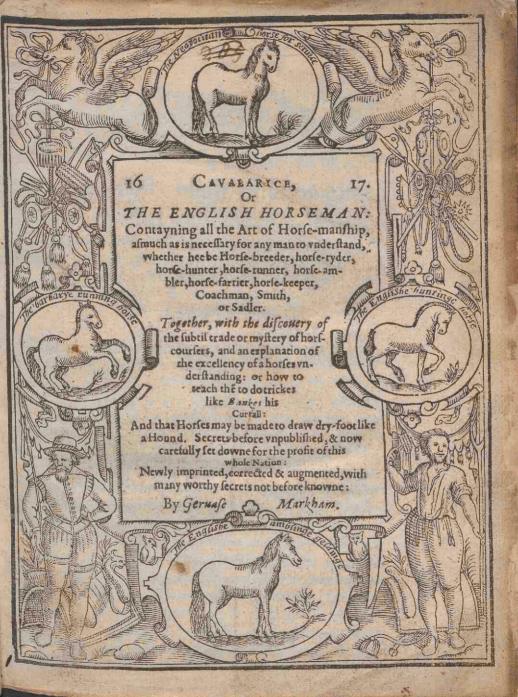
Cavalarice, or the English horseman : contayning all the art of horse-manship, as much as is necessary for any man to understand ... together, with the discovery of the subtil trade or mystery of hors-coursers ...

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### To the most High and mightie, CHARLES, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornewall, Torke, Albanie and Roth/ay, Marquesse of Ormount, Earle of Rosse and Chesser, Baron of Armanoch: Great Marshall of Scotland, and Lord of the Isles thereof, and Knight of the most Noble order of the Garter.



T is not out of ambition (most excellent Prince) to get white my selfe a more particular Name, then the meanest Graome in your Highnes Stable, which hathmooued mee to offer wnto your sacred handes, this poore volume of mine experience in this Arte, which

even from mine infancie I have purfued so farre forth, as either mine abilitie or obscuritie had power to extend it selfe. But because it hath pleased God through the glory of your countenance to give a new life to this Arte, which not long agoe was so much neglected, that I thinke (if it had beene possible for vertue to have received so great a staine) it would have drawne meare to the danger of dispising; so many vnfurmished Stables, like vnpeopled Townes, and so many worthy spirits (ignorant in the nobles action) beeing prophetique signes of following desolution, but by your Highness favours it is not repayred (for that were but to peice vp olde Ruines) but there is (as it were) a new and an eternall A 2 foundation laide, which will continue till all the corners of the world be confumed : which as it hath inflamed me to offer up this tribute of my zeale and knowledge, so I wish it would likewise kindle some sparkes in others, who bauing attayned the top and height of all best perfection, might leave vnto the world some famous records of ther worthie admirations; and not by their neglect, suffer a divine guift to perish with their naturall bodies, knowing that if either Xenophon, Ruffius, or Grifon had beene fo uncharitable, they fould them felues with much more difficulty have attayned to that in which now they have no equal; and being by them manifested unto the world, they shall not onely bleffe and make happy posteritie, but also so acertaine, uncersaine refolutions, that how ever the world shall boast either Spaine, France or Italie, yet it shall then be knowne, that they hane not brought foorth fo good Horfe-men as have beene bred, and are now living in this Empire of great Brittaine, to whome albe the world may imagine I have broken the way with too great boldnesse, yet mine humble soule knowes, I have done it with Juch care and zeale, that they shall neither taske me for absurdisie, or mif-application, to which I will not be able either by Arte or demonstration to give an account or satisfaction; holding is in my felfe a finne unpardonable to offer to your gracious pre-Jence that which shall not take both of true Art, and true duety : and how ever the first may bee miftaken, yet the latter shall be So much unblemished, that ( shough a worme ) yes my faith shall not bee exceeded, but 1 will line and dye your Highnes Beades-man and vassaile:

GERVASE MARKHAM.

To the three great Columbes of this Empire: the Nobilitie, the Gentrie, and Ycomanrie of Great Brittsaine.

O fooner shall this worke of mine breake foorth into the world, but I knowe it will stirre vp many thoughts in many perfons : fome wondring what new matter I haue to speake of; some fearing olde repetitions; and fome refling fatisfied in their opinions with that fmall treatife which I formerly published; but to all these I knowe the worke it felfe will give indifferent satisfaction: onely touching that small treatife of Horsemanship, which about fixteene yeares agone ( when mine experience was but youngly fortified) I brought forth into the world : giue me leaue to deliver you thefe few reasons. First it was not gathered for any publique view or benefit, but onely at the intreaty of a dearekinfman (in those dayes much inamored with delight in ryding)was as estaies or tastes collected for his private vse: and that hee might with leffe difficulty attaine the perfe-Ction at which he aymed. Next, being intended for him, who was well grounded in the Arte before, I was leffe carefull to obserue those plaine rules of demonstration, then otherwayes I would have beene, my thoughts not then plotting the benefite of any fuch as were ignorant, and fo I must confeste I let passe the worke with more obscuritie and darknes then otherwise I should have sone. Lafly, a coppie thereof being corruptly taken, and couctoufly offred to the printing without my know-A 3 ledge,

ledge, I thought it as good my felfe to publish it with his naturall wantes, as to let it come abroad by others with vilder deformities : and hence proceeded the appearance of my first Epitomie in the world; which because it hath found fauour both amongst my friends and ftrangers, and the better to fatisfie them, who have done me honour in giuing allowance to mine imperfect labours, I thought good to publish this larger volume, wherein I haue not onely at full laide open all the obscurities and concealments which have been hidden both in it, and in other writings, but also made fuch an euen & direA path to leade the most ignorantest spirit through the bowels and heart of this praise worthy Arte, that not any man whatfoeuer ( who will beftow the reading thereof ) but thal in his greatest doubt touching any intricate proposition in Horse-manship, finde both reason and satisfaction, whether hee be generall, as delighting in all thinges wherein the vse of Horse is imployed, or particular as adicted to any peculiar braunch or member : wherein as my labour and the expence of my best houres, hath onely tended to a publique good, fo I defire my reward may not be either an especiall mif-construction, or a particular enuie; and that as the ftrength of my with hath been to help those which know nothing in this Art, fo it may be an attractiue perswassion to those which know much more then my felfe, to publish their skils, and fo to make it a most compleat Art, till when let this Booke and my loue bee a true testimony of my zeale and service to my Countrey, whole flourishing eftate and wealthy peace I pray may neuer end, till the laft of all times be ended.

G. M.



### A Table of all the Chapters contayned in euery severall Booke through this whole volume.

The Table of the First Booke.

Chapters.

<sup>1</sup> O F the Breeding of Horfes, and first rouching the choife of Groundes, their vies and leperations.

2 Of Horfes and Marcs, and of their diuers kindes.

3 Of the mixture of Races, for which purpole each is beft, and for the Breeders commoditie.

4 Of the choife of Stallions and Mares, the knowledge of their age dy diuers observations, and of the shapes.

5 How and at what time of the yearc Hories and Mares should ingender : fignes of a Mares defire, how many Mares for one Stallion, and how long hee shall continue with them.

6 Of coucring Mares in the house, the dyeting of the Stallion, the time of the day for the act, and to knowe when the hath conceived.

7 That Mares may bee made to conceiue either Horsefoales or Mare-foales at pleasure, and of what colour the breeder will.

8 How Mares should be forc'd to take the Horse, and how to mooue lust in Horse and Mare, and how to abate it.

9 Which Mares fhould be couered, which not, and which thall not goe barren.

10 The vie of Marcs when they are with foale, and of the caffing of Foales.

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II Helpe for a Mare that is in danger of Foaling and other fecrets.

12 How to make a Mare caft her Foale.

13 The vie of Mares when they have foaled : of the fucking of Foales and of other helpes and vies.

14 The knowledge of a Horfes shape, stature and quallity, and how it is to be knowne when he is new soaled.

15 How Horfe-foales and Mare-foales grow, and how to know the continuance of their goodnesse.

16 Of the weaning of Coltes, of their ordering, and feperating them according to their ages.

17 Of the gelding of Colts and Horfes, the caule, the age, the time of the yeare, and manner.

18 When, and at what age to take vp Coltes for the Saddle, and of their first yse and haltring.

19 Of the cutting of Colts mouthes or tongues, and of the drawing of teeth to help the bit to lye in his true place.

20 Of the feperating of bad Coltes and Marcs from the good, and which shall maintaine the race still.

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I O F the Natures and difpolitions of Horfes : howe they are to be knowne by the Colours of the Horfes, and other fpeciall markes.

2 The vie and benefite of the Chaine, Cauezan, Headfiraine, Mufrole and Marringale.

3 How to make a Colt gentle, how to bring him to the blocke, and of the first Brydle and Saddle.

4 Of helpes and corrections, and of the vies and feuerall kindes thereof.

5 How to correct a Horfe that beareth his heade or necke awry, and of all vices belonging to the head.

6 How to correct a Horfe that doth ouer-reach or frike one foote upon another.

7 How

Chapters.

7 How to correct the euill motions in a horfe, which are hewed by the carriage of his head or eares, or other outward fignes.

8 Corrections against restifenes, & the seueral kinds therof,

9 How to correct a Horfe that runneth away, and the caufe of fuch cuill.

10 How to correct a Horfe that will reare vpright, or come ouer with his Ryder.

II How to correct a Horfe that will lye downe in the water as hee paffeth thorow,

12 How to correct a Horfe that is skittifh and fearefull and findeth many boggards.

13 How to correct a Horfe that is dull of spirit, and slouenly in his trott.

14 Of the treading of the large ringes, and their vfe.

15 Of Hopping, retyring, aduancing, and the vics.

16 Of yerking behinde, and the vfe.

17 Ofturning vpon both handes, and the feuerall kindes of turnes.

18 Of managing, and the feuerall kindes.

19 Of the paffing of a fwift Carrier.

20 When and how to Bitt Horfes, and to make the heade conftant.

21 Of bounding aloft and the manner thereof.

22 Of the Coruer, Caprioll, Gallop-galliard, and of going fide-long.

23 Of running at the Ring and the vie of the Launce.

24 Of the teaching of young Schollers : and the ryding of aridden Horfe to the beft fhew.

### The Table of the Third Booke.

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<sup>1</sup> O F Hunting horfes in generall, and of their Chafes. <sup>2</sup> O Fhe chufing of the Hunting horfe, & of his fhape. <sup>3</sup> At what age Horles thould hunt, of their first taking from Graffe, and of their housing.

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4 Of the first fortnights dyet, exercifing, and dreffing.

5 Of the ayring of Hunting horfes.

6 The fecond fortnights dyet, and first hunting.

7 Of Hunting bread, both or dinarie (as for trayning of Horles) and extraordinary for matches.

8 Of all manner of Purgations or fcowrings that are fit for Hunting horfes, and of their natures, vie and operations.

9 The third fortnights dyet, and of fweating.

10 Why Horfes should have their sweates after the Dogs and of their cloathing.

II Of making a Hunting match, the observations and aduantages.

12 The dyering of a Hunting horse for a match.

13 Of the Ryding of a match, and of the aduantages in syding.

14 The Tryers office & the aduantages hee must observe.

15 The office of the Groome, and helpes in rubbing of Hunting horfes.

#### The Table of the Fourth Booke.

#### Chapters.

I O F Ambling in generall, and of the vse and commoditie.

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

3 How to teach a Horfe to amble by the helpe of a newe plowed field, and the faults therein.

4 Of making a Horfe amble from his gallop, or by ouerryding.

5 How to make Horfes amble by vie of weights.

6 Of making a Horfe amble out of the hand.

7 Of making Horfes to amble by the helpe of the hand onciv.

8 Of making horfes to amble by the help of fhooes only,

9 Of teaching horfes to amble by the vie of the Tramell.

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I H Ow Stables fhal be made, the feat and comodities. Of a trauelling horfes meat, and the feuerall kindes and vfes.

3 Of the feuerall kindes of waters, which is best, and which is worst.

4 Of the Dreffing, Combing, and Currying of horfes, and of their dyet in the time of reft.

5 Of a Horfes labour or exercife, and how hee shall be ordered when he is iourneyed.

6 Of fleeping, waking, fulneffe and emptineffe.

7 Of the Soyle or fcowring Horfes with graffe, and of other foodes.

8 Of the paffions which are in Horfes, and the loue which Keepers fhould beare vnto them.

9 The office of the Coachman, & observations for his place,

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I O FRunning horfes in generall and their choife. 2 How Running horfes shall be first trayned vp and of their dyet.

3 Of the making of a match, and observations therein.

4 Of the feuerall kindes of ayrings, and foodes belonging to a Running horfe.

5 Of the feuerall kindes of fweates, and of the vies.

6 Of the ordering and dyeting a Running horfe for match or wager.

7 Obfervations to be vfed and inconveniences which happen during the dyetting of Running horfes.

8 Certaine helpes and rules for the Ryder, and how he shal runne his Horse at the best aduant age.

9 The office of the Sadler, and the best fide of his commo dities.

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2 Ot the Sinewes, Veynes, and Bones of a Horfe.

3 Of a Horfes vrine, and of his excrements.

4 Of the letting of Horfes blood, the time, the caufe and fignes.

5 Offickneffe in generall.

6 Of Feauers and the divers kindes thereof.

7 Of the Pestilence or Gargill.

8 Of the inward difeases of the heade, and first of the headach.

9 Of the Frenzy or madnes in Horfes.

10 Of the fleeping cuill or Lethargie.

II Ofa Horfe that is taken.

12 Of the Staggers.

13 Of the falling-euill or falling-fickneffe.

14 Of the Appoplexie or Palfie.

15 Of the Witch or night-mare.

16 Of Crampes or consultions of Sinewes.

17 Of the Pose or colde in the head.

18 Of difeafes in the eyes, and first of watrish eyes.

19 Of Blood-shotten eyes.

20 Ot Dimneffe of fight, pin, web, Pearles or fpottes.

21 Of the Haw or kitnels within the eyes.

22 Of the Lunatike or Moone-eyes.

23 Of the Canker, Vlcer, or Fistula in the eye.

24 Of difeates belonging to the cares, and first of laue

eares or hanging cares.

25 Of the impostume in the eares.

26 Of the Poll cuill, or Fistula in the necke.

27 Of the Vines.

28 Of the cankerous Vlcerin the nofe.

29 Ofbleeding at the nofe.

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30 Of difeafes in the mouth, and first of the bloody riftes :

31 Of the bladders.

32 Ofthe lampas.

33 Of the canker in the mouth.

34 Of heate in the mouth and lippes.

35 Of the tongue being hurt with the bitt.

36 Of the Barbs or pappes vnder a Horfes tongue.

37 Of the paine in the Teeth, and of the Wolfes.

38 Of the cricke in the necke.

39 Of Wennes in the necke.

40 Offwelling in the Necke after blood-letting.

41 Offtenching of Blood, whether it come by blood-letting or by any wound received.

42 Of the falling of the Creft.

43 Of mangines or scabbes within the Mayne;

44 Of fhedding the haire from the mayne or tayle.

45 Of the fwelling of the Withers, either by pinching, or galling with an ill faddle.

46 Of the impostumations in a Horses withers.

47 Of hard hornes, knobs, or fitfaftes growing vnder the Saddle.

48 Of the Nauell-gall.

49 Of the fwaying of the backe.

50 Of weakenes in the backe.

51 Ofhide-bound.

52 Of the Strangle, Glanders, and mourning of the chyne.

53 Of the Cough,

54 Of the inward and wet Cough.

55 Of the frettized, broken, and rotten lunges.

76 Of the putrified or rotten lunges.

57 Of the fhortnesse of breath and the causes.

58 Of a Confumption.

59 Ofgriefe in the breaft,

60 Of the Antichor.

61 Of Tyred horfes.

62 Of difeases vnder the midriffe.

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63 Of the loaththing of meate.

