gird on the saddle in which you meane to ride, which would bee both easie, light, and square, easie for your owne seate, light that it may not sodainely make the horse sweate, and square that it may not pinch, gall, or wound him; when he is saddled you shall giue him a litle water, but nothing nere so much as he would drinke, and his full allowance of prouender, which as soone as he hath eaten, you shall bridle him vp, and trusse his tayle short aboute his houghes, and so let him stand till you be ready to take your iourney.

After you are mounted you shall for the first houre or two in your iourney ride very temperately, as not aboue three miles an houre, in which time your horse will be reasonably emptied, and then you may put him foorth as your iourney requires, it shall bee good if in your iourney you come to the descent of any great hill



to light from your horses backe, and to walke down the hill a foote, taking occasion by standing still a while, or by whistling to see if your horse will pisse, which if he refuse to doe, then it shall be good for you your selfe to pisse vnder the horses belly, & it will without all question prouoke your horse to pisse, you shall in your traueiling as neere as you can keepe one certaine pace in your trauell, and not one while gallop, another while amble or trot, and another while go foot pace, or stand still, for there is nothing which either sooner tyres a horse or brings him to surfeites, or takes from him delight in his labour. When you come within two, or three, or foure, miles of the Inne where you meane to rest all night, you shall in the conuenientest place you can finde, as either in some running brooke or riuer, or some faire fresh pond, water your horse, suffering him to drinke as much as he will, and in this watering of your horse you shall obserue to ride him into the water a handfull at the most about the knees, and no further, for to ride him vnder the knees will indanger the foundring him in his feete, and to ride him vp to the belley will hazard foundring him in the body.

After you haue watred your horse you shal gallop him gently vpon the hand for twelue score, or there about, and then in his ordinary iournyng pace, ride him to his Inne, and as soone as you are lighted, presently set your horse vp into the stable, by no meanes (although it bee the general custome of our Nation) suffering any Ostlers or idle boyes to wash him, for it is the onely venemous poyson & worst euill you can bestowe vpon your horses body; sometimes foundring him, sometimes thrusting him into the fitte of an Ague, and when it workes the  
best.

best yet it strikes such an inward cold into his bodie that the Horse is worse therefore sometimes for a yeare after: when you haue set your horse vp, tyed his head to the emptie racke, and put great store of litter vnder him, you shall then first with drie wispes rubbe his bellie, fore-boothes, and vnder his flancks betwixt his thighes and body, then shall you rubbe all his foure legges passing cleane with your hands wet in water, scowring all grauell and durt both out of his Fetlocks, Pasterne, and euery other crannie which is about any ioynt, especially at the bottome of his brest betweene his fore-legs, and betwixt his ribs and his elbowes, and also betweene his flanck and his body, then with drye wispes you shall rubbe and make cleane his face, head, necke, buttockes, and euery other member, not leauing whilst there is one wette hayre about him, then shall you with drye wispes make cleane his stirrops and stirrop leathers, and vnloosing his garths one by one, make them cleane also, then making your housing cloath ready (without which I would haue no keeper to ride if his horse be of any estimation) take off your saddle, and with drye strawe rubbe his backe very soundly, then laying a good deale of strawe vpon his backe, gird his cloath ouer it with your fursingle, and stop him round about with great wispes, then you shall vnloose his tayle, and if it bee durty you shall wash it in a peale of water, and after you haue wrung it well you shall tye a great wispe of strawe within it, to keepe it from his legges. If you haue no housing cloath for your horse then you shall not so sodainly remooue your Saddle, but after your horse is sufficiently rubd you shall then stop his garthes with great wispes round about. Many Horse-men vse as soone as they  
bring



bring their Horse into the Stable, to knit a thumbe roape of hay or strawe as straite as may bee about the vpper part of the horses docke, and doe imagine it will preterue him from taking colde, and doubtlesse it is verie good indeed.