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77 Of the Bots or Wormes.

78 Of paine in the Kidneyes.

79 Of piffing blood.

90 Of the Colt euill.

SI Of the mattering of the yarde.

82 Of the shedding of seede.

83 Of the falling of the yarde.

84 Of the fwelling of the Cods onely.

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86 Of the Botch in the groynes.

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88 Of pinching, splatting, or fraines in the shoulder.

89 Of swelling of the legs after labour.

90 Of foundring.

91 Of the splent or Screw. 92 Of the Mallander or Sallender.

93 Of an ouer-reach vpon the Sinew.

94 Of an ouer-reach vpon the heele.

95 Of halting either before or behinde.

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133 Ofbeing fung with Adder or Snake.

134 Of eating Hens dung.

135 To kill Lice.

136 To keep Horfes from the flinging of Flies

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138 Of the taking vp of veynes.

139 Of Glifters,

140 Of Purgations.

141 OfCalteryzing.

142 Certaine speciall receites for speciall purpoles.

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FHorfe-courfers in generall. The obferuations Horfe-courfers vie in the choile of Horfes, and the deceits they vie in couering their faultes.

3 Of the difcouerie and preuention of the Horfe-courfers deceites.

4 Of the excellencie of Horfes vnderstandings.

5 How a Horfe may be taught to doe any tricke done by Bankes his horfe.

o Of drawing dry-foote, and the aptneffe of Horfes thereunto.

The end of the Table.



CAVALARICE. The first Booke. CHAP. Y.

Of the breeding of Horses, and sirst touching the choice of groundes, their vses and seperations.



Auing refolued inwardly in my felfe ( euen to the vttermoste of my best powers) to give to euerie creature that shall reade these my labours, a full and vndoubted satisfaction touching anie scruple, misterie, or other Inigma, that hath

hitherto beene concealed in this moste famous Art, making a plaine, eeuen and direct way, where there hath formerly beene much roughnes, fome hilles, and many interchangeable turnings; I thought it moste conuenient to begin with the Art of breeding of Horfes; which how euer it bee not fo generally appertayning vnto all men, as the other members of the fame Art in this volume following; yet for as much as B bring-

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bringing foorth, must goe before the vse of the thing brought foorth, and that this Art of breeding is onely appertaining to Princes, Potentates, and men of beft place and effimation; it must necessarily challenge the precedent place. Wherefore to you that are the owners of the earth, and defirous to inrich her and your felues, with Beaft es of the greateft vse andvertue, I dyrect my discourse : Know then the first observation in bteeding, is the knowledge of groundes, their natures, clymats, fertilneffe or barrennes. The fecond, the diftinguishment of Horses and Mares according to their breedes, or proportions: coupling each kinde together. in fuch fort as may bee mofte commodious for that purpose to which you intende. And the last the difposing and vsing them, being brought fourth both in their foleage, best strength, and old age.

For your grounds, I am of opinion with Zenophon and Grifon, that you must principally, respect both the quantitie and qualitie : the one for furcharging, the other for too groffe feeding : the quantitie, that your Mares and Colts may not bee throng dvp, and as it werekept in a pin-folde, wanting libertie to fcope and runnevp and downe at pleafure (then which there is nothing more commodious) and the qualitie which is the scituation & fertilnes of the soyle : For the scituation, it would be afcending with hilles & dales, & those hilles open vppon the fresh ayre: if the plaines be full of Moale-hills it is much betrer : for the fertilnes, it would be a ground neither exceeding ranke, nor extreame barreine, but of an indifferent mixrure, rather inclyning to barrennes, then much rancknes, apportioning to the fruitfulneffe of the ground the number of your Mares,

Mares, in fuch fort that they may neither want foode nor furfett with too great aboundance, neither grow fo exceeding fat, that they be either difabled for bringing foorth, or indangered with rotting (which onelie fprings from fuch groffenes) nor brought fo weake with want of foodethat they neither take delight in generation, or for lacke of ftrength die with hungerbane: an indifferent meane must therefore be obserued, which must be applyed according to the nature of the ground; obferuing this order, eyther to increase or diminish the number of your race-mares, as you perceiue them eyther growe fatte or leane in the place of their abyding. Some are of opinion, that as much ground as will ferue a Cowe, will ferue a Race-mare, and I am not much opposite to that opinion, onelie I holde it a proportion fomewhat with the moste; for I haue found in mine owne experience, that the ground which would fummer but eight Kine well, hath fommered a dozen Race-mares very fufficiently. But foras much as every countrie, nay almost every Lord-ship differeth one from another, eyther in friutfulnes, or barrennes; there cannot be apportioned any certaine number or stint to euery ground, but it must be referred to the iudgement of the owner, either to increase or decrease his stocke, according as they either prosper or decay.

Grounds that be rancke, matrifh, cold and wet, are most vilde to breed vpon, for the foode being vnwholfome, the layre vnnaturall, & the treading incertaine; the foales that are bred thereon, 'are heauie, flowe, fatheaded, great bellyed, round leggd, & weake ioynted, chieflie in the pasterne. Your ground therefore (as be-

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fore

fore I faid) must lie bye and firme, and fuch commonly are the Parkes of Princes, and great Perfons, whofe imployments in my conceite are molte fitte for this purpofe, mixing with the delight of Deare, the delightfull benefit of a braue race of Horfes, in which cuen Kinges of the best memories haue taken vnfpeakable pleafures : whofoeuer therefore hath eyther Parke or impal'd ground ( for a leffe fence will hardly ferue a good race) which heepurpofeth to this vie of breeding, muft first knowe that he must not keepe it as one entyre ground, but with a fufficient rayle of fo conucnient a height as may controle a Horses leaping ; denide it into three feuerall pastures : The first containing the Launde or plainest place of the Parke, where there is least shelter, water furrowes, or drie ditches, which must be for your Mares to foale in; and after their foaling, for the stallyon and the Mares to runne together in : in which it shall be good if there be no other water more then some fayre fresh Pond.

Now the reafons for all these choyces are these : first, that it should be plaine and without shelter, because a Foale at the first foaling would have all the bitternesse and sharpenesse that the latter end of the Winter can put vppon it, which will so harden and knitte bim, that when the warmth of the Spring and Summer shall beginne, he will prosper more in one weeke then another contray-vsed in a Month : and when the Winter shall come vppon him againe, he shall holde both his fiesh and courage, when others shall hardly holde life in their bodies : this being a rule amongst all good breeders, that cuerie Foale should haue two Winters in the first yeare. Next, that there should be no water furrowes

furrowesnor drye ditches, is because a Mare out of her owne difpolition euer couetteth to foale in the water, or fo nere as fhe can get: by which meanes, I haue knowne many foales drowned. And againe, in that a Mare commonly foaleth standing, she leffe re-1pecteth where the foaleth, whether in the water, by a ditch fide, or other where. The next passure you are to diuide, would confift partly of good ground, partly of bulhes, brouse, and some hie or thicketrees for thelter; it would be afcending, and that afcent plaine and open vpon the ayre; Moale-hills, small gutters, and vncertaine treading is verie good in this ground: Alfo if tome fresh river, or rundle is Tuing from a cleare spring runne through this ground, it is much the better. And in this ground you shall sommer your Mares & Foales as foone as the Stallion is taken away : the reafons for the former choyles are thefe; first, it must be good ground, becaufe it may make your Mares fpring with milke: next for bushes and brouse, it is that a Foale taketh a great delight in, and makes them hard.

The fhelter of trees is to defend the heat of the Sun, and the flinging of Flies. To be mountainous & plaine, is that a Foale may by the fharpnefle of the ayre every morning and evening, recover flomacke, ftrength and livelyhood, or by fcoping or galloping vp and downe the hill, come to a purenes of winde, and a nimblenes of bodie. For Moale-hils, final gutters, or other vncertaine treading, they are to bring a Foale by his wanton gallopping and playing about them, to a nimbleneffe and truth of footmanfhip, to a fine treading, and a furctie of not flumbling. That the water thould bee either frefh river or fpring, is becaufe the puritie ther-

of

The first Booke.

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of ingendreth no euill nutriment or grofnesse, but rather sprightinesse and quicknesse. The third or last ground wherein I would have you winter your Mares and Foales, would be of reasonable fruitefulnes, and freefrom all enundation or ouer-flowe of waters ; in would be alfo vpon the knole of an hill, and if conueniently it may be, full of trees or bushes for thelter. On the top of the hill, I would have you build certaine croffe houells of ftone or other clofe ftuffe, ouer which you may flacke your Hay, Oates, or other winter prouision: the quantitie whereof you must measure according to the number of your Mares and Foales. The open fides of your houells, I would with to lie east and welt, the cloffe endes north and fouth, infomuch that in what quarter fo euer the winde or weather ftandeth, they may have warmth and shelter from the fame. Within these houels I would have racks wherein to put the Hay or Oates in the flrawe, which will not onelie faue much from loffe and spoyling, but alfo increafe the appetite of a Foale by labouring at the fame. I would also have vnder the racks, maungers; in which you may call the ouerchawinges of Wheate, Barley, or other white corne, but by no meanes any Peale pulse, for it ingendreth many foule difeales; as the gargill, strangle, mawe worme and fuch like : It shall be also good to cast in the maunger that which Horfe men call garbadge, which is wheate ftrawe and the eares; chopt finall together, with a fine cuttingknife, for it rayfeth the creft, and makes it hie, ftrong, firme and thin. Now for thole great princes, who are the owners of many Parkes, many waatts, and many large contynents; they may (if it feeme good in their

eyes)

eyes) make these three severall grounds, three severall Parkes, multiplying their flockes as it hath pleafed God to multiply their possessions: but for him that hath but one Parke, or one peece of ground, fit for this purpose, the course I have formerly prescribed, I hold most Husbandly for his prosit, and the goodnes of the Beaft he intends to breede. As for the Yeoman or Husbandman, who neither haue choice of perticular grounds, nor meanes to breede after any exact method, as having but onely the benefit of the common fields; yet both for his profit and credits fake defireth to breede a good Horfe, to him I can but fet downe these few rules : First to foresee that his Mare bee of good shape and mettall: next that he put vnto het fo good a Horfe as either his credit or abilitie can procure: Next, that after his Mare hath foaled, hee keepe her in the reather, shifting her foure or fine times in a day vnto fresh graffe, which will be a sufficient meanes to preferue the Mares milke, albe she labor and worke much.Next, that the may be teathered to neare as may be vnto cornelands, that whilft the Mare feedeth, the Foale may at its pleafure crop & eate the green blades of Corne, which will fcowre and make the foale grow: and when the corne is of better ripenes, then it may crop the eares of Corne alfo, especiallie wheate, which will bring vnto the Foale fuch ftrength, full groath and liuclines, that he will fauor of that feafoning all his life after, so that in the winter he be not brought vnto too great a weakenes; which to avoide, I would have the husbandman euer to winter his Foale in the house, giuing it good flore of Chaffe, light Corne, and fuch like: but in any cale neither Pease nor Pease pulse, till B 4 March

March be past at the foonest. And thus much touching the vie of groundes and their divisions.

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#### CHAP. 2

#### Of Horses and Mares, and of their diuers kindes.

Crmeto enter into as friuolous & idle a difcourfe of the kindes of Horfes and their coulers, as Conradus Ge/ner hath, filling leaues with names fcarce heard of, at leaft neuer experienced in any of our climates, fome being more vgly then prodigies, and fome more ftrange then euen vntruth it felfe can imagine, were to diftafte the moftworthy ears, & make my felfe a fecond Trumpet of other mens fallhoods : but forafmuch as mine ambition is to fatilifie the world with truths, and not to amaze men with miracles, I will onely deliuer the kindes and generations of fuch Horfes as I haue approued and knowne within mine owne experience.

And first of all, for as much as I know almost all Englishmen, whether out of the inconstancie of their natures (which is ever most delighted with new fangled novelties) or out of the bashfulness of their modeflies, are ever apt to give precedencie and prioritie of place to firangers, firange creatures, and firange fafhions yet for as much as I have formerly, and do dayly finde in mine experience, that the vertue, good. nesse, boldnesse, si equall with anie race of Horse what loever: I will first of all begin with him; and

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and his difeription.

Some former writers, whether out of want of ex- of the Engperience, or to flatter nouelties, or else collecting their lish horse. workes from others writings, in which not finding the English horse named, they have thereupon concluded that the English horse is a great strong Iade, deep ribbed, fid-bellied, with strong legges, and good hoofes, yet fitter for the cart then eithet the Saddle or any worthy imployment. How false this is, all English Horfmen knowe, and my selfe dare boldly iustifie : for the true English Horse indeed, him I meane that is bred vider a good clime, on firme ground, and in a pure and temperate ayre, is oftall stature, and large proportion: his head, though not fo fine as either the Barbavies, or Turkes, yet is it leane, long, and well fashioned: his creft is hie, only lubie & to thickneffe if he be fton'd; but if he be gelded, then is it thin, firme, and ftrong: his chyne is straight and broad, & all his lims large, leane,. flat, and excellently ioynted, in them exceeding any Horse of what Countrey soener. Now for their inward goodneffe; first for their valure and indurance in the warres, I have feene them fuffer & execute as much and more then euer I noted in any other of forraine creation: I have heard it reported, that at the Maffacre in Paris, Mongomerie taking an English Mare, first in the night fwam ouer the river of Seine, and after ranne her Io many leagues, as I feare to nominate, least milconstruction might taxe me of too lauish report. And I have heard Matter Romano fay, the most induring beaft that euer he rid, was an English Mare. Againe, for iwistnesse, what Nation hath brought foorth that Horfe which hath exceeded the English ? for proofe whercof

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whereof wee haue this example : when the best Barbaries that ener were in my remembrance were in their prime, I lawe them ouer-runne by a blacke Hobbie at Salesburie of mailterCarltons, & yet that Hobby was more ouer-runne by a horfe of maister Blackstones called Valentine; which Valentine neither in hunting nor running, was euer equalled, yet was a plaine bred English Horie both by Syre and Dam. To defcend to our instant time, what ener men may report or imagine, yet I fee no shape which can perswade me that Puppie is any other then an English Horse : and truly for running, I holde him peereleffe. Againe, for infinite labour, and long indurance, which is easiest to bee discerned in our English hunting matches, I have not seene any horse able to compare with the English horse : fo that I conclude, the Englishhorfe is of tollerable shape, ftrong, valiant, fwift and durable.

The Courfer of Naples.

Next to the English Horse, I place the Courser of Naples, which is a horfe of a ftrong and comely fashion, of great goodnesse, louing disposition, and of an infinite couragious fneffe: his limbs and generall features are fo ftrong and well knit together, that he hath euer been reputed the onely beaft for the warres, being naturally free from feare or cowardife: the best character to knowe him by, is his head, which being long, leane, and very flender, doth from the eyes to the nofe bend like a Hawkes beake : he hath a great and a full eye, a fharpe eare, and a ftraight legge, which in an ouer-curious eye might appeare a little too flender, which is all the fault, curiofitie it felfe can finde. They be naturally of a loftie pace, they be louing to their rider, easie to be taught, most ftrong in their exercife;

exercife; and to conclude, fo good in all poynts, that no forraine race hath euer borne a tytle of fo much excellencie.

The Horfes of the Iles of Sardinia, and Corfica, Of Sardinia are the nearest of all other horfes to the Courfar of Na. and Corfica. ples, onely they bee fomewhat shorter bodied, and of fomewhat a more fierce and fierie nature, but that by the temperance of a good Rider is easie to be qualified, and converted to an excellent vertue. Ge/ner amongst his other absurdities, faith they be exceeding little horfes, whereas indeede they carrie proportion with horfes of the best stature.

II

Next these, the Turkie horfe is an excellent beaft; Of the Turkie I doe not meane those horses which have beene bred horse. in the Turkes first dominions, as in the vpper parts of Sithia, Tartaria, Parthia, Medea, Armenia, Capaducia, and other his Afian countries, albeif we wil beleeue the report of old writers, each of these Countries haue feucrall good races, as Sithia and Tartaria for greatneffe of bodie : Parthia, for limbe and courage: Media, for beautie and comelyneffe of shape: Armenia, and Copadocia, for heavinesse of head, and strength of body, with many other fuch like descriptions: but fith for mine owne Part, I haueneuer found groffer vntruthes, (I speake forhorse-manshippe.onelye) then in the recordes of these olde Writers; and for-al-much as mine e>perience(and as I thinke the eye of our Nation)hach had little dealing with Horfes of those Countries, I will omit them, and referre the curious, who only delight in nouclties, to reade Absirtus, Vegetins, Gesner, and such like, who may happily please their cares, but never better their experience ; and for mine owne part I will write

Ab fartus.

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Gefner.

write of the horfe of Greece, which foras much as it is now under the Turkes gouernment, the Horfes that come from thence are called of vs Turkes; of which I have feene divers, ridden fome, and knownethem bred vppon in many parts of England : but first to report what others write of the Horfes of Greece : One faith they have good legges, great bodies, comely heades, hie of stature, and wellmade forward, but not backeward, because they are pinne buttockt : they be verie swift, and of exceeding great courage. Now another faith, they be foule, ill shaped, rough ouer all their bodies, great shoulders, ill dispositions, Camel-backt, vnfure pac'd and crook'd legged. Now how thele contrarie descriptions can agree I vnderstand not, only they fay the better horfe is of Theffalie, the other of Thracia, but for mine owne part, touching those Turkes which I haue seene, all which haue beene faid to come from Constantinople, which is a part of Thrace; they have beene Horfes of most delicate shape, pace, and mettall: they have not beene of any monstrous greatnesse, but inclining to a middle fize, or indifferencie of height; they are finely headed almost as the Barbarie; they have most excellent forchandes, both for length, depth and proportion; their limbs are ftraight, yet rather small then great : their hoofes are long and narrow (a great figne of swiftnesse) their coats are smooth and short, and all their members of futable qualities they are of great courage and swiftnesse, for I have seene them vfed at our English Bell-courses. Naturally they defire to amble; and which is most strange, their trot is full of pride and gracefulneffe.

oufe.

The Barbarie Next the Turke, I place the Barbarie, which are horfes bred

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bred, either in one of the two Mauritanias, or in Numidia, or the leffer Affrick : they are beyond all horfes whatfoeuer for delicacie of thape and proportion, infomuch that the most curious painter cannot with all his Arramend their naturall lineaments. They are to be knowne before all horfes by the finenesse of their proportions, especially their heades and necks, which Nature hath fo well shap'd, and plac'd, that they commonly faue Art his greatest labour : they are fwift beyond other forraigne horfes, and to that vie in England we onely imploy them; yet are their races onely vpon hard grounds, for in foft or deepe grounds, they have neither ftrength, nor delight : they are exceeding well winded, which breedes in them a continuance of their swiftnesse : Their colours for the most part are gray, or flea-bitten. I have feene blacke and bay, but not fo generally they feldome or neuer foundes; they askelcife care then others in keeping, being both of fuch temperate diet, and fuch abilitie of body, that they feldom furfeit, onely they are (efpecially fuch as I haue feene) of fuch little and slender stature, that they are wnfit for the warres, or to support armes.

Next these horses of Barbarie, I place the lennet of The lennet of Spaine, which albe Ge/ner in his ignorant descriptions Spaine, reports to be a horse of great stature, buttockes shorr, weake, and vncomely30f body fat and bigge, slowe, and cruell to his rider; yet those which better know by their experience then he by his readings, And for my felfe, both those I have seene here in England, and also those I have seene in Spaine, and other places of the King of Spains dominions, assure me of the vntruth of such writings. For the lennet Indeed is a horse but of a middle statures

flature; finely made, both head, bodie, and legges; his buttocks though they be long, yet are they well thap'd and ftrong ; but whereas fome write they doe exceede all horfes in swiftnes, or for that Old wines tale of breeding with the welt winde, & ouer-running all windes, I have in them as little beleefe, as there is in fuch tales little poffibilitie : onely this I thinke, that the lenes being a horfe of great mettall and courage, and therewithall of nimble, light, and active proportion, may passe a carrere, that is, runne some twelue or twentie fcore, with great puiffance and fwiftneffe; but for running our English courses, which commonly are three or foure miles, we have not feene any fuch vertue or goodnesse in them: their limbs, for the most part, are weake and flender; yet in the warresthey are effected to be of wonderfull prowelle, and indurance, they are commonly full fix years old or more, before they come to any perfection or fhape, for they grow one yeare before, and another behinde. And the last thing which is complete in them, is their crefts, they are many of them naturally given to bound, & to performe faults aboue ground, but by reason of their weake lymbs, they continue not long without lamenesse; their trot is somewhat long and wauing: but if at any time they be put to amble, they take it naturally.

The Polland horfe, 14

Next this I place the Polander, or horfe of Poland, which is a beaft but of a middle ftature, well composed and knit togither, their limbs and ioynts are exceeding ftrong, in all proportions like to our true bred Engl./h horfes; their heades are fomewhat fine and flender, verie like in proportion to the Irifh Hobbie : their necks & crefts are well raifed vpright, and exceeding ftrong;

their

their eares are little and extraordinarily fhort : they haue exceeding ftrong backs, broade chines, and the best hoofs of any horse liuing, which is the reason that they are many times trained vp, & made ftirrers, as being horfes which take an efpecial delight in bounding, yarking, and other ftrong faults aboue ground, which moft comonly they do with fuch couragious violence & finartnes, that they have been seene many times to throw their flooes from their feet, with an almost incredible furie; they are all o exceeding good in trauel and will indure iourneying beyond many other horfes they are alfo exceeding good in the coach, and as fome of our English Nobilitie haue experience, equall or beyond most of the best Flemmish races; onely their generall fault is their littleneffe of stature.

Next the Pollander I place the high Almaine horfe, horfe, who is generally of an exceeding great and high ftature. And albe he haue neither neatnesse nor finenes in his shape, yet is there great strength in all his proportions; so that how socuer other men esteeme him for the shock or the manage, yet I account him best for draught, or burthen: they are much vsed in the warres, but I thinke like their Country-men, rather for a wall or defence, then either for affault or action; they are great, flow, and hard trotters.

Next them is the Hungarian horfe, who hath a great The Hungariflat face, crooked nofe, and thick head, great eies, nar- an horfe. tow nofthrils, and broadiawes; his maine rough, thick, and almost extending to the grounde, a bushe tayle, weake pasternes, and a leane bodie : generally, his deformities are so well coupled together, that they appeare comely; hee is of a temperate courage, and 10015 Will

The Almaine

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will abide much hardneffe, by reafon where of they are of much vie in the warres.

The first Booke.

The Flanders horfe.

horfe.

Next the Hungarian, I reckon the Flemming, who in most of his shapes differeth little from the Almaine : His stature is tall, his head short and thicke ; his bodie long and deepe, his buttocke round and flat, his legges bigge and rough; and his pace a (hort and hard trot: the principall vertue both of the Horfes and Mares, is in the draught, in which they exceede all other horfes, otherwife for the Saddle they are both vneafie and flothfull; the Mares are tall, large and wondrous fruitfull.

The Friefland Next thefe, I place the Friefland horfe, whofe fhape is like the Flemmings, but not full fo tall; he is of a more fierce & hot courage then the Flemming, which makes him a little better for feruice, as being able to passe a fhort carreire, to manage, beat a coruct and fuch like : but for his inward disposition, it is diuelish, cruell, and full of all stubborne frowardnesse; they are apt to all restiffe and malicious qualities, if the difcretion of the ryder preuent not their frenzie : their pace is a thort and hard trot.

The Sweathland horfe.

Next them I place the Sweathland horse, who is a horse of little stature, lesser good shape, but least vertue, they are for the most part pyde, with white legges, and wall eyes : they want ftrength for the warres, and courage for iourneying; fo that I conclude, they are better to looke vpon then imploy.

The Lifh Hobbie,

Next and last, I place the Irif Hobbie, which is a horse of arcasonable good shape, having a fine head, a strong necke, and a well cast body; they have quicke eyes, good limbs, and tollerable buttocks : of all horfes they are the furest of foote, and nimblest in daunge-

rous

The first Booke.

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tous paffages, they are of liuely courage, and verie tough in trauell, onely they are much fubiect to affrights and boggards. They will hardly in any feruice ioyne with their enemies; the reafons I imagine to be thefe: firft, they are for the most part bredde in wilde races, and have neither communitie or fellowship with any man till they come to the Saddle, which many times is not till they come to feauen, eight, nine, or ten yeares olde, at what time the countrie rysing, doe forcible drive the whole studd, both Horses, Mares, Colts, and Fyllies into sthey please to take, and let the test goe.

This wilde bringing vp, and this rude manner of handling, doth in my conceite ingender this fearefulneffe in the Beaft, which those ruder people know not how to amend. This Horse though he trot very well, yet he naturally defire th to amble : and thus much I thinke sufficient, touching these several kindes of Horses, and their generations.

#### CHAP. 3.

Of the mixture of these former races, for which purpose cach is best, and for the breeders commodifie.

Auing in the former Chapter, declared the kindes, Generations', fhapes and dispositions of all fuch Horses, as either our nation hath been acquainted withall, or my selfe hath tryed in mine own C cxperience,

experience, it shall bee meete that now I mixe thefe races together, showing which will agree best with our clymate, for what purpose, and how they bring the best commoditie.

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First, for the agreeing with our clymate, it is not vnknowne to all Horfe-men and men either of greatneffe or experience, that al those races, of which I haue written, hauebeene, and are daily bred in this kingdome, and that of fo great vigor, worth and goodnes, that euen their owne nations haue not brought foorth any of better estimation, as by infinit instances I can approue, were it not both teadious and needeless. VV herefore for me to enter into a Phylosophycall difcourse touching the height of the Sunne, the disposition of the ayre, or the alteration of heats and coldes, drawing from their effects the causes or hinderances of conception, were to trouble my felfe to no purpose, and to typer others with idle ceremonies.

But for as much, as divers men compose their breeds to divers purposes, some for the wars, service or pleafures of great Princes: some for fwistnesse in running, or toughnes in hunting: some for easinesse of pace, and the vse of travell; some for the draught and the portage of great burthens, I will as plainely as I can, showe how each race should be compounded. First, if you couet a race for the warres, or the feruice of Kinges, the Neapolitan courser is of all Stallions the best, to whome I would have ioyned the fayress English Mares that can be gotten. The next to him is the Turke, who would be mixt with the Neapolitan Mare, whence some a brave race: next him, the Horse of Sardinia or Corfites, who begettes a brave

braue race from the Turkie Mare : lastly the lennet of Spaine, breeding vpon the fayrest Flaunders Mares. To conclude, any of these Horses vppon faire English Mares beget much brauer Horfes then of their owne kindes, and fayre English horses vppon any of these countrie Mares, doe beget most serviceable beasts: but if you will breede onely for swiftnesse, then the Barbarie Horfe is onely best; breeding either vppon a Mare of his owne Countrie, vppon Turkie Mare or English : the Turkie Horse vpon the English Mare likewise doth beget a swift beast : But if you would breede onelie a tough hunting Horfe, there is none better, (as by daily experience we finde) then the fayre bred English Horse, and the English Mare: but if you would breed, easie ambling Horses for trauell and the vse of iourneying, there is none better then the Turke or Irifh Hobbie, fo they be mixed with eitheir English ambling Mares, or bastard Mares of their owne countrie, that likewise amble perfectly. I have seene many ambling Horfesbredde from lennets of Spaine, yet by reason of his slendernesse of limbes, and length of pasternes, I esteemed him not altogether so good as the two former.

Now laftlye, if you would breede Horfes for the draught, as eyther for Coach or Carr, or Horfes for the portage of great burthens: as eyther for Sumpter or Packe man, the Flaunders, Friefland, or Almaine Horfe are your best Stallyons: the Flaunders or Friefland, for the Coach or Cart, and the Almaine for the burthen: and for eyther of these purposes the Mares are in all parts as seruiceable as the horfes, according to our prefent experience in England at this instant.

C 2

Now

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Now you are to vnderstandd, that as all these Horfesintheir seuerall fore-named vses, are the best, fo likewife their colts thus begotten (which of fome Horimen is called bastardie) are likewife excellent Stallyons. For mine owne part, I would to chufe breed fooner of a Bastard Courser, bastard lenet, Turke, or Barbary, then of the naturall Horfe of the owne countries and my reafon is, by their mixture with our Mares, all the imperfections of their owne Countries are amended; as in the Courfer, his length of head, and want of creft, which many times is imperfect. In the Jenet his weakenes of ioyntes: and in the Turke and Barbarie. their flendernes of limbes : the Flaunders and Friefland which are fo extreame rough and hayrie about their pasterns, that the best keepers cannot preferue them from scratches, paines and Mallanders, are by mixture with our Mares brought to a cleane race of fufficient tollerable limbes, fo as they neede not bekept, but will keepethemfelues from foarances: they also by mixing with our Mares, have their heads much amended; and their hoofes infinitely much better hardned, which of all the partes of those countrie horses, is the worft, and of leaft indurance : all which me thinkes when a perfect indgement shall take into his confideration, it shall appeare great honor to our nation, and much shame to them who have wrongd it with former misreportings : and thus much for the mixing of prees.

CHAP. 4

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Of the choyce of Stallyons and Mares : the knowledge of their ages by divers observations, and of their shapes.

Or as much as everiething is made moste perfect, fufficient, and of longest continuance, by the ftrength and furety of his first ground-worke or foundation, which indeede is the chiefe mailterpeece of all that growes from that beginning : I therefore aduife all those worthie ones, who will be the breeders of the best Horses, to have especiall careto the first choice and creation of their studde, fith if in the beginning, there be either infufficiencie or blemith, it is most likely fuch staines will by continuance, growe to bee more and more vilde and vglys and in this circumfpection, there is nothing of more importance, then the well chusing of your Stallyons and Mares, fith they are the living bodies, from whence you are to derive both your delight and profit; he therefore, that will chuse a perfect Stallyon(faith one writer)must respect his beautie, goodnes, and age. Another faith, shape, colour, merrit, and beautie; which indeede is all one with the former, and I holde them principall observations, but I would likewife have added vnto them, his descent and generation : for albe, a Clowne may beget a beautifull Son, yet shall he neuer begette an Heroyicall spirit, but it will euerhaue some touch of basenesse : and an ill bred Horfe may beget a Colt, which may have faire colour 6 3 and

### I be first Booke.

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and shape, which we call beauty: Toughnes, which we call goodnes, and youth, which is few yeares, yet fiill his inward parts may retaine a fecret vildnes of difpofition, which may be infufferable in breeding. Now for his beauty, which only is contained in his colour and shape, albe I haue in the next booke writ sufficiently touching them two, yet I will heere a little glaunce at them, by comparing with them the opinions of fome other writers. First, for the opinion of Gelner, which meerly is no good opinion at all in horfe-manship, but a collection of idle tales; he faies the beft colours are bay, white, carnation, golden ruffet, moufe colour, fleabitten, pide, black& pale, pide blew and gray; had he put in alfo orenge-tawny, willow colour, & fuch like, althe world could not have gon beyond him, neither fhould the Spaniards nor Italians have need to have dyed their horfes maines and tailes, if horfes could have bin bred. of such colours. But to let passe such frivolous notes, the best colour for a stallyon, is browne bay dapled, dapple gray, bright bay, or white lyard : the roane, the pure black, with white ftar, white foote, or white rach ... or the black bay, which hath neither mealy mouth, nor red flanke, is also sufferable. A stallyon would be all of one colour, yet not according to the opinion of Gefner, his main & body of one colour, for that is most vilde: for a bright bay horfe would have a blacke mayne and taile, & black out partes, as the tips of his eares, legs & fuch like: a dapple gray would have white main & taile and to foorth of the reft : but I would not have a pide stallyon, except it be for him, wholesteeming more the ftrangenes of colours, then the goodnes of horfes, places his delight in motley generations : to fuch an one a pide 16

The first Booke.