After your Horse is in this wise rub'd, dry'd, and clenfed from sweate and filthinesse, you shall then take vp his foure legges one after one, and with an yron pick all the dirt and grauell from betwixt his shooes and his feete, and then stoppethem vp close with Cowe dung, then you shall put into his racke a pennybottle of hay on which you shall let him towse and pull, with his brydle in his mouth still, whilest you shake vp his litter handsomly about him, take your saddle, and if the pannel bee wett, drie it by some fire, then with a sticke beate it and make it soft, then pull off your owne bootes, and refresh your selfe to your owne contentment, in which busines hauing employed your selfe an houre or more, then come into the stable and take your horses brydle and put on his coller, then wash the bitt or snaffle in faire water, drie it with a linnen or wollen cloath, and so hang it vp handsomly; then after your horse hat eaten hay a quarter of an houre or more, you shall in a fine sift him halfe a pecke of cleane Oates, or Pease and Oates, which your Horse likes better, and giue them him, then if thee haue eaten all his hay, you shall giue him another bottle, and so let him rest till your selfe haue supped. After supper you shall come to your Horse and turne vp his cloath euen to his surfingle; and either with a haire-cloath or with drie wispes, you shall rub his bodie all ouer, especially vnder his belly and betweene his leggs: then you shall looke vpon his backe, whether your saddle haue  
pinches

pincht or wrung his backe, and if it haue, you shall lay a little wett hay vpon the swelling, and presentlie cause some Sadler to mend your saddle, then you shall looke if the heate of your saddle haue not raised any warbles or little knots vpon his backe, which is verie common with fat horses, and if it haue, you shall bathe them with a little Sacke heated in a saucer, and they will be well the next morning. This done, you shall sift him another halfe pecke of Oates, and giue them him, then whilst hee is eating them, you shall with hard drie wispes, rubbe all his foure legges as drie as may be, and then take a quart of mans vrine, and put thereto foure ounces of salt-peeter, and hauing boyl'd them vpon the fire, and stirred it well together, take it off, and beeing reasonable warme, bath all his legges therewith exceedingly: then let him stand for an houre or two after, then you shall take a Peale full of colde water, and put thereto as much hott water as will make it luke warme, and so giue it your horse to drinke: then sift him another halfe pecke of Oates, and giue them him: then giue him as much hay as will serue him all night, the proportion whereof you may gesse by his former keeping; and putting his litter close and warme about him, let him stand till the next morning, at what time (according to the haste of your affaires) you shall come to him either earlyer or later, and the first thing you doe after you haue put away his dung, you shall put off his cloath, and currie, rubbe, and dresse him sufficiently, and in such manner as hath benee formerly declared vnto you: then cast his cloath ouer him, and let it hang loose about him, then bring him a little colde water, and let him drinke, but not halfe so much as hee would; then giue him another halfe pecke  
of



of Oates, and whilest hee is eating them put on your bootes, and prepare your selfe for your iourney, which done, come to your Horse; and if hee haue eaten his Oates, then you shall saddle him, trusse vp his tayle, brydle him, and tye him vp to the bare racke, hauing taken his hay away, then take vp all his foure feete, and plucke out the Cowe dung wherewith you stopped them and picke them exceeding cleane; then let him stand till you be ready for your iourney.

Now if it be so that the occasion of your iourney be so great, that you cannot obserue any traouelling pace, but are forc't to gallop your horse at least twentie, or thirtie, or fortie mile together; in this case, I would not haue you by any meanes to water your horse before you come to your Inne, but hauing set him vp warme, and rubbed him drie, as is before shewed; you shall then before you giue him hay, or any thing else, take a pinte of very good Sacke, and warming it luke warme, giue it your Horse with a horne, and so let him rest halfe an houre after, and then giue him hay, and order him as was before shewed, onelie in steade of warme water late at night, you shall giue him a warme mash of Mault and water, for that with the helpe of trauell, will bring away his molten grease; if the next day following you are to ride him as violently also; you shall then when you are readie to take his backe, giue him a pinte of Sacke and Sugar-candie well brew'd together, and in your trauell euer fauour him as much as you can in the beginning, and put him foorth as violently as you please at the latter end of your iourney. If you happen vpon such an Inne where you can neither get Sacke nor Sugar-candie, then if you take stroug Ale brewed with great

store of Ginger, Sinnamon, it will bee as good.