Pide Stallyon is beft : and of pides, the black and white, and bright bay and white are most choice: & not blew, carnation or golden pide. For his shape ingeneral, I refer you to the next booke, where I have not as I hope omitted, the least tittle in proportions, onely for some particular things, which are to be most respected in a stallion, then in any other horse, I wil give my opinion. First, for his head, it must be lean, slender & smal about his muffell: at the ferring on of his head to his neck you must have an especiall regard that his neck swell not vp about his chaules, or that the kirnells which runne betwixt his neck and his chaule be thicke or big, for it is a great figne of floath, and thickneffe of winde, which is a great fault in the Stallyon, especially if his maister expect to breede from him either runninghorfe, hunting horfe, or good traueller:neither must be have wall cies, or white specks in his eyes : you must have care that your Stallyons yarde be all of one colour, and not pide or spotted: for what Stallyon hath soch a falt, begetteth weake foales, or for the most part of flegmaticke complexions, which are fildome good, either for vie or hardnesshis ftones would be of a mean fize, without warts or knobs, wel truffed vp,& close to his body, for if either they hang fide, or one hang lower then another, it is a figne of furfet, ficknes, or dulnes of Spirit. If your stallion haue vnder his chappes, long thin haires like a beard, which also extend downeward even to his breft it is much better, & a great fign of swiftnes. Also, you must take care that your Stallyon be free from all naturall discases: as excressions, which are splents, Spauens, Serew, ringbones, Curbes, or fuch like; If they put foorth, or appeare before a Horfe come to hand-C 4

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on his body, or fuch like: And thus much for his fhape. Now for his goodnes, tis true, as fome write, that it is of two fortes, eyther naturall or artificiall: His naturall goodnes confifting in his ftrength and abilitie of bodie, for the performance of the Arte of generation, in his health, agilitie, fwiftneffe, and good dilpolition. His artificiall, in the manner of fhowing his naturall vertues, which is alwaies the best descerned voder his rider: but in as much, as that artificiall grace doth little auaile in generation, it shall be the breeders principall office to take efpeciall knowledge of his naturall perfections, which if he shall finde answerable to my former demonstrations, he may presume vppon his firnes for that purpose : and yet I would not have you to ferioufly to regard his naturall goodneffe, that you vtterlie neglect his artificiall: but rather if you shall beholde a Horse vnder the ryder of infinite spirit and indurance, or of wonderfull speede, pride, and statelines, that albe there be fome thinges in him you could with amended, yet to beare with them, and breede vppon him, for the benifit of his other vertues.

Now forafmuch as fome, whether out of curiofitie to appeare excellent in the knowledge of fupernatural thinges, or to give a fatisfaction to fuch as out of their too much fearch, would become Horfe-midwines; haue fet downe as an especiall regarde in the naturall goodneffe of a Stallyon, to knowe the goodneffe or illnesseof the Horses seede, which experience ( for mine owne part) I have ever fhunned as a thing loathfome, vngentill, vnnaturall, and most vnmanlie; yer, for as much as in the worke, I couet to fatisfie euc-

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rie feuerall defire; I will fet downe what others thinke touching that poynt, and not what I haue approoued; leauing the tryall to fuch as out of their fleamie womanifhneffe feeke for fuch fecrets.

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One VV riter faith, that if you will know the goodneffe of your horfes feede, you fhall when he couers a Mare, caufe him to fhed fome of his feede into water, and if it finke it is good, if it float aloft it is naught : another faith, if you take the feede of the Horfe into wooll, or betweene your finger and your thumbe, and if it rope and be flimie like birdlime, then it is good: but if it be thinne and loofe like whey, then it is naught : with other fuch like midwifely precepts, which I with euery good breeder rather to hazard, then proue the experiment.

Now for the age of your Stallyon, though *Plinie* be of opinion, that a Horfe may bee put to a Mare ar two yeares olde, and continue getting Foales till he be thirtie three yeares olde; yet for mine owne part I like neither the beginning nor the ending, having in them both too much extremitie: for the beginning is too early, and the continuance too long to prosper. The best age therefore in these dayes (how ever it hath bin in former ages) for to put a Horfe to a Mare, is when he is betwixt foure and five yeares olde, at what time he gettern the goodlieft, greatest, & best spirited colts.

In Spaine I have heard the Spaniards fay, they let their Coltes runne with their Mares, till they couer their Dammes : and indeed I have feene very young Horfes in fome of their Ilandraces; but I vtterly diflike fuch breeding, for it is vilde and vnnaturall: for as *Plinte* reports, a Horfe being hoodwinkt while fthe conered a

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Mare, after perceining it was his owne Damme, ranne vp to the rocks, and brake his owne neck : and alfo that a Mare in the territorie of Realte, kild her keeper for the like; which reports albe they carry not the faireft liveries of truth, yet are they precedents vnto vs that fuch manner of breeding is not by former horimen allowed of:& this in mine owne experience I have both found and knowsthat if a man will continue his breede altogether in one ftraine, without any alteration or strangenesse, shall in the ende finde his studd to decay and loofe both stature, strength and comelines, which doth intimate to mee, that there is a great diflike in fuch kinde of breeding. Let your Horfetherefore(as before I faid)be of the age of foure or fine yeares olde. or betwixt that age, and fourteene or fifteene at the moft; for after that time he is past the vse of generation except he be fome principall rare horfe, as fome I haue feene, that have gotten verie fufficient Foales at eighteene and twentie yeares old, clearely disproouing the opinion of Ge/ner, which faith, that olde Horles get lame Foales, a ching both falfe and rediculous, except he account the hollowneffe of the eyes, or fadneffe of countenance lamenesse, which are the greatest faults an old horfe begetteth : For whereas fome hold opinion, that an olde Horses Foale is more tender then the other, and more fubiect to fickneffe and infirmitie, I haue for mine owne part found the contrarie, not approouing many Colts more sufficient for health, or of more abilitie in nature to endure ficknesse when it chanceth, then the Colt of an olde Horfes yet that fuch an olde Horfe would haue begot a much better Colt in his youth I make no question; by which I conclude, that

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that the young Horfe is for breed the most principall: but the good olde horfe in extremitie or neceffitie, not to be forfaken; prouided alwayes that he be found of his limbs and bodie, vnlesse it bee such disease as commeth meerly by mischance or casualtie.

And now fith I haue proceeded thus farre in the age of Horles, it shall be requisite that I shew you how you shall knowe the age of any Horle whatsoeuer : First by the pride, fulnesse, and cheerefulnesse of a Horfes countenance we adjudge his age : for first if his eies be round, full and starting from his heade; if the pits ouer his eies be filled, smooth and euen with bis temples; and his countenance smooth and free from fadnesse, then we gesse and knowe that such a Horle is young: and by the contrarie as pects, we know he is old.

Another way, is to take his skin betwixt your finger and your thumbe, and plucke it from the fielh, then letting it goe againe; if it luddenly returne to the place from whence it came, and be fmooth and plaine, without wrinckle, then is he young and full of vigor; but if being pulled vp it ftand, and not returne to his former place, then is he olde and wafted.

Others opproue a Horfes age in this fort: take him with your finger and your thumbe by the fterne of the tayle, clofe at the fetting on of the buttocke, and feeling there hard, if yov feele betwixt your finger and thumbe, of each fide his taile, aioynt flicke out more then any other ioynt, by the bigneffe of an Hafell Nut, then you may prefume he is vnder ten yeares olde; but if his ioynts be all plaine, and no fuch thing, to be felt, then bee affured he is aboue tenne yeares old. Others approue the age of Horfes by their teeth and. 28

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and that is of all wayes the moste certaine : fome will put their fore-finger into the horles mouth, and feele the infide of his vpper tufhe : and if therein they finde a little hole or nicke, then they are fure he is vnder ten yeares old: but if it be plaine and full, then he is aboue ten. Lastly, and the furest way to know a Horfes age, is to looke in a Horfes mouth, and if he have changed no more but his foure formost teeth, then is he but two yeares olde : if he haue two teeth aboue, and two below of each out fide to change, then he is three yeares olde: if he haue one tooth aboue, and one belowe of each outfide to change, then he is foure yeares old : at five yeares olde he changes his tufhes, and at fix yeares old all his teeth are perfect, onely his vnder tufhes will have a little circle or ring of young flesh about them. different from his gumme, & his outmost teeth of each fide haue little black holes in the top of them; which as foone as they be worne out, and are fmooth, the horfe is past eight yeares old if when that marke is gone, and the teeth fmooth, the horfes teeth be long, yellow and foule, although he cut eenen & clofe, then he is aboue twelue : if his vpper teeth ouer-reach his neather, and be worne vneeuen, and his tusks long, foule and thicke, then is he aboue fiftcene; but if his teeth be foule, vneeuen, and his tusks worne close to his chaule, then he is rather about then vnder twentie. Alfo, if a horfe of darke colour growe griffell aboue his eye hrowes, or vnder his maine, it is a figne of extreame old age. And thus much touching the Stallyon.

Now to speake some little of breeding Mares, which as wellas the horse would have all the three properties of beautie, age, and goodnesse; by the consent of mine

mine opinion, 1 woulde haue a breeder to chufe his Mare (after he is refolued touching her naturall goodneffe and generation) by the largeneffe and goodly fhape of her bodie, not refpecting a gaunt, cleane, and eye-pleafing proportion, in any fort comparable with a well forehanded, fide-ribbed, cleane limb'd, and large wombd Mare. For if a Foale haue an ample bed, he cannot chufe but be of great ftature : the beft age for a Mare to take the horfe in, is at three yeares olde and vpward, and the time of their decreafing attwelue: yet for mine owne part, I did know the two and twentieth Foale of one Mare, which was an exceeding good and goodly horfe: but that example I holde for no generall rule.

Now if you demaund of me why a Mare should go fooner to the Horfe then the Horfe to the Mare, mine answer is, because the commeth a yeare fooner to her fulneffc and perfection : for a Horse is not complete, till;after fixe, and a mare is perfect at fiue. Plinie and other Philosophers, are of opinion, that Mares may beare Foales till they be fortie yeares olde, not being vfed for other purpose : but I whose Philosophie is mine owne experience, haue found it ingenerall otherwife, and therefore would with no Prince, nor man of greatnesse or estate, whose power and purse may vphold his breed in the beft maner, to preferue his Mares longer in his ftudd, then from three yeares olde till ten; vnleffe it be some such principall Mare of whom you haue such sufficient proofe of extraordinarie goodneffe, that you may aduenture a more then vfuall continuance : for Mares being more aprto the Acte of generation then Horles, are euer founde sooner to de-

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cay and grow barraine. That your Mares which you preserue for your studd should runne wilde and vntamed (as I have seene them doe in Spaine, Ireland, and in fome races here in England) I vtterly diflike : for albe great persons respect not their worke or labours profit, yet fuch wildneffe indangers them as oft as they are driven or removed from ground to ground, either for caffing their Foales, fwelting, or other violent euill proceeding from wildneffe : therefore it is most neceffarie that your Mares be made as domefticall and tame as may be, both that great men may not loofe the pleasure of their breede, nor the meaner fort the profite of their worke and labour; which labour if it be moderate, is most wholfome for the Mare, and makes her more apt and readie for conception; and moreouer makes her fit either to be couered in hand, or out of hand, at your will or pleasure.

#### CHAP. 5.

How and at what time of the yeare Horfes and Mares [hould ingender : fignes of a Mares defire : how many Mares for one Seallion, and how long he fhall continue with them.

The next and immediate precept after the choife of Stallions, and Mares, is to know the time of the yeare, and feafon when they fhould ingender : the opinion of *Plinie*, *Palladius*, and fome other

ther writers is, that the Stallion and Mares should bee put togither, from the midft of March, till the midft of Iune; and truly the opinion is very good, & agreeable with our clime: but in the strictnesse of mine own opinion and experience, I haue euer found from the beginning of March ull the end of Aprill, the very best time of all: for May and Iune are somewhat with the hottest, and a little too late in the yeare; so that the Foales falling in those times, neither having taste of frosts, nor sence of colde dewes; in the latter end of the yere, when they shall be compelled to endure them, and feele them to increase every day more and more, the bitternesse will be so extreame, that for want of former custome, they will loofe their flesh, grow weak, and milhapen : notwithstadding, if a Mare be not ready (as it will often happen) fo early in the yeare : yet rather then she should goe ouer, or you loose her profite, it shall not be amisse to let her be couered, either in May or Iune, fo that the Mare going with Foale ordinarily eleuen Months, and tenne dayes, or thereabouts, fhee may foale though not in the beginning of the fpring (which I would euer with) yet at fuch a tollerable time, as both for the temperature of ayre, and benefite of food may be allowed, though not much praifed. Diuers horfmen heere in England (but not any expert. breeders)I haue heard, holde strong argument against this opinion of mine for early couering of Mares, concluding that to couer Mares in May, is fomewhat of the foonest, reasoning thus; that for as much as malie, Spaine, and other Countries much hoter then ours, couer northeir Mares before mid-March, orthe beginning of Aprill: ours that through the coldnes keepes graffe

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graffe flowe & long ere it fpring, may right neceffarily flay a month after them, but they are deceived in their iudgements: For albe our clime be colde, and that graffe be long in growing; yet this is a certaine rule, that if a Mare have meate inough to fuffaine nature in any good fashion, she will ever have milke inough to bring vppe her Foale.

Againe, if a Foale fall early in the yeare, as the yeare increases, so both meate and milke increase, but if a Foale fall in the prime time of the yeare, then as the yeare decreases, so meate and milke decreases; so that the Foale taffeth in his first month his best soode : and when he can eate least, hat the greatest plentic, which is contrarie torule.

Lastly, our Wintersbeing almost double to the Winters in those hot Countries, if our Foales have not a little taste or feasoning of Winter before our VVinter begin, they will hardly (as before I said) indure our VVinters.

Another Argument those Horsemen haue, which is, that our Mares will not couet the Horse before May, but that is more abfurd then the other; for all men of experience know, that a Mare which is not with foale, will euer couet the Horse before mid-March, at what time if the be fuffered to goe ouer, the will not defire the Horse for a Month after. Againe, if the Mare be with Foale, it is an infallible rule, that as soone as thee hath foaled, the will euer couet the Horse nine nights after: so that it is rather a naturall course, then the pride of foode, which makes a Mare couet or not couet the Horse.

Signes of a J Marcs pride, 22

Now the fignes to know when a Mare coueteth the Horfe

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Horfe be these: They will runne extraordinarilie vp and downe, and fildome rest in any one place, and their coursing for the most part is euer towards the North or South; they will pricke vp their tailes, wooe one another, and leap one vpon another, they will pisse oft, and as some doe report in their writinges, if they may not haue the Horse in the extremity of their defire, they will runne madde.

The time of the yeare being thus : from the beginning of March, till the end of Aprill or May: and your Mares being ready for the Horfe, the next rule is, the manner of their putting together : tis most true, that for Princes and great Persons, who have multitudes of Mares, & great choice of Horfes, to whom the spoyling of a Horse, or the goeing ouer of a Mare, is no losse. The onely best manner of couering, is to put your Stallyon into a well fenc'd ground, full of fresh water, good shelter, and cleare ayre, where hee may runne from March till the midst of May, and then to put vnto him fo many Mares as with good conueniencie his ftrength is able to endure and ferue : which must bee proportioned'according to his youth and ftrength. Plinie is of opinion, that a good Stallyon may couer fisteene Mares, and our English Horsmen haue ordinarily proportioned twelne and tenne, but for the best Horfes that have beene within my experience, I have found eight at full sufficient, vnlesse a man would never expect more of the Horse, then that one two monthes seruice.

For of a Horfe then of youth, ftrength and lustinesser, eight Mares are a ful number, but if he be old or feeble, then foure is enow, fixe too many. According to this C proportion,

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preportion, having feuered your Stallyons and Mares into their proper places, You must appoint such as may be careful of the fences, least either your stallyons should breake one into another, and so either marre the determination of your breed, or spoile themselues by fighting ; For Horfes like Deare are iealious of their Mares, as may appeare by their keeping them together, & not luffering them to stray or feed a funder, as in fuch cafes you may eafily obferue, and which as fome thinke, is the caufe that they are more apt for generation, and doe conceive more speedily : and truely for the first, fecond, or third Mare, I am of the fame opinion : but that it holdeth fo in the reft, I differ ; for a Horfe which is at fuch liberty, and is of a mighty fpirit, doth fo extreamly, and with fuch diforder spend himselfe, that in leffe then one weekes space, he brings fuch feeblencs vponhim, that he is almost difabled for the purpose you imploy him: and for mine owne part, I have knowne divers excellent Horfes that have kild themselves with the violence of their luft. Yet as before I faid, for fuch as have multitudes of Maresthere is no other meane, but the infferance of this hazard.

As foone as you shall perceive that all your Mares be couered, which necessarily must be within the compasse of fix weekes: because every empty Mare at that time of the yeare, defireth the Horse once in a month, you shall foorth with take your Horse from your Mares: for it is not good to ler him goe any longer, for these reasons: First for the losse of his vie and service, which may bee after his recoverie to some good purpose is but chiefly, least if he run too long, he spoile what hee hath formerly created: for a Mare,

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contrary to the kinde of other beafts, is of fo firong a luft, that albe the have conceined, yet if the be proud in fleth, fat, full, and lufty, the will notwith ftanding defire and take the Horfe againe, which if at any time the do, the immediatly cafteth the Foale where withall formerly the went, which experiment I have knowne diuers times approved, yea even when a Mare hath bin within almost a month of her recconing : for which caufe I would have you ever obferue to remove your Stallyon, to foone as he hath done his office. And thus much for the races of Princes, and Potentates.

Now for fuch primate Gentlemen, as having but one Stallyon, yet divers Mares, they may by no means runne the hazard of this former course, least by spoyling their Horfes, they loofe both their hope and benefit together, wherefore it behooueth them to obferue another course : yet not in mine opinion, according to the demonstration of some of our-late English writers, by turning Mares fingle, and by one wato the Horfe, whilst hee runneth in some primate fenc'st ground, as some pond-yarde, or such like ! for this taketh as fore of the Horfe as the other course first mentioned, or rather forer, by as much as the change and nouelties of new Mares, brought almost artheend of euery three dayes fresh vnto him, stirreth and inflameth him with a more greedy and eager luft, then otherwife hee would have if they were his continuall object : therefore hee that hath but one Stallyon, and hopes to inioy him long, (yet many Mares for him yearely to couer) let him observe the order prescribed in this next Chapter.

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#### CHAP. 6.

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Of couering Mares in the House, the dyeting of the Stallyon, the time of the day for the Act, and to know when shee hath conceived.

Lbe this course wee are now about to treate A of, bee much more troublesome, and a little more chargeable then the former, yet it is by manie degrees fafer, and in my conceite much furer. Hee therefore, that out of little meanes will preferue a good breede : Let him first prepare tokeepe fome warme spotte of ground, as eyther Orchard, Garden, or fuch like : which not being eaten all the yeare before, may haue graffe ready to mowe by mid Aprill, at what time you fhall put your Horfe into the foyle, feeding him thoroughly with bread made of peafe meale and mingled with barme and water, well knodden and baked in great houfholde loaues: then when you have a Mare ready to be couered, let her as foone as the Sun is in fetting, be brought into some large empty barne, and there turned loofe: let then the Horfe be also brought vnto her, and turned loofe, where let him remaine with her all night, till halfe an houre after Sunne rife : then let him be taken and led into the stable, and the first thing you give him, let itbee a fweete warme maffr of malte and water : after that, let him have graffe and prouender as before he was accustomed : then let the Mare likewife be turned to graffe.

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This order you shall observe three nights together, and there is no doubt but your Mare shall be sufficiently ferued: In this manner, and with this dyet, your horse may well ferue one after another, ten or twelue Mares; during all which time of soyle aud couering, your Horse must by no meanes be ridden.

Now for as much as some English writers prescribe in this time of loile, for your horles dyet, dryed wheate or dride Peafe and Wheate branne, or cleane fytches, and his mathes of wheate meale and water, I for mine owne part, doe diflike them all, and this is my ground : first, for dride wheate, albe it be a cleane, heartie, and ftrong food, yet it is a graine, which of all other dooth foonest cloy a Horse, and is most dangerous, if a horse shall surfeit thereon : besides, it is with vs heere in England, of fo little vse for Horses, that when you shall giue it a Horfe, his nature (vnaccustomed thereunto) receives it rather as a medicine, then as any familiar foode, and by that meanes takes little or no pleafure therein: Lastly, it is so costly, that no good Husband but will grudge the expence, except he were affured of some extraordinarie benefit thereby, which I assure him he shall neuer reape.

Now for peale and branne, who knowes not that hath any experience, that it is of all foodes the most vilde, ingendering groffe humors, & bad neutriment, occasioning hart-burning, & many other fealding palfions in a Horfe. And for fytches they are (if possible) worfe then the other, for besides that they are rancke, fulfome, & vnwholfome food : they have also in them fuch a dangerous poyson, that by furfetting vppon them, they breede even the plague amongst Horfes.

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For the mashe of Wheate and Water, it is tollerable, and may bee vsed, but not in this time of couering, because it carryeth neither the strength, pleasanttaste, nor sweetenesse, which Malt and water doth. And thus much for the couering of Mares in the house.

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There is yet another manner of couering of Mares, and that is, for fuch as either having fome one principall Horfe, which they effeeme fo pretious, that they will not aduenture him loofe a night together, leaft the Mare either in her wooing, or out of her toying knauishnes, should give him fuch a blowe, as might either breed in him griefe or lameneffe; yet are defirous to have fome one or two especiall Mares couered with him : or elfeit is for them who being defirous to get into good races, are fayne to get leapes for their Mares, either by courtesie, bribes, or stealth : for these, they must bee content to have their Mares couered in hand; which albe it bee not altogether fo fure as the former preicribed was, yet the Foales fo begotten, are altogether as good as the former : and whereas fome haue held opinion that the Horfe being at hard meate (that is, at Hay and Provender) and the Mare at graffe, or the Mare at hard meate, and the horfeatgraffe, that if the fetwo shaling endertogether the Mare will neuer conceiue or holde, I have found it meere wntruth, for I have knowne a horfe the night before he fhould have run for a wager, who then was not onely at hard meate, but alfo in straite dyet, which is the extreameft of hard meate, couer a graffe Mare; which Mare hath held to that horfe, & brought foorth a foale, which both for his shape & vertue, might well challenge

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challenge his Syre. He therfore that will have his Mare couered in hand, must observe this order : as soone as you finde your mare ready for the Horfe, which you may knowe by the fignes before mencioned, or if for a better affurance, you may if you please, bring some bad fton'd lade vnto her, and if you fee her wrie her taile, & thow willinges to receive him, then it is most certaine the is ready then you that halfe an houre after Sun rife in the morning, bring your Mareinto fome clofe court or backe yarde, neere vnto the stable, or for want of fuchinto some emptie barne : then you shall cause the Horfe-keeper to bring foorth the Horfe, in a watering trench, with a ftrong long rayne: and if at the first fight of the Mare, the horfe (as it is very likely he will) fall to bound or leape, let not the keeper bee affrayde, but rather cherrish and fortefie the Horse in such falts, onely let him fo much as is in his power reftraine him from comming too fuddainely to the Mare, that if it beepoffible hee may bee readie when hee commeth to her, and as soone as hee is vppon her, let him haue all the libertie the Horfe-keeper can give him. But whereas fome would have the Horfekeeper to helpe the Horfe, as by putting his yarde into the right place, or fuch like : I am vtterly against it, (except it bee in case of great neede) for it is so much against the nature of a Horse, so to be handled, that I have feene a Horfe when he hath beene ready to couer a Mare, by fuch officiousnes of the keeper, to come immediately off from the Mare, and leave her vnferued, for more then an houre after. As soone as the Horse hath served the Mare, & is comed from her back, let a stander by (prepar'd for the purpose) imme-Di4 diately

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diately throw a pale of colde water vpon the pringe partes of the Mare, which will keep her from fhedding the feede (which naturally a Mare will do) and fo foone as the water is thrown, let him which holds the Mare, runne vp and downe with her the fpace of a quarter of an houre, making her trot a good pace, which chafing will alfo make her holde the feede, and whilft this is in doing, let the Horfe be ledde into the ftable and haue fome breade given him, then within halfe an houre after, let him be brought forth againe as before, and let him couer her the fecond time, and then no more for that time, & looke, how you doe in the morning, the fame you must alfo doe in the cuening, continuing fo to doe for three mornings, and three cuenings together: and it will be fufficient.

Now that you may know whether the hath conceiued or no, you that within ten daies after her couering, offer her fome bad ftond Iade againe : which if the refufe to receive, it is an euident token that the holdeth; but if at that time month after her couering, you offer her the Horfe againe, and the refufe him, it is most infallible that the holdeth.

Againe, if when you couer your Mare in hand, and let her ftand ftill, the doe not then loofe or caft out her feede, it is most certaine that the holdeth. Alfo when a Mare hath conceiued, her coate will fcower, and the will looke more fmooth, fleight, and full then before the did. The only time of the month for couering of Mares, is three dayes after the change of the moone, and three daies before the full of the moone. And thus much for the couering of Mares.

and times

Hander by (prepar'd for the purpole) imme-

Wately

The first Booke.

### CHAP. 7.

4.1

That Mares may be made to conceine either Horfe-Foales, or Mare Foales at pleafure, and of what colour the breeder will.

A Lbe euer, euen from mine infancie, my vrtermost ends and ambition hath bin onely to bee expert in this Art of Horf-manship which I profeffe : And although I have not omitted any time, labour, or rest (according to the substance of mine estare) which might any way intice me with any fecret belonging to the fame ; yet whether it hath beene the strength of my misbeleefe, or the nature of my condition (which hath euer defired in these naturall courfes, a naturall and comely proceeding) I knowe not, yet well I am affured, that I could neuer relish or well difgest these needlesse fecrets, into which the fond curiofitie of man doth to so small purpose wade ; yet for my promise take, and least by this omifion fome other man might come and deny my CAVA-LARICE, I am content to report the vttermost of other mens opinions, ioyning to them mine owne observations. One writer therefore faith, that if you will have your Horfe get a Colt Foale, you must tye vp his left ftone with a lace or ribband : but I feare if he have not the vie of both those instruments, hee will geeneither Colt nor Fillye : The binding vp of the right ftone getteth the Filly Foales.

Another faith, if you couer a Mare when the north D 5. winde

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winde blowes, she will conceine a Colt Foale; if when the South winde blowes, a Fillie. Others report, that if you constraine your Horse to stand a good space by the Mare wooing her, and priding himfelfe before her, that the Mare out of the conceit of his comlineffe, will at that time conceine a colt Foale. Others are of opinion, that if you annoint the Horles yard & fones with the oile Petrolium, that it will occasion him to beget colt Foales: but in all thefe experiments, I hauelittle truft. Mine observations therefore for this begetting of males, or Females, hath beene euerthefe: first, let a mare be couered three daies after the change or three daies before the full of the moone & it is commonly a meane to make her bring forth a colt Foale: To couer a mare the chird night, or the ninth night after she hath foaled, is a good way to get colt Foales : laftly and which is of all the fureft, let your Horfe when he goeth to your mare, be in as great lust and strength as you can make him, and let your mare be rather leane then fat, fo that in the worke of nature, the horfe may be the stronger doer : and from these observations I have many times feene horfe-colts to iffue.

Now that you may knowe when your mare is couered, whether fhee hath conceiued a horfe Colt, or mare Colt: one obferueth, that if the horfe when the act of generation is ended, doe come off from her backe on the right fide, that then fhe hath conceiued a colt Foale, if on the left fide, then a mare foale. Others obferue, that if when the horfe commeth off from the mare, he feeme to be much deiected and afhamed, that it is a ftrong argument he hath got a colt foale; but if be fhew any alactitie of fpirit, or doe ney, it is a manifeft

fest token he hath got a mare foale : but both these obferuations in my conceit are friuolous, nor do I thinke we ought in truth seeke such superstitious knowledge.

Now that your Mare may conceiue her Foale of what colour you will, many Philosophers and some Horf-men are of this minde, that looke what colour you shall put vppon the horse when hee couereth the Marc, or what other colour you will prefent to her eye when the is in couering, that the Foale which the then conceineth shall have the fame colour : Others report, that of what colour you will staine or paint the haires of your Horfe, when he goeth to couer your mare; that the wilconceine her foale of that colour. Another Writeth, that if you will paint the portrature of a Horfe vpon boord or canuaffe, and holde it before the eyes of the Mare whileft fhe is in couering, that looke what colour or speciall markes the picture containes, that the fame colour and markes the foale shall have which the Marethen conceineth. How ever these opinions are mayntained by the Scriptures, or by Labans theepe; for mine owne part I holde neither truft nor truth in them : for were there a certaintie in fuch practife, I know fo many fantasticall wits in this Nation, that we shouldnot be without a worlde of Gefners Horfes, I meane horses of all manner of colours in the Rainbow: Nay fome madde men I knowe would have their Mi-Areffes names grow on their horfes buttockes, but letting these iugling trickes passe, the only fure way to have your foale of good colour, is to have both your Horfe and your Mare of a good colour, and that doth neuer faile in nature.

CHAP:

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The first Booke.

# CHAP. S.

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### If Mares should be fore' dto take the Horse, how to mooue lust in Horse and Mare, and how to abate it.

Hough in former ages, as in the dayes of Plinius fecundus, and Varro, it hath bin an vfuall cuftome to force Mares to take the Herfe, when they have had no luft, as by croffe fhackling them, tying them to a Poast, and fuch like violent compulsions : yet I for my part doe vtterly diflike it, and holde it both barbarous and vnnaturall : For in all those naturallactions, there should bee a naturall accord and agreement, or otherwise the labour is lost : or if it auaile, it is the first meanes to bring foorth prodigies : Therefore if at any time you bee offered the benefite of a principall Horfe, and becaufe of your Mares vnreadinesse you are likely to loose that faire oportunitie, vnlesse you shall force her by compulsion : mine aduice is, that rather then you shall loofe theone, or make vse of the other, that you trie all the meanes that may bee to ftirre and mooue lust in your mare, which one Writer faith you may thus doe : Take Shrimps and beate them in a morter with water, till they bee as thicke as hony, then mixe there with mares feede, and fo annoynt her privie parts, and her nofe, and it will procure luft ; Or else take the powder of Horses stones, and mixing it with sweete wine, giue it the mare to drinke.