If your horse bee of a tender and daintie stomacke, so that hee will refuse his prouender (as for the most part hot mettald horses and young horses vnacquainted with trauell will doe) then you must take the greater paines, and be euer feeding them, neuer giuing them a boue an handfull at once, till they haue eaten to your contentment. You shall also change their meate oft, as thus: after an handfull of cleane Oates, you shall giue an handfull of Pease and Oates; and after pease and oates, halfe a dozen bits of bread. And thus by alteration of foode you shall both make your horse eate well, and also strengthen his appetite: but if contrarie to this, your horse bee both a greate eater, and a grosse, then you shall feede him so oft, and with such large proportions, that you bring him to stand and blow vpon his meate as it lyes before him. But this you must not doe by no means suddenly, or at one time when your horse is hungrie, for that were to kill him, or make him surfeit: but you must doe it by such leasurable times, that nature hauing no more then she is able to digest, may in the end come to be orderly satisfied: at what time, and not before, you may bee assured your horse is in perfit strength and keeping.

The first principall note or rule which euery good Keeper shall obserue when he comes into any strange stable, is with his owne hands to cleanse the racke from all dust, filth, hay, or hay-seedes, and to rub the maunger also as clean as may be in euery part, least any infectious Horse haue stood there before, which is most dangerous: and for preuention whereof I would ener haue you in an Inne to let your horse eate his prouender in a Skuttell,



or some other cleanly vessell, and not in the maunger.

Now lastly, where as the most of our English trauellers doe vse (especially in the Summer) to baite or rest their horses at the noon time of the day, supposing it prepares them the better for their iourney: although I know the heate of the day is troublesome, both to the horse and man: yet I know these baytings are much more troublesome, neither would I haue any man to vse them; for when the horse hath his limbes chafte and heated with his trauell, and then is set vp till they be growne stiffe and colde, and so presently put to his labour againe, then I say the very paine and grieffe of his limbes doe so trouble him, that except he bee of an extraordinary spirit, hee will be much subiect to faintnesse in trauell; besides to make your horse iourney continually vpon a full stomacke is both painfull, and breeds sicknes; wherefore I conclude, these baytes are good for none but Carriers and Poulters jades, whose labours not being aboue foot pace, may cuer like Asses haue their prouender baggs at their noses. And thus much touching a Horses exercise and labour.

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*CHAP. 6.*

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*Of Sleeping, Waking, Fulnesse, and Emptinesse.*

**S**leepe in a Horse (as in euery other beast which hath moouing) is a most necessarie and especiall thing, neither can a Horse liue without it, wherefore it is the place and office of euery good Keeper, to haue a carefull regard to the rest of his Horse, and to note

both after what manner he sleepeeth and how long hee sleepeeth : for if a Horse sleepe verie much, it is a great signe of dulnesse, and fluxe of grosse and colde humours in the braine : but if he sleepe for the most part standing, it is a token that he hath some inward paine in his backe, or bodie, and feareth to lie downe, least hee cannot rise againe without much torment : If a Horse lie much, yet sleepe but a little, it is a signe of weake ioyntes, frettized feete, or limbes beaten with trauell : if the Horse neither sleepe, nor lie much, but as it were wake continually, it is a signe the Horse hath both a pained bodie, and a troubled minde, insomuch that he cannot possiblie liue long, both because hee wantes that which giueth the greatest strength to Nature, and also the chiefest meanes both of blood and digestion; sleepe being indeede nothing else but certaine sweete vapours, which ascending from the heart, numbes the braine, and keepes the body for a time sencelesse, so that euery keeper should haue a carefull eye over his Horse, to see how he sleepes, when, and how long time : then how he wakes, when he wakes, and after what manner hee wakes, for if he wake much, his braine is diseased, if hee wake often or suddainly, his heart, liuer, or stomacke is griued; and if hee wake seldome or with much adoe, then his whole powers are overcome with some colde humour.

Next vnto these obseruations, the carefull keeper shall looke to his horses fulnes, or the filling of his belly, I doe not meane those phisicall fillings which consist in humours either generally or particularly distributed ouer the bodie, consisting in quantitie or qualitie, for they are obseruations fit for the farryer; but to that fulnes which onely consisteth in the excesse of meate, wherefore the



the keeper shall note well the temper of the horses feeding, that is, whether hee fill suddainly or slowly and according to his filling, so to temper his dyet, and to giue him the lesse or the more meate according to his appetite, keeping the grosse horse emptie the longer before his trauell, and the tender horse with meate till your foot be readie to be thrust into the stirrop, for the full horse with suddaine labour will soone burst, and the emptie horse with much fasting will not bee able to indure any violence through faintnesse.

Next to your horses filling you shall note his manner of emptying, that is the state of his bodie, whether he be costiuie or sollible, or whether his vrine haue a free or troublesome passage, and by the rule of them you shall feede your horse more or lesse, as thus, if your horse be sollible or free of vrine, you through that helpe of nature may aduenture to feede him the harder, for albe he fill much, yet he holdeth not that fulnesse any long season, but hauing an easie digestion, bringes his bodie soone to a temperate emptinesse: but if hee bee costiuie or haue strait passage for his vrine, although fasting be the greatest cause of costiuenes, yet when you prepare your horse for a iourney, you shall not neede to feede him so extreamply, neither shall your meate bee for the most part any drie foode but rather moist washt meate, of which foodes I shall haue cause to speake more largely in the booke of Running horses.

Now you shall vnderstand that fulnes and emptinesse are phisike helpes one for another, the full horse beeing to be cured by emptinesse, as fasting, purgation, letting blood, or such like: and emptinesse to be cured by fulnesse, as by restauration or renewing of those powers

which are decayed; so that the Keeper carefully observing these rules, shall so quickly perceiue any imperfection in his horse, that a sleight prevention shall quickly auoide the greatest mischiefe. And thus much for *sleepe* and *feeding*.

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CHAP. 7.

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*Of the Soyle, or scowring Horses with Grasse, and of other foodes.*

**T**ouching the opinions of Horse-men for the scowring of Horses with grasse, they be diuers and intricate; some holding forrage, which is the blades of greene Corne, as of Wheate or Barley to be the best, some three leaued grasse, some young thistles, and such like, so also there is a difference amongst them for the time in scowring; one allowing but fifteene daies, another a month, and another the whole summer, neither are they certaine in the place where the Horse should be scowred, for some would haue it in the stable, some in a large Parke or field, and some in a little wall'd plot of ground, not about the quantitie of one or two Akers.

Now to reconcile all these, and to bring them to as orderly a conformitie, as is fit for a reasonable vnderstanding, I will declare mine opinion. First, if your horse bee either Hunting horse, Running horse, or one that hath bene vsed to much travell or iourneying, I holde it verie necessary that hee be scowred with grasse, either in some Parke, Close, or other spacious ground, where hee may haue sweet feeding, fresh springes, or riuers to drinke at, and good shelter both to defend him from flies and



and Sun-shine, the time to bee for foure monthes, that is to say, from the beginning of May to the end of August, in which time hee will not onely scowre and purge himselfe of grosse and corrupt humours, but also after such clensing grow strong, fat, and full of health and liuelinesse recovering by such rest and liberty, that weaknesse, stiffenesse, and numbnesse of ioyntes which his labour before had brought vnto him. But if your horse be a beast of great courage, and onely wantonly kept, either for your mornings exercise in riding, or for seruice in the warres, so that he will neither indure with any patience abroad, nor hath beene put to any such extremitie that hee standeth neede of recouerie: then I would haue you only to put him to the soyle within the house, that is to say, you shall from the beginging of Iune till the beginning of Iuly feed your Horse onely with grasse and no longer: and during the time, you shall neither cloath him, dresse him, nor ride him, only you shall keepe his planchers cleane from dung, and litter him with nothing but the offall or refuse grasse which hee pulls into the maunger, but will not eate: You shall also during this soyle time feede him with prouender in such sort as you did at other times, only I would haue his prouender to be Bean bread well bak'd, as for his grasse, if the first 3. daies of soyle time, you doe giue him forrage 'tis exceeding good, and after the sowrest grasse you can get, as that which in Orchards growes vnder fruit trees, or else such as growes in Garden alleyes, for the more sower and courser the grasse is, the better it scowreth; & in this case you should respect no feeding, neither should you mow any more grasse at one time, then your horse can conuenientlie eate in the instant; as for making your Horse to