Another

Another writer faith, that the inyce of a Sea Onion being laid vpon the Mares Matrixe, will flirre vp luft, or elfe to anoint her matrixe with Hennes dung and Turpentine mixt togither. But aboue all these vncleanly receipts, the best and surest prouocation, is to rubbe. her priuy parts with keene nettles, for that will not only violently flir vp her luft, but also make her conceiue andhold when she is couered, as I haue seene by due proofe at fundry times: yet before you make triall, either of this or of any of the former, I would have you first put to your Mare some bad ston'd lade, who being fo shackled that he cannot couer her, may run with her a day or two, in which time, if by hir chafing and wooing her he ftirre her to lust, (as it is most likely he will) then let that onely suffice; otherwise you may follow your owne opinion : but if it be fo that your Mare bee ready for the Horfe, and only the Horfe out of a colde. or fullen disposition refuseth to couer your Mare; as L haue seene many faire Coursers of that nature : then you must imploy your Art by stirring lust in your Horfe, which fome writers report you may do, by giuing him to drinke the taile or pizfel of an olde Stag burnt to powder: and mixt with fweet wine, and allo annointing his stones therewith, or else to mingle with that powder the powder of Anny-feedes Saterion, Bafil, and Date stones, and give them in fweet wine to drink ; but rather then you shall approue any of these medicines. I would with you to ftay the long leifure of the Horle, and by often offering to take the Mare from him, seeke to moue and inflame him; if you doe with nettles rub his yard a little it will prouoke him, and is a thing ordinarily vfed ..

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The first Booke.

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But nowe of the contrarie part, if either your Horfe or Mare be fo proud and strong in lust, that nothing you can doe will abate their heate, you shall then annoyut his ftones and yarde, and the Mares Vdder and privie parts with Sallet Oyle, wherein hath beene fleeped before Mallowes, Sorrell, and Lettice : but if that preuaile not, you shall twice a day swimme your Horse or Mare in some deepe River. As for that idle opinion of them that thinke the cutting off of a Horse or Mares maine, or taile, will abate their courage, it is most grosse; for Horses and Marcs have not like Sampson their ftrengthes in their haires : and thus much touching these naturall secrets, which if to modest cares they bring any cuill found, they are the rules of the best respected Writers, and not by me published but repeated.

### CHAP. 9.

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### Which Mares should be covered, which not, and which shall not goe barren.

Palladius, Columella, and my felfe am much different in opinion; for they would have fuch Mares as are beautifull, and faire, and therewithall have beene well couered and have faire Colt Foales, not to bee couered every yeare, but once in two yeares, nay, once in three yeares: theire reafon being, that their Foales may thereby have the longer time to fucke, and for fuch Mares as are foule, and have

have foule Foales, to be couered eueric yeare; as if they would give rules to breed badthings often, and good things feldome.

Now for mine opinion; first, where they make a distinction betwixt faire Mares, and foule Mares, I would haue euerie breeder, so neare as he can, norto preferue one foule or vncomly Mare in his race, or if hee haue any fuch, to breede fo feldome vpon them as may bee; fo that composing his studd all of faire Mares, hee should by Palladius rule, breed but once in three yeares, a husbandrie in my conceyte verye vuprofitable. But to come to our purpose : I would haue euerie one that breedes Horfes, not to let anye Mare he hath to goc ouer, except it bee that fome of his Mares miscarie, and cast their Foales; which if any doe, then I would have such Mares to goe ouer for a yeare at least, because if they be couered the next yeare after, they are indanger to cast their Foales againe, although they have no mischance : as for Palladius reason, that they should goe over for the bringing vp of their Foales, hee is much mistaken : for a Foale dooth not fucke any great quantitie of milke about nine Moneths, the other three Monethes hee fucketh but by fnatches, and for wantonneffe; fo that the Mares being with Foale, doth not any thing at all hinder the Foales nourishment. Besides, the Foales sucking vpon the Mare, keepes the Mare in a good eftate of bodie, rather leane then fat, fo that when the shall come to bee couered shee will sooner holde, sooner bring forth a Colt foale, and haue more roome, and a larger bedde for her foale to tumble in : Whereas thould the be fuffered to go ouer a yeare or two, in that. time

## The fir/l Booke.

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time of her barrenneffe, the would grow to far, that the would hardly hold; or if the did hold, her womb would be fo closed vp with fatnesse, that when shee should come to foale, thee would bring foorth nought but a wreckling: mine opinion therefore is, that no Mare fhould goe ouer, that is worthic the coucring, except (as before is faid) mischance constraine: now to be sure that none of your Mares shall goebarren, trie euerie Mare you have the Month day after her couering, except fuch as be fat and proud, but by no meanes trie them; and if the other couet the Horse againe, let them haue him, and fo you shall be fure that not any of them shall goe barren : but for turning a Stallyon amongest your Mares about Lammas, (as some aduise) O it is most vilde : first through the misciefe hee may doe to those which have already conceived, and next the lateneffe of the yeare, at what time I had rather the Mare fhould goe ouer, then bring a Foale at fo bad a feafon : and albe I have feene my felfe, and heard alfo of many good Lammas Foales, yet I neuer fawe any fuch, as thereon to ground a prefident. And thus much for Mares and their barrenneffe.

#### CHAP. 10

The vse of Mares when they are with Foale, and of the casting of Foales.

A S foone as your Mares have conceiued and are with Foale, those great perfons which keepe their studds onely for breede, and no or the

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ther labour, are to respect that they may goe in good fhort, yet sweete pasture, especially if they give sucke, and that for a month before and after Michelmas they bee not chased, strained, or troubled, for then is the time of their knitting and quickning, fo that a finall rush at that time breedes aborffement (which is the casting of their Foales.) But for such men as must by labour make fonie especiall vse of their Mares, they must have are, that after their Mares have conceined, they labour and worke them very moderately, fhunning by all meanes to put them to the carriage of heavy burthens, or the toyle of hafty iourneyes : But aboue all, as before I saide, a month before and after Michaelmas; Mares that are with Foale, and haue Foales fucking vpon them, must have in the Winter besides grasse, good store of sweete hay, and light Corne : they must have good thelter, as house or houell, and dry layre. The houfes or houels, where they eate their winter meate, must beelarge and spacious, fo that they may not bee throng'd vp together, for feare by culhing or firiking, they before'd to caft their foales. Some haue been of opinion, that the change of pastures, and strange waters, will make a Marocast her foale, but it is not fo, only a man may by driving Mares fro pastureto pasture, with vnruly chasing make them cast their foales, which is the cause I wold have mates with foale feldome remoned or driven : but that frefh pasture should do them such hurt, it is senceles. As for the mast of Cedar trees, the treading vpon Wolues or fuch-like, al which fome writers fay, wil caufe aborffement, we here in England need not feare them: But for finking finels, as the funffs of candles, carrion, or fuch like,

like, I holde it very dangerous, and doe often occafion aborffement : fatneffe in a Mare is dangerous for aborffement alfo; or if they leape calting theirfoales, yet fatheffe puts a Mare to great hazard in her foaling, which is the reafon that many good breeders which I knowe, will let their Mares after they are quickned, be moderately trauelled or wrought, till within fome month or fix weekes of their foaling, bud not any longer : for the onely time of danger is at the first conception, and at the time of teaming. And thus much for this matter.

# about all as before ligiting A Higher beiore and alter Michaelmas : Mares that are with Foale, and haug

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## Helpe for a Mare that is in danger in foaling, of 10 short a mand other feorets. How year : 1000

Mare bears to her young, forung from this accidentall outer so the contract of the cultome of the cultome of the the seafers) doe foale flanding : and as certained ancient Writters report (for I baue not at any time feene it) the foales when they are new foaled, have when their foreheads a little blacke thing like a figge called *Hypomanes*, which they fay will procure love, the damme bites it off, and eates it as foone as the foale is faine, but if the beprenented thereof, the will never fifter the foale to fucke; as if the tenderneffe or naturall love which a Mare bears to her young, forung from this accidentall eaufe, and not from the motion of her naturall inclination : but formine owne part, baning feene formation is the foale as I have done, and never percei-

bing any fuch observation, I cannot imagine it any other then a fabulous dreame.

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But to proceede to our purpose: if your Mare either by mischance, or by naturall defect, as by taking the Horle when the was too young, as under two yeares olde, or vpon her first foale, which ener hath the greatelt perill, be in danger at her foaling, or put to extraordinary torment in foaling; you shal cafe her by these meanes : first one is of opinion, that if you make one ftand before the Mare when the is in foaling, that thall holde her nosthrils close, in such fort that the cannot take her breath, it will procure her to foale with much cale : but for the ease I doubt, onely I knowe it will procure her morespeed in her bufineffe : but the most certainest and surestremedie for this enill is, to take the blacke part of the Crab.fifh feete, and beating them to powder, mixe it with fweete Wine, and Sallet Oyle, and give it the mare with a horne to drink, and it will bring her cafe prefently, of which I have knowne good experience : but if it shall faile, then I would have you take the helpe of fome difcreet woman, whole better experience knowes best how to handle fuch an occafion. anosol data i , val stol /

Now if after your Marchaue foaled, fhee doe not loowre away her Secundine, which is the skin wherein the foale is wrapped, after that naturall maner which is requisite in such a cale: some thinke it best to give her this medicine: first to boile two br three handfuls of tenel in water; then to take halfe a pint of that water and as much old sweet wine, and a fourth part of fallet oile. & mingle them together vpon the fire, then when it is luke warine, to power it into the Mares nofthruls, Mare and

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ile;

and to holde her nostrils close after it, which will bee a present meanes that the shall expell the former fubftance : But for as much as this medicine is fomewhat teadious in making, and that a Mare thould not bee fo long in fcowring, as this ; in compounding, boyling, and cooling: I have ever observed, that as soone as my Mare hath foal'd, to giue her a little bottle of green forrage, that is, the blades of young Wheate or Rye, but of the two Rye is the better, and it will both expell and clenfe a Mare prefently : Touching the eating of the Secundine, which most commonly Mares doe, loine thinke it is very vnwholfome, and that it maketh a Mare fick and valufty, which opinion I hold for great truth, adding this with alsthat it is a great hindrance to the Mares milke: wherfore fo far foorth as is in a mans power, I would have it prevented. And thus much for this matter. and drive a seine , ashwood or media

ousil I didw to CHAP. 12. 10 10 gold Livet bill

Sallet Oyle, and gine it the mare with a horacto drink.

# How to make a Mare caft her Foale.

Some fay, it hath beene a practife amongft ancient Horfemen, in times paft, that when they have had a Mare vnworthily couered, as when a fayre Mare hath either by ftealth, or mifchance, taken fome ill fauoured fton'd lade, or when a Mare of fome efpeciall hope or vertue, as either for ryding, running, or hunting, is preferu'd from the Horfe, and yet not withftanding through fome negligence, gets to the Horfe, and is couered.

In this cafe, it hath beene a practife to force the

Mare

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Mare so couered, to aborffement, which is to cast her Foale, and it is a thing my selfe have practifed vpon a Mare, in whole speede I was infinitelie much perswaded, the rather becaufe I know this generall rule neuer to faile, that a Mare which once giueth a Foale sucke thall neuerboaft of that speede which in her maydenhood, she inioyed, both because al her powers, organs, and instruments of strength have then a contrarie imployment; and also, because nature in soale bearing loofeth the pride and lufter of her greatnes.

Againe, if you preserue your Mare for beautie, and eye-pleafure, the bearing of foales vtterly taketh away that delight, because the wombe being fretcht out, the vdderbroken, and thefull partes falne, there is little more then the head & limbs which a man can cal beautifull; he therefore then which hath either fwift Mare or beautifull Mare, which is vnworthily couered, if he would disburden her of that euill burthen, there is no courfe butto make her cast her Foale : which although fome writers holde, may be doone two waies, that is either by ftrength of hand or vie of medicine, yet for mine owne part, for that handy course, I vtterly diflike it, both for as much as I know it can neuer be done but to the great hazard of the Mareslife, and also because I have seene some Mares die in the deed dooing for that which is to bee done by hand, is not to be doone, till the Foale be fo great, that it have hayre, at what time they cause one to thrust his hand into the wombe of the Mare,&tocrush the head of the foale, how monstrous, immodelt and vnnaturall this is, who cannot Iudge? but for the medicinable course, it is lesse dangerous, & by all degrees more collerable; Yet for as much as I E 3 haue

haue euer vied fuch experiments, but in extremity and that the medicines are all in other mens records; I will for modeftie fake, referre them to their writings; and at his inftant faue my felfe a labour in repetition, aduifing all Horfebreeders and Horfemen what focuer, rather to indure the inconvenience of mifchances, then the mifchiefe of thefe fubtile knowledges.

#### CHAP. 13

### The use of Mares when they have foaled : of the sucking of Foales, and of other helpes and uses.

T is to be intended, that according to the obfernations which are prescribed in the first chapter of this booke, all your race Mares should be in that ground which being plaine and most voide of water furrowes, ditches, and fuch like is the fafest from danger in foaling : but when your Mares have all foaled, if then you have any fresh and vnbitten ground, which not being ranke, deepe, nor foft, but sweete graffe, short bir, and hard to tread on, with good thelter and freth water : it thallbe good to put your race Mares and their Foales therin, to the end that their milke may fpring and that your Foales may come to a fulnesse of strength, beautic, and courage : in which albe fome Authors giue aduice to chafe and rechafe your Mares vp and downe the ground at certaine times, as the best meanes to bring the Mares milke into her Vdder, yet I am of a contrary,

opinion,

opinion, knowing this by due proofe, that fuch exercife doth rather hurt then good, because what sever is don vnwillingly is done with paine, & that painfulnes takes away the sence of profite : as for bringing downe the milke, that the foale it felfe ever doth, whom as he fucks, you that ever fee with his nofe and head to jump and strike against the Vdder of the mare, which is to no other purpose but to break the kernels of the Mares Vdder, and to have the milke have its paffage, fo that to conclude, I would have your Mares run with all the quietneffe that may be, knowing this principle, that all horles and mares, which are either in lust or strength, will out of their owne natures, either against raine, winde, or stormes, runne, chase, and scope about the grouud where they pasture; so that where nature is so good a helpe, constraint need to be of little vse.

Now for the fucking of foales, although one man writes, that all Authors do agree, that foals fhould fuck two yeares at least : nay, that after the Spanish manner, they thould fucke till they couer their dams, I for my part & as I think all good English breeders are of a contrary opinion : for how euer in the daies of Plinie, Aristorle, or Anatulius, two yeares might be thought litle enough;yet in these our daies we finde it full one years too much: wherfore leaving the variable opinions of fundrie men, I conclude, that in the races of Princes, Noblemen and Gentlemen, for a foale to fuck a yeare complete, that is from his own foaling, til his dam foal againe, is a time full out sufficients but for the husbandman, who may not loofe the worke and labour of his mare, it shall be sufficient for him if his foale sucke but fullfixe Moneths complete; and how ever fome men hauc

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have written that Foales fucking fo Imallatime, muft, necessarilye want much of their inward pythe, ftrength and healthfulnes, yet by proofe I knowe it doth not generally hould fo, and for mine owne part, I could almost give confent to the wayning of all foales, at fixe and feauen monthes, were it not for the great danger of the Gargill, and maw-worme, which vnto foales wayned to young, are difeafes both incident and common : fo that in conclusion, I would have those which are of abilitie, to let their foales sucke a yeare, and no more. For those which want meanes, to make their hazard at fix monthes and vpward. For the houfing of foales at their first toaling, which is the opinion of Varro, and fome others, I am veterly against it, because as I have formerly written, the Porfect horse must euer in one yeare haue the talte of two winters, and therefore in Gods name let your Foale tafte the worft of winters farewell.