neefe much, or to purge his head much by fumigation in the soyle it is needlesse, for the grasse it selfe will doe it sufficiently without any other medicine. If your Horse during his time of being in the soyle, happen to swell in his sheath, or about his cods, it shall be exceeding good in that case once or twice a day, either to swimme him, or to ride him through some water that wil reach about the horses middle belly; but for making a daily exercise of swimming him without any speciall occasion, I doe greatly disalow it, for it both straines a horses limbs, and brings him within the danger of Crampes and conuultions, neither doe I allow (although it be the practise both of the *Italians* and some of our English keepers) to giue a horse when hee is in soyle either scowring or purgation, as either sodden Rie, Mellons, green Figges, the intralles of a Tench or Barbell mixt with white wine, or any such like trumperie, for I haue seene where such like courses haue beene taken that the Horse hath falne into such an vnnatural scowring, that no possible meanes would stop it, till the horse hath dyed with the violence. Others haue vsed in the soyle, in stead of wholsome and drie prouender, which is fittest to bee mixt with such colde, moist, and raw foode, to giue their horses either sodden Beanes well salted, and wheat-branne, or Coleworts and branne, or else boyl'd Bucke, all which are both vnwholsome, full of rottennes, and breede many foule diseases, wherefore I aduise all Keepers to bee carefull to eschew them; and rather to take leasure and feede with such foods as are both healthfull and natural, of which kindes you haue had already formerly declared. And thus much touching the Soyle, and the scowring of horses in the Summer season.



CHAP. 8.

*Of the passions which are in Horses, and the loue  
which Keepers should beare vnto  
them.*

**L**eauing to make any philosophicall discourse, or to argue of the passions or affections which are in horses, how they haue their beginnings from sense, and their workings according to the course of nature. It is most certaine, that euery horse is posselt with these passions, *Loue, Ioy, Hate, Sorrow,* and *Feare*: the first two springing from the alacritie, chearefulnesse, and good disposition of the minde, by which the Horse is made to be familiar with the man, obedient, kinde and docible, the other three from the corruption and putrifaction of nature, by which he becomes fierce, madde, and full of amazement, so that it is the office of euerie Keeper out of his iudgement and experience to learne to knowe when and at what time his horse is opprest or troubled with the Fluxe of any of these affections, that hee may by the applying of fit remedies abate and suppress them in the excesse of their greatnesse, which nothing doth at any time sooner bring to passe then the mildenes and gentle disposition of the keeper towards his horse, for it is most certaine, that when keepers of Horses either out of their chollericke furies, or ignorant mis-behaviours, doe any thing about a horse either rashly, violently, or with the vse of vnecessary torment, that they onely by such indiscretion do create in horses all those euill affections from

from whence any restiffe quallitie doth proceede, and therefore euery Keeper must with all lenitie, and sobernes both in worde and adion procure the loue of the horse which he keepeth. And yet I doe not meane that a good keeper shall be altogether so voide of indignation, that hee shall suffer his horse to runne into any kinde of vice, without the touch of correction, for thereby I haue seene many horses so desolute and disobedient, that they haue gone beyond the power of reclayming, whence it hath come that some Horses haue slaine their Keepers, and some haue done almost as euill in other courses. A good keeper therefore must know when to correct and when to cherish, not giuing either blow or angry word, but in the instant of the offence, not to punish or strike the horse any longer then whilst his present fault rests in his memory. Also I would haue the keeper to obserue, that where gentlenesse and meeknes will preuaile, there by no meanes to put in any vse, either terror or torment, for as the Keepers greatest labour is but to procure loue from the Horse, so the onely thing that is pleasant to the horse, is loue from the Keeper; insomuch that there must be a sincere and incorporated friendship betwixt them, or else they cannot delight or profit each other, of which loue the Keeper is to giue testimonie, both by his gentle language to his horse, and by taking from him any thing which he shall beholde to annoy or hurt him, as moates, dust, superfluous haire, flies in Summer, or any such like thing, and by oft feeding him out of his hand, by which meanes the Horse will take such delight and pleasure in his keepers company, that hee shall neuer approach him, but the horse will with a kinde of chearefull or inward neying, show the ioy hee takes



takes to behold him, and where this mutuall loue is knit and combined, there the beast must needs prosper, and the man reape reputation and profit. And thus much for the Horses passions, and the Keepers affections.

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**CHAP. 9.**

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*The Office of the Coachman, and obseruations  
for his place.*

**T**He vse of Coaches hath not beene of any long continuance in this kingdome, especially in that generall fashion, as now they are vsed: for if formerly they were in the hands, and for the ease of some particular great persons, yet now either thorough the benefits which are found by them, or through the vnaccustomed rarenesse of them, they are growne as common as hackneyes, and are in the handes of as many as either esteeme reputation, or are numbred in the Catalogue of rich persons: Wherefore since they are in such generall vse, and esteemed such a generall good, I thinke is not fit in this my generall booke of Hors-manship, to omit or forget some necessary obseruations which are helpfull and needfull to be knowne vnto the skillfull Coach-man, and the rather, sith the cōmodities which redound thereby, are chiefly imployed in the seruices of Ladies and Gentlewomen, to whome both my selfe and every honest man is in his first creation obliged, yet I doe not meane herein to make any tedious or long discourse, either of the benefits of Coaches, the diuersities, proportions, shapes, nor alterations, because euery vn-  
standing

vnderstanding Coach-maker, and euery seruiceable Coach-man can giue proofes and reasons of each difference: neither is my profession to meddle with the shapes of timber, but with the natures of horses; nor will I speake of the severall customes or fashions of *Italie*, or *Fraunce*, because as farre as I can iudge, whatsoeuer wee practise in this art of Coach-gouerning is but an imitation of the shapes and chaunges of those Kingdomes; therefore for mine owne part I meane heere onely to handle some fewe notes touching the choyce of Coach-horses, their keeping, and apparaling.

First then to speake of the choyce of Coach-horses: Some are of opinion that your *Flemish* Horse is the best for that purpose, because he is of strong limbes, hath a full breast, a good chyne, and is naturally trayned vp more to draught then to burthen: others doe preferre before these Horses the *Flemish* Mares (and I am of that opinion also) both because of their more temperate and coole spirits, their quiet sociablenesse in company, and their bringings vp, which only is in the wagon, by which meanes traouelling with more patience, thy are euer of more strength and indurnace, yet both these horses and Mares haue their faults euer coupled to their vertues, as first their paces are for the most part short trots, which containe much labour in a little ground, and so bring faintnesse of spirit in little iournyes, whereas indeed a Coach-horse should stretch foorth his feete, and the smother and longer he strides the more way he riddes, and the sooner comes to his iournyes end without tyring. Next, their limbes from the knees and Cambrells downward are so rough and hayrie, and the horses naturally of themselues so subiect to fault and fretting



fretting humours in those partes, that neither can the Coach-man keepe them from the *Paines, Scratches, Mallanders, Sellanders*, and such like diseases, nor the Farrier oft times with his best skill cure them when they are diseased. Lastly they are for the most part of resty and hot spirits, so that albe they be excellent and forward in the draught, yet in our English Nation amongst our deepe clayes and myrie waies, they are not able to continue, but growe faint and weary of their labour, and it is euer a rule amongst them, that after they haue beene once tyred there is no meanes againe to restore them to their first mettall or spirit.

Now to tell you mine opinion which is the best Coach-horse either for streetes of Citties, or iourneying vpon the highwaies, I hold not any horse comparable either for strength, courage, or labour with the large shap'd English Gelding, for he is as milde and sociable as the Flemish Mare, more able to indure trauell, better shap'd, and longer continues in seruice, for the Mare if she be proudly kept (as of necessity the Coach-mare must be) she will then couet the horse, and if she haue him and hold to him her yeares seruice is lost, if she want him, you shall either indanger her life with the corruption of her pride, or else with Leprosie; but if they be spead or gelt Mares, they be then the worst of all, for the body and spirits being so much ouer-coold they are vtterly disabled for any violent extremity: look how much the Gelding is short of the stond-horse in courage, so much is the spead Mare short of the Gelding: wherfore for the auoyding of all incontinences, the best for the Coach is the large, strong, English Gelding; the next him is the Flemish Mare, and the last is the

the Flemish horse, the *Pollander* is exceeding good, but hee is somewhat too little and too fierce of nature, but for trying that will hee seldome or neuer doe, with any indifferent order. When you haue determined touching the breede, or race of your Coach-horses, you shall then looke to their shapes and colours; First for their colours, I haue formerly showed you which is the best, so that you shall obserue that in any case (so neare as you can chuse them) your Coach-horses bee all of one colour, without diuersitie, and that their markes or semblances be also alike, as thus for example: If the one haue either white starre, or white rache, bald face, white foote, or be of pide colour, that then the others haue the like also. For their shapes, you shall chuse a leane proportioned head, a strong and firme necke, a full, broad, and round out-breast, a limbe flat, short ioynted, leane and well haired, a good bending ribbe, a strong backe, and a round buttocke; generally they would bee of a broad strong making, and of the tallest stature, for such are most seruiceable for the draught, and best able to indure the toyle of deepe trauell. Now for the properties, they must be as nearely alyed in nature and disposition, as in colour, shape and height, for if the one be free, and the other dull, then the free horse taking all the labour, must necessarily ouer-toyle himselfe, and soone both destroy his life and courage, so that they must bee of a like spirit and mettall: also you must haue an especiall regard that their paces bee alike, and that the one neither trot faster then the other, nor take larger strides then the other, for if their feete doe not rise from the ground together, there can be no indifferencie or equality in their draught, but the one must ouer-toyle the other,