Now for the exercising of your Foalesto eate prouender after they be fine or fixe monthes old (which is likewife the opinion of *Varro*) it is exceeding good, and nothing more neceffary, but that the prouender shold bee either ground Barley, or dride Barley and wheate branne mingled together : That might in those countries, wherein he was experiens the tollerable, because peraduenture there was no other choice : but with vs beere in *England*, where we have so many choyces of good foodes, that foode of all other is the vildest, and worst, both because it affordet is the worst nutryment, and also both Barley and wheat bran, are of a hot burning nature, ingendering hot feauers and other drye difeases. The provender best for foales then, is olde

Oates

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Oates in the fheafe, the ouerchawing of wheate; Garbage (which is wheate eares and the firaw chopt altogether) and now and then barly in the chaffe : or if your foales grow drie in their bodies, and coffine, then now and then a sheafe of Rie amongst them. This maner offeeding will not onely make them acquainted with the feuerall tafte and vie of meates, but alfo breed fuch familiaritic betwixt them and their keepers, that they will be much more domesticall and tame then otherwise they would be, which is a great benefite, both to the breeder, and alfo to him which shall be the rider; but in any wife let not their keepers handle or stroke them too much, for that will but hinder their growth, because for the most part, all soure-footed beafts do take diflike in their infancie to be much handled. The houses or croffe houels which you preferue for winter shelter for your foales, would be faire paued with pibble boulder, or fome other kind of small ftone, and therwithall dayly kept cleane from myre or dung : from myre, that by fost treading the hoofes of your foales growe not weake and tender : and from dung, least standing theruponit burne & drie vp their hoofes, making them fhort and brittle. But if naturally you perceiue any of your foals to haue tender hoofes, then you thall feek by medicinable means to recouer them, as by annointing them with the vpper fword or skin of fat bacon, or els by taking the eares of Garlicke, Swines greafe, Goates greale, and Brimftone mist togither, and annointing their hoofes therewith, or by rubbing the cronets of their hoofes with Tarre and Hogges greafe mixt togither, and fuch like, of which I will speake more in my booke of diseases.

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CHAP. 14

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CHAP. 14.

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The knowledge of a Horfes Shape, stature, and quality: and how it is to be knowne when hee is new Foaled.

His knowledge and experience I have oftentimes noted, and therefore dare the more boldly proteft it, which is that a man may have almolt a certain knowledge when a Foale is new foaled, what fhape, flature, and quallity hee will carry when hee is a Horfe of compleate strength and growth: Wherefore, first as touching his shape ; looke what shape, proportion and beauty hee hath when he is a full month olde, the fame shape and beauty hee will carry when hee is full fixe yeares of age : and the fame defects which he then retaineth, the fame he will hold when hee comes to his growth, and all his life after. Then for his stature, this is an infallible rule, that for the fhinne bone (which is betwixt the knee and the pafterne of the fore legges ) that bone neuer increaseth, no not from the first foaling, neither the Bone from the cambrell to the pasterne of the hinder legg; infomuch that if those bones belong and large, we are ever affured that the Foale will proue a tall and a large Horfe. But for a generall knowledge of the height of a Horfe by his foatage, take an Incle or Ribband, and measure the Foale when hee is new foaled, from the knee to the Withers (which is the top of his (houlder) and double chat

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that length he shall be of height when he comes to be a Horse of complete age.

Now for his disposition and qualitie, I am of Varros opinion, that if a Foale be of a ftirring and lively spirit, valiant against all strange fights, and suddaine noyses, wantonly leading the way in his fportings, and to bee the formoft in every chafing, that will voluntarily leap hedges and ditches, boldly passe bridges, straite lanes or places of couert, or to fwimme waters, and therewithall to thew a most tractable patience, when they are by ordinarie meanes reftrained : This foale or cole I fay, and this I have ever approved and observed, will Proue a horse of all good vertue, tractabilitie and indurance; whereas Coltes of contrarie dispositions, proue horses of dull, cowardly, and most vnseruiceable qualitie. And thus much for these hopefull and prophetique imaginations. Prote Port of Directors

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How Horfe foales, and Mare foales grow, and to knowe the continuanse of their goodneffe.

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Ouching the growth of Horfes and Mares cuen from their first beginning to their complete age, diuerse men are of diuerse opinions : for one supposeth that Horse-soales are sooner fashioned in their Dammes bellyes then Mare-Foales : and indeede there is some naturall reason for such conceive : but in as much as no man

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can make any iust proofe or experiment thereof, I will refer it to the readers discretion to beleeue it as he list. Another is of opinion (& to that opinion I must needs condifcend, for I finde it in dayly experience) that after foales are foaled, the Mare foale commeth to her full growth of height and length at five yeares of age: but the horfe foale not before he be full fix; and from that time, although lome imagine they spread and growe in breadth and largeneffe till they beten yeares of age; yet I for mine owne part have diligently observed, and found by experience, that no horfe doth fpred or grow broderor larger, after he is eight years of age, at which time onely he is complete, and full in every member. 1 There is another which writes, that horles with bald or white faces do not growe olde to foone as other horfes; how he meaneth that faying I fearce vnderfland, for most fure it is, that nature as soone decayeth in them as in others: but if his meaning be that they do not appeare olde so some as other horses, then I am of his opinion, becaufe those griffeld haires which in horles of darke colours are the onely markes of olde age, do neuer appeare in a horfe that hath a white face: as for the length of life in fuch horfes, I thinke it is fhorter then in the others: for bald faces, white legges aboue the knees or cambrels, and fuch like fuperfluities of whitenesse, are the euident tokens of the imperfections of nature, and where nature is imperfect, there life is of least continuance.

Now for as much as all horfes doe not attaine to their full growth in one manner and fathion, I will shew you how they growe, according to their feuerall breedes : and first for our English horfes, they commonly

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monly doe holde their fhapes till they beetwo yeares olde; but at three, they loofe all beauty and proportion, appearing to the eye weake, loofe, and ilfauouredly cast, no member answering other, either in shape or fitnesse: then at foure yeares olde they recouer againe the shape and good failion of their bodies, only they want necke and creft, which begins not to rife or extend its comelyneffe till hebe fiue yeares olde, and becommeth perfite and complete at fixe yeares olde. The English horse groweth altogether ecuen and just, and not as other horfes doe, one while before, and another while behindes for when foeuer you thall perceive him to grow vneeuen, that is higher behinde then before, or hygher before then behinde, be you well asfured, he will euer continue fo all his life after : fo that when you shall see any English Colt of any such vneeuen making, neither chuse him, nor preserve him, otherwise then for present fale or profit. According to the growth of your English horses, so for the most part grow your Almaines, Flemings, and Fri/onds.

Now for the Neapelitan Courfer, he loofeth his fhape as foone as he is a yeare olde, and recoure thit not a gaine, till he be full fue yeares olde : during all which time he is of loofe thape, raw bond, weak-ioynted, and thinne neck'd : at two yeares olde he is higher behinde then before : at three, higher before then behinde : at foure, higher behinde then before : and at fue, of ceuen height, all his ioynts being come to their true ceuenneffe; and at fixe yeares olde, his necke, creft, breaft, and buttockes, come to their full beautie, and comelineffe.

Now it is to been oted, that if any true bredde Courfer

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Courfer doth either at two yeares old, or three yeares olde, thew the beautic of a good thape, appearing to the eye to be firmely knit, round and clote truft together, with all those thapes which thould be different in his full age : fuch a Colt doth éuer loose his thape at foure or fue yeares olde, and neuer recourse thit 'againe during his whole life after. So that I conclude, the worfe thape a Courfer carrieth at two, three, and foure yeares of age, the better he will beare it at fine, and fixe, and all his life after. According to the growth of the Neapolitan; fo for the most part growes both the *Jennet* of Spaine, the Turkes and Barbaries.

As touching the continuance of a Horfes goodnefle, it often appeareth by the Horfes hoofes. For if they be tender and foft, as for the most part your Flemings, Almaines, and Frifons are, then are they but of fhort continuance, as wanting much of their vigor and ftrength, But if they have hoofes which are ftrong, hard, and founding, as for the most part our English horfes, Neapolitans, lennets, Turkes, and Barbaries haue, then are they of long life, continuance and goodnes, as wanting no benefite that nature can giue. Other obferuations wee haue for the continuance of a horfes goodnes; as from the healthfulneffe of his body, or inclination to infirmitie, from his strength or weaknesse of stomacke, or his good or bad difgeftion, from his fleepe or watching, and many fuch like; by whofe exceffe we may euer iudge of a horfes good or cuill habite. And thus much for this matter.

CHAP. 16

The first Booke.

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### Of the weaning of Colts, of their ordering, and Jeperating, according to their ages.

which dotte, let them self on hours of two with out money then after glue .16 .4 LAP lay, Protonal of and water, as much as they will esterill meht, but all

So foone as your Foales have fuckt a yeare, or within a month of a yeare, which is till your Mares be readie to foale againe, which as neere as you can compaffe would bee about the middeft of March, you thall then fome three or foure dayes before the full of the Moone, about nine or tenne of the clocke in the fore-noone, take all your foales from your Mares, and thutte them vppe in a clofe houfe, where they may neither heare the noyfe of their dammes, nor their dams heare their whioneing. In this houfe would be either fome fewe Oates in the fheafe, fome Hay, or fome other provender, not fo much as will fill their bellies, but fo much as will fuftaine nature.

The Foales having thus refted in this house all night, the next morning, although one Authour would have you put them to their Dammes againe, that they might fucke whilest they are able, yet in my conceyt it is a verie infufficient aduice, neither would I have you by any meanes to observe it, but in stead of putting them who their dammes, let them bee taken by the strength of men, one after another, and give to each of them two or three stores of Sauen, which

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which done, let them reft an houre or two without meate, then after give them both Hay, Prouender, and water, as much as they will eate till night, but all night let them fast, and the next morning give them Sauen againe as before, and in this fort vie them for three mornings together. This Sauen is the most wholfomeft thing in the world for young foales, becaufe all foales naturally, what through the flegmaticke humor of the milke which they fucke, and the rawe and movil coldnes of the grafie which they cate, are euer fubiect to great aboundance, both of Man wormes, Grubbes, and Bots, which as foone as foales are weaned wanting halfe the nourishment on which formerlie they fedde, they then begin to feede and corrupt the vitall partes. bringing vnto foales many times a fuddaine and vnexpected death : nay, I haue knowne from the corruption of these maw-wormes, many times the gargill to proceede, which is a difeafe little differing from the plague, and is difcerned onely by a great fwelling about a foales face and neather chaps, which fwelling doth not rife about two or three houres before the foales death, and when it ryfes, the Foale is paft cure, from all which mischiefes and diseases, this receite of Sauen doth both faue and defend foales : and truly beforel knew or found out this medicine, I have feene foure or fiue foales, which ouer night have beene fcoping, and playing as wantonly as may bee, and in the morning haue beene dead in the houfe, whome when I have with mine owne hands opened, I have found no other occasion of their death, but the extreame aboundance of these maw-wormes, and fince I vsed this Sauen, I neuer had any that dyed.

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When your Foales haue had Sauen given them thus three mornings together, you shall then drive them to that pasture wherein you intend they shall runne all the yeare following, which pasture would bee a firme, hard ground, and full of thort sweete graffe, and some cleare Springs, pond, or fresh river, and not as one of our English writers perswade, keepe them fourtceene dayes together in the house: Because after a Foale is a yere old, there is neither in him such fondnes towards his Damme, nor such delight in milke (which a Foale naturally refuse the after hee comes to fixe or feauen monthes of age) as will inforce him to put himselfe into any danger or hazard.

Now the reafons why your pafture for your weanlings thould be fo good, is, becaufe if in this firft yeare (which is the fpring time of their growth) your Foales thall either indure thirft, hunger or colde, they will become flaruelings, or fuch as wee call flockt Foales, which is finall of flature, weake both of body and reynes, and full of euill difeafes : VV herefore I would have all good Horfe-breeders, the firft yeare after the weaning of their Foales, to put vpon their foales all the ftrength, luft, and lively-hood, which may bee got either by food or otherwife.

But as foone as your Foales have paft the age of two yeares, then I would have you put them into fome large, wilde, hard, and hungry ground, where, by their vttermost paine and travell, they may not fill their bellyes aboue once in the day, which will be fussicient for their growth for by such meanes of tharpnes, labour and hunger, they will be emade hard, durable, and exceeding healthfull : where, on the contrary part, rank-

rancknes of graffe and fatneffe of body breedes both vnwholefome humors and incurable difeafes, fo that by keeping fuch obferuations, as are before preferibed you shall breede a Colt, nimble, hard and strong, with good legges and found hoofes, free from surfer, corruption of blood, or outward members.

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Now laftly (according to the agreement of all good Horfemen) I would have you to feperate your horfecolts from your Mare Colts, in feuerall paftures, and your yearelings from your two yeares olde, and your two yeares from your three; that none going together but fuch as are of equal age and ftrength, there may be no diforder or tumult, the great ones beating the leffe, or robbing them of their foode or nourifhment. And thus much for the weaning of foales, and the partition of paftures.

#### CHAP.17.

### Of the gelding of Colts, and Horfes, and the cause, the age, the time of the years, and manner of gelding.

I Cannot finde in any Author whatfocuer, that the vie of gelding of Coltes, is in any nation whatfocuer, of lo great antiquitie, as with vs heere in Engiand, from whence (as I imagine) the first originall of that practife began; and I am the rather induced fo to thinke, becaufe I neither know, nor haue heard of any countrie whatfocuer, that can boast offo many good, goodly, and feruiceable Geldings as England

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England at this houre can showe, the cause whereof I thinke hath proceeded from our continuall vie of trauelling winter and Summer, in which men defire to ride cafily, fast, and quietly. Now for as much as stond horsesnaturally out of the pride of their courage, doe most comonly trot, & therewithall are exceeding rammith, and vnruely, especially in the company of Mares and other horfes, there fprung from fome inuenting braine, both the deuice to make horfes amble ( which is the pace of ease) and the practife of gelding horfes, which is the means of quietnes. Now whereas one of our English writers faith, that a stond horse will not trauell fo far in a day, as a Gelding, in that he is infinitly deceived, and I impute this error onely to his want of experience, for all Horf-men know this (especially those whose practise consists in hunting horles, or running Horfes, that the good ftond horfe will euer beate and ouerlabour the good Gelding : nay more, wheras the Gelding, if once he be ouer laboured or tyred, doth neuer againe recouer his first goodnes: the stond horse, on the contrary part, if he be neuer fo fore tyred, with a little refreshing getteth againe his strength, and is againe as good as ever he was for new labour : the reafon whereof, I take to be this, that the Geldings wanting that naturall and lively heate which a ftond Horfe inioyeth, are of more abiect and deiected spirits, so that when their labor comes to exceed their ftrength, their faintnesse, and cowardlines of their dispositions, makes them yeelde to tyring, the fence whereof they neuer forgoe all their lines after : but to returne to our purpose, howlocuer this practise of gelding of Colts was begun, yet for as much as we finde a profit F 2 therein,

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therein, both in our trauell and also in our light feruice in the warres, it shall be requisite that I fet downe the age, time of the yeare and moone, which is most fit for the gelding of Colts. And first for the age : although fome of our late Authors would have Coltes gelded when they are two yeares olde, which in truth is avery good, fure, and tollerable time, becaufe at that agea Coltes stones will be come downe, and he is of good firength and abilitie to indure both the griefe and torment, yet I doe not holde it the best and choycest time of all, for that purpose : because the longer that a Colt goes vngelt the thicker and fatter his head will growe : his creft alfo will be thicke and heanic, and the act it felfe by reason of the toughnesse and hardneffe of the ftrings and cordes, will be both more dangerous and more painefull.