other, whereas indeed they ought to bee of such equall strengthes, paces, and spirits, that as it were one body their labour should be deuided equally amongst them; they ought also (as neare as you can) to bee of louing, tractable and milde dispositions, not giuen to bite, strike, and especially not to yerke and strike with their hinder legges backward, for it both doth indanger the life of the man, and also doth hazard the spoyling of the horse, by ouerthrowing himselfe in his harnessse. They should also haue perfect, good and tender mouthes; and ought to haue their heades well settled vpon the bitt before they come into the Coatch, being learnt to turne readily vpon either hand, without discontentment or rebellion, to stoppe close and firme; and to retyre backe freely with good spirit and courage; which are lessons fully sufficient to make a compleate good Coatch-horse; for although some Coatch-men more for brauery or pride then either for Art or profit, will make their horse stand and coruet in their Coaches, yet I would haue all good Coach-men knowe, that such motions are both vsfitt, vncomly, and most hurtfull for Coach-horses; not onely taking from them the benefite and delight in trauell, but also making the Horse to mistake his corrections, and when hee growes to any faintnesse or dulnesse, or comes into any such ground where the depth thereof puts him to his full strength; nay somerimes the Coach stickes and will not come away at the first twitch, if then the Coach-man jert them forward with his whip, they presently fall to coruet and leape, refusing to drawe, in their greatest time of necessitie.

Now for the manner of keeping them, and dyeting them; they ate in all pointes to bee drest, pickt, and curryed

curryed like your ordinary traueiling Horſe, and to haue their foode and walkings after the ſame manner, onely their allowance of prouender would bee of the greateſt ſize, for their labour beeing for the moſt part extreame, and themſelues generally Horſes of groſſe nature, their chiefeſt ſtrengthes moſt often dependes vpon the fullneſſe of their bellies. In iourneying you ſhall vſe them as is before taught, for iourneying horſes, onely if they be either Flemiſh Horſes or Flemiſh Mares, and by that meanes bee ſubiect to paines and Scratches, then after your iourney when you haue bathed your Horſes leggs with piſſe and Salt-peeter, you ſhall then annoint all his paſternes and fetlockes, with Hogs-greaſe and muſtard mingled together, and if hee haue either ſcratches or paines, it will kill them; if hee haue none, it will preuent them from growing, and keepe his legges cleane howſoeuer hee be diſpoſed.

Now for the harneſſing or attyring of Coach-horſes, you muſt haue a great care that the long pillowe before his breaſt, bee of gentle leather, full, round and verie ſoft ſtopt, and that the little ſquare pillowes ouer the point of his wythers and tops of his ſhoulders, be likewise verie ſoft, for they beare the weight of his harneſſe, and ſome part of his draught, you ſhall ſee that the hinder part of your harneſſe which compaſſeth the neather part of his buttockes, and reſtes about the Horſes hinder houghes bee eaſie and large, not fretting or gauling off the haire from thoſe partes, as for the moſt part you ſhall ſee amongſt vnſkilful Coachmen, the draught breadthes or Coach treates, which extend from the breaſt of the Horſe to the bridge-tree of the Coach, muſt bee of exceeding ſtrong double leather, well wrought and ſewed,  
which



which (till you bring your horse to the Coach) you must throw ouer your horses backe crof-wise, your headstall and reynes of your bridle, must likewise bee either of strong leather, or else of round wouen lines, made of silke or threed, according to the abilitie of the owner, or the delight of the Coach-man : yet to speake the truth, those lines of silke or threed are the better, because they are more nimble, and come and goe more easily : as for your bittes, and the proportion of your cheekes, they are formerly discribed, and must be sorted according to the quallitie of the Horses mouth. Now forasmuch as I cannot so sufficiently in wordes figure out the proportions, of euery seuerall part of these harnesses, neither in what sorte they shall bee ordered because they alter according to the number of the horses, two horses beeing attyred after one sort, three after another, and foure different from both, to giue a full satisfaction to euery ignorant Coach-man : I doe therefore aduise all that are desirous to better their iudgements in such knowledges to repaire to the Stables of great Princes where commonly are the bell-men of this Art, and there to beholde how euery thing in his true proportion is ordered, and from thence to draw vnto himselfe rules for his owne instruction; onely these sleight precepts I will bestow vpon him: First, that hee haue euer a constant sweete hand vpon his horses mouth, by no meanes loosing the feeling thereof, but obseruing that the horse doe rest vpon his bitt, and carrie his head and reyne in a good and comely fashion : for to goe with his head loose, or to haue no feeling of the bitt, is both vncomely to the eye, and takes from the horse all delight in his labour. Next when you turne vpon either hand, you shall onely drawe in

your inmost hand, and giue your outmost libertie, as thus for example: If you turne vpon your left hand, you shall draw in your left reyne a little straiter, which gouernes the horse vpon the left side, and the right reyne you shall giue libertie vnto, which gouernes the horse on the right hand, so that the horse of the neare side with the left hand comming inward, must necessarily whether he will or no, bring the horse of the farre side, (which is the right hand) to follow him: and in these turnes you must ever bee assured to take a full compasse of ground, both according to the length of the Coach, and the skill of the hories, for there is nothing doth amaze or disturb a Coach-horse more then when he is forc't to turne sodainly, or straiter then the Coach will giue him leaue, whence hee first learns to gagg vp his head to loose his reyne, and to disorder contrarie to his owne disposition. You shall also make your horses after they haue stopt, stand still constantly, and not to fridge vp and downe pressing one while forward, another while backward, both to the disease of themselues, and the trouble of others: The Coach-man also shall not vpon euery sleight error or sloathfulnesse correct his horse with the jerre or lash of his whippe, for that will make them dull vpon the correction, but he shall rather now and then scarre them with the noyse and smart sound of the lash of his whippe, suffering them onely to feele the torment in the time of greatest extremitie: you shall when you first intend to breake a horse for the Coach for two or thre dayes before you bring him vnto the Coach, cause him to be put vnto the Cart, placing him in that place which Carters call the lash, so that hee may haue two Horses to follow behinde him whome together with the load

that



that is in the Cart he cannot draw away; and two horses before him, which with the strength of his traytes will keepe him in an eeven way without flying out, either vpon one side or other. Thus when you haue made him a little tame, and that hee knowes what it is to draw, and feelles the setting of the neather part of the coller vnto his breast, then you may put him vnto the Coach, ioyning vnto him an olde Horse, which hath both a good mouth, and is of coole qualities, that if the younger horse shall fall into any franticke passion, yet his stayednes may euer rule and gouerne him, till custome and trauell haue persitely brought him to knowe his labour: I haue seene a Coach man who hath put two young horses vnbroken into a Coach together, and I haue seene them run away, ouer-throwe and breake the Coach, and mischiefe the Coach-man: wherefore I would haue e-uery Coach-man that will worke with Art and safetie to take longer time, more paines, and by the method before shewed to bring his horses vnto perfection.

The last obseruations that I would haue a Coach-man keepe, is that whensoever he goes abroad with his Coach, he be assured euer to carrie with him his horses cloathes, then whensoever hee shall bee forced either through attendance, or other chances to stand still any long time, hee may cast the cloathes ouer his horses, to keep them warme, and from the coldnes of the weather. Hee shall also haue euer in his Coach-coffer, Hammer, Pinfers, Wimble, Chisell, and Nayles, that if any small fault happen about his Coach, hee may himselfe amend it, hee shall also haue in his Coach-coffer, oymtments for his Horses leggs and hoofes, especially if they be *Flemish*, for they haue seldome or neuer good hoofes;

hee shall also haue shoemakers blacking to dresse the outside of his Coach and harnessse with: hee shall haue a brush for the inside, a blunt iron to dresse his wheelles, either oyle or sope for his axeltrees; and mayne-combe, curry combe, and other dressing cloathes for his horse, so that generally hee shall keepe his Horses neatly; his wood-worke cleanely, his leather blacke, his buckles bright, and every other severall ornament in such comelinessse, as may bee for the owners profite, and the keepers reputation. And

thus much for the Coachman and his

office.

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*The end of the Fifth Booke.*