Now therfore the onely choice, and best time of all for gelding of Colts, is ever when the foale is just nine daies olde for at that time nature hath folittle force in those partes, and the cordes and ftrings of those inftruments, are so tender and easie to be broken, & fluxes of blood and other groffe or impoflumating humors, are fo little incident to foales of fuch youngnes, that there is no more danger at that time in gelding of a Foale, then in gelding of a Lambe : neither is there greater labour; for to foales of fuch youngneffe, there needs no caulteryzing with hotyrons, flytching, or other implastering which elder Colts must of necessitie haue : befides, a Foalc of fuch youngnesse, fucking vpouthe Damme, cates no bad or vnwholfome meate, but lining onely vppon milke, keepes that dyet which preferues the fore from ranckling, fwelling, or rotting : in fomuch

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fomuch that my felfe have gelt a foale at that age(when mine experience was almost in that matter as young as the foale) and have had him found and whole in feauen daies, applying nothing to the fore but fweet but. ter, which is an euident proofe to confute those which fay that the gelding of a foale young, decayes the growth of a foale, for fure the paine being ended in leffe then feauen daies, the griefe thereof can neither loofe growth nor ftrength, but if they meane that the depriving the foale of those instruments fo cafely, doth decay his growth, then by all reason to geld at two yeares old, must decay it much more, both because the foale at that age hath more fence, vie and ftrength in those instruments, then at the former age : by meanes whereof the loffe of them, is by a thousand degrees more painefull and greeuous, and the cure thereof, is neuer finished in a month, many times not in two, and fometimes not in three monthes : which teadiousnes of griefe cannot chuse, but abate both growth, ftrength and courage. don't bob alag are vollans

Now the benefit which is gotten by gelding Foales thus young is, First, besides the fafenesse & no danger in the cure, it maketh your Gelding have a delicate fineleane head, of a comely shape, well-fauorednesse and proportion, many times not vnworthy to be com-Pared with the choycess Barbarie: it makes him to have a gallant creft, high, thinne, firme, and strong: it is a great cause of swiftnesse, nimblenesse, and courage, by which it is certaine they will not tyer so some as those which are gelt of elder age.

But if it bee fo, that your Foale have not let downe his ftones fo foone, neither that you can by chafing or F 2 towling

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towfing his cod compel him to let them come downe, which none but fome fewe dull Foales will doe, you must then of necessirie let him ouer-flippe that time. and ftay till the fall of the leafe after, for by no meanes I can allow gelding of Foales in Summer, both becaufe of the exceffine heate, and the crueltie of the flye, both which are dangerous, and fometimes mortall to young foales : but if at the fall of the leafe, hee doe not let downe his ftones, then you must ftay till the Spring, for the extremitie of the cold in Winter is as euill as the heate in Summer, occasioning inward fwelling, canker, and putrification : fo that the time to geld Foales, is eyther in the Spring, or at the fall of the leafe : the age from nine dates olde to two yeares olde, and the flate of the Moone euer when it is in the wane.

If after your foales be gelt, their cods and fheathes happen to fwell exceeding much, as there is no queftion but they will, efpecially if they be aboue fix months old, when they are gelt, and fuch fwellings do euer beginne fiue daits after the gelding, you fhall then (norwithflanding fome of our Englifh writers give precepts to the contrarie) caufe those Foales which doe fwell to be chafed vp and downe an houre together, both morning and euening, till the fwelling ceafe, which it will doe in leffe then a weekes space, holding this observation, that if the foale be aboue a yeare old , when it is gelt, then the more it rotteth, the better and fafer is the cure.

Now asyou may geld foales, fo you may alfo geld elder Horles, nay horfes almost of any age, & that with great fafenes alfo, as I have divers times approved in mine

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mine owne experience, without the vie or help of any other inftrument or medicine, then fuch as in those cafes are vid about foales. Laftly, touching the manner and way to gelde foales or horfes, all be there be fundry practiles, yet there is but one fure and perfect method. Somethere are which will take eight or tenne ftrong horse haires, and knit them fast and strait about the horfes cods aboue his stones, and so with the con. tinuance and eating of the haires, make the colts ftones to rot, and fall away, but this fashion of gelding, I doe vtterly dislike, for it is both in danger to mortifie the member, & bring it to Gangeran (which is deadly without cure) and also it is so painefull, that neither horse nor foale can indure it without the hazard of madnes. Others vse after they have flit the cod, and taken out the stone, to cut the stone away, and only to melt a littleyellow wax vpon the roote of the ftrings, and fo to anoynt the cod with fresh butter, and let the horse or colt goe, but that is not fo good neither, because vpon fuch a cure, a flux of blood may follow, which may kill either horse or foale. The only perfect & certaine way, therefore to geld either foale or horfe is : after you have flit the cod, and taken out the stone betweene a paire of nippers, made of wood for the purpole, then with a sharpe knife to cut away the stone, then with a hot calteryzing yron to leare the cords and strings of the stone, and then to melt vpon them, wax, Deare-fuer, and Venice Turpentine, made together in a plaister, then to fill the infide of the cod with falte, and to anpoint the outfide of the cod, the horfes theath, and all betweene his thigh and his body, with fresh butter or fresh hoggs greafe and so to loofe him, and put him into F

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into a close house for three or foure daies, ( if it bee a Foale or horse of age) but if it sucke vpon the Dam. then turne it to the Dam, and the danger of the cure is past. And thus much for the gelding of horses or foals. dry pradifes, yet there is but one fare and perfed me-

The first Booke.

CHAP. 18. the hories cods aboate his fonds, and to with the con

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When, and as what time to take up the Coles for the Saddle and of their first of e and baleering. Ist one to 10105

Ouching the taking vp of Colts that they may be broke, and come to the vle of the Saddle : there bee fundrie opinions, according to mens feuerall experiences, yet there is but one most fubflantiall, albe the reft have their grounds of probabilitie and reafon : for if when you take vp your Cole that you may make him for the vie of the Saddle, you also determine at the same time to put him either to trauell vpon the high way, or to the exercise of any violent lestons : as galloping the large Ringes, paffing a Careyre, or managing either in fraite or large turnes: then I fay, to take vp your Colte at foure yeares olde and the vantage, is full foone enough, or rather with the fooneft: but if according to the rule of good Hotfemanship, you intend when you take your Colt vp first, onely to make him but acquainted with the faddle; Stirrops, garthes, crooper, brydle, watering tronch, mufrole & martingall, & other fuch neceffarie implements as are needefull in those cases : And that for the Ryder, the Horfe shall the first Winter but only learne to knowe his waight, in what manner to receive him,

how to goe or walke vnder him, and with what quietneffe to part from him: making all his exercifes recreations, and benefites, and not labors or fernices. In this eafe, and with a firme refolution thus to order your horfe, you shall then take him vp at three yeares olde and the vantage, which is at three yeares olde and as much as between the time of his foaling, and the midft ofOctober, but if you shall faile in this course, & either out of indiferention or furie, or finding your horfes aptneffe to precede your imagination, put him to any violence or extremitie, you shall not onely indanger the fwaying of his backe, and the dulling of his better fpisits, but (his ioynts being tender and vnknit) make him put forth wingals, and boanie excrettions (which are splents, spauens, curbs, and ringbones, or such like) wherefore the onely thing I can adulfe any horfeman vnto, in the whole worke of horfmanship, is vnto temperance and patience, especially in the beginning, becaufe the choyfest time for taking vp of Colts to the faddle, is in my conceite at three yeares olde and the vantage, chiefly if they be Neapolitans, lennets, Turkes, or Barbaries, and keeping the observations before preseribed. For if horses of their breed and spirit shall run wilde and vntamed, without either acquaintance with the man, or the furniture needfull in riding, till they be foure or frue yeares olde, they will be of that flubbornneffe, furie & difobedience, that they will not only put the ryder to a three-fold greater trouble then the other which are but three yeares olde and vantage : but alfo vpon the leaft contention or croffing of their natures, enter into restife, dogged & rebellious qualities, which to reclaime, aske as great labor & industry, as to bring FS a horle:

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a horse of good qualitie to his best perfection. Againe, if a man wil but measure time by an eeuen proportion if a horse be soure yeares olde and the vantage, ere he be haltered, he must of necessicie be full five ere he bee reclaimed from his wildneffe, made familiar with the man, brought to be shod, and to take the faddle with patience : then before he be made to receive the man, to haue his head well placed, and his raine right fashioned, before he will trot foorth-right in a comely order, change turnes on both handes, trot and gallop, both large and firaitrings, and performe other ground manages, hee must reedes bee full fixe yeares olde. Then before he come to the vleand perfectnesse of the bytte, or to performe those faults and manages aboue ground, which are both delightfull to the beholders, and wholfome for the health of fuch as have them in practife, he will accomplish full the age of feauen, fo that more then halfe the horfes life, shall be spent in precept and inftruction, where as beginning at three yeeres age and the vantage, a horfe out of his youth and ignorance will he fo tractable, that in the first fix Monethes, he will gaine as much knowledge as the other in a yeare and more, neither shall you finde restifenesse or churlishnesse, except it spring from your owne furie; fo that there is no doubt but your horfe at the end of fille yeares of age, will be abfolutely perfect in all that is fit for his vnderstanding.

At three yeares old therefore and the aduantage, & in the latter end of the month of October, I would have you drive your colts vp into a houfe, where hauing a halter made of principall hempe, after the fathion of ordinarie halters, onely a fize bigger at the leaft,

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least, and the reine thereof must be at the least three orfoure yardes long, taking fome olde quiet lade in your hand, goe amongst them, and with all the patience, lenitic, and leasure that you can deuise, put the halter vpon one of their heads, which if the colt will not fuffer you to do with your hand(as it is very likely he will not) you must then trie to steale it on, by winding the halter about the end of a long poale, and holding it before the coltes face, you shall fee him with ducking his head downe to thrust it into the halter : this is an ordinarie way, and you shall never faile as long as you take leafure, and vie no violence. When the colt is haltered, you shall provide, that good ftrength of mentake holde vpon the end of the chafe halter, which done, you shall caufe one to feuer the reft of the colts from him that is haltred, and as it were to drive them to the other end of the house: but if the haltred colt offer in furie to rush after them (as it is no question but he will) then shall they which have hold vpon the chafe halter, with a forcible and firong twitch pull him backe, in fuch fort that they almost make his necke craeke againe; which done, let his keeperafter, leafurably, and with gentle wordes go vnto him : but if the colt refuse him, and offer either to runne, leape, or strike, ler them which have hold vpon the halter, with twitchings & ftrainings torment him : but if that prevaile not, then let them leade him forth of the house, and when he comes abroade, let some ftanders by chafe him about on both handes, till hee be fo tame that he will suffer his keeper (or some other) to come vnto him to cherifh him, and clawe him, and that he will leade vppe and downe quietlye, which when

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when you have effected, you thall then forthwith lead him into the stable, and putting on a coller made of ftrong leather, both broade and flat, and with two reines, tychim downe to the manger, and take off his chase halter. As for making your first coller of wollen yarne, or of horie haire (as fome Authors aduife) it is a curiofitie, but too curious, and the expence may bee faued : for after a Colthath beene once well maistred, twitcht and conquered in a chafe halter, he will neuer after straine his coller fo much as to hurt himfelfe. You shall when you place your Colt in the stable, either fet him by fome old ridden horfe, under whofe couert the keeper may fafely come to him; or elfe in fuch a roome where there may be space enough wirhout danger to come & goe on both fides of him. The keeper after the Colt is in the stable, must neuer be idle, but euer either rubbing, picking, clawing, or cherishing the colt, clapping him fomtimes vpon the back, fomtimes vpon the necke, sometimes vnder the belly, betweene the foreboothes, and about his cods. He must oft stroke his legs downe eeuen vnto the pasterns, and often take vp his feete; and first with his hand, and after with a little flick knock him vpon the foales of his feet as if he were fhooing him, and ever as the keeper shalfinde the horfe to give a fufferance to these motions, so shall he not only increase his cherishings, bur also for reward, giue the colt either bread or other prouender, fuch as hea findes him to take most delight in, by which meanes he fhall not onely bring the colt to be tame, but also to takea delight in his tamenesse.

If your colt be of 10 stubborne and rebellious a difpolition, that these gentle courses wil not preuaile, you shall

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fhall then but only augment your labor, and what you cannot attaine to in one day, you must seeke to win in two: for it is no loffe of labour if you be two dayes in winning your horfe to let you but ftroke him, fo in the end with gentle means you compasse it ; and that your horfe in the meane space learne no knauish qualitie, as to bite, strik, or such like: which to eschue, you must euer obserue, that what you do to a colt, you must doe with constancie, boldneffe, & refolution, and not with fearfulnesse,flarting, or tickling, for they are the first occafions of a horfes wickednes. Now, whereas fome horfmen aduife you in this cafe to keepe your horfe from fleep, and fo by ouerwatching him, to make him tame, Though it be a courfe which in mine own knowledge and experience, wiltame either man or beaft, yet to vie it to a colt of fuch yongneffe, and for faults which only proceed from nature and ignorance, I cannot allow it; for befides that, it is vn wholf ome and breeds infirmity in fuch yong years : it is alfo too cruel, & brings a colt to too much faintneffe & weakneffe:wherfore I would neuer with any horfeman to tame any with ouer watching, but fuch as are old ridden horfes, & either out of their owne natures or milgouernment, are not onely become restife and furious, but euen mad & desperate.

When you lead your colt either to the water, to aire, or fuch like, you fhall let fome other ridden horfe which flands next him be led before him (which will nor only be an incouragement, but alfo be an example) the colt will with more willing nefferimmitate.

After your colt is brought to a perfit tamenesse, and alouing familiarity with his keeper, fo that he will be sub'd, dreft, clothed, shod, and led vp and downe, you shall!

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shall then vie him to weare head straine, Cauezan, and Chaine: you shall also acquaint him with the Mufroll, and Martingall; which done, you shall then bring him to weare the Saddle, the manner whereof is fet downe, in the next booke. All this perform'd, you shall then put vpon his fore legges a paire of foft and well-lin'd pasterns, but for tying his hinder foote with a wollen cord, as one of our auncient Horfe-men aduifeth, I doe not like it, becaufe a Colt being fearefull and fuddaine in all his motions, may by ftarting, or fome apprehenfion of affright, indanger the spoyling of his hinder parts. Againe a Horse that is so tyed cannot lye downe, neither take reft nor delight in his stall, which you fhould endeuour to procure him with all industrie; and for mine owne part it is a toy I did neuer practife : but when I had a Horfe of diuelifh quality that would ftrike and yarke at hiskeeper with his hinder heeles, or turne himselfe crosse in his stall, to strike at the Horse which ftood next him, in these cases I have vied it but in no other. You shall whilst your Colt is in taming (as neere as you can) fuster neither fantasticall men, nor apish boyes to come into your stable, who with toying or other foolifh affrights may mooue those diftemperatures in a Colt which will hardly bee reclaimed. In this maner as I have prescribed for one colt, so must you vie the reft one after one, if your number be neuer fo many. And how ever other riders perfwade you to take vp your yong Mares for the faddle a yeare fooner then your colts, yet I cannot be induc'd to be of that opinion, but would have both one age, and one time of the yeare observed in both kindes. And thus much for the taking vp, and taming of colts.

CHAP. 19

The first Booke.

CHAP. 19.

Of the cutting of Colts mouthes or tongues, and of the drawing of teeth, to helpe the bit to lie in his true place.

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"He braine of a man being a bufie and laborsome workemaister, to bring to our desires the depth and fecrets of that Arte which wee professe; often times out of its owne contriuinges brings to our knowledge fuch falle sand experiments, as being but onely clad in the colours of Art, for loue to our felues, and to our owne inuentions, we are willing to entertaine them not onely as grounds, but even as the Arts best perfection. Hence it hath come to passe, that some of the best horsemen of the old-paft times, having got both by rule and practife more speculation in this Arte then other men, did not yet thinke their skill great enough, except they could both finde faults, and approue reasons to controll and and amende the worke of nature : of which fort Laurentius Russius is most principall, who amongst his better knowledges hath set downe certaine precepts for the drawing of a Horfes teeth, affirming peremptorily, that it is impossible for a Horse to have a good or Penate mouth, except his two tushes of his nether chappe, and the two wongge teeth of the fame next ro the tuthes be first drawne out, because (faith hee). if a horfe be once heated or chaft, it is impossible for

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the rider to holde him from running away, hauing those teeth : and thereupon prescribes the manner of drawing them out, which shold be with an instrument made for the purpose like a crooked paire of Pincers : And the teeth being drawne, to dresse the gums with falt, or with Claret wine, honie and pepper, warm'd together, or with wine or honie onely, till the fore place be whole. To make answer to these allegations,

First, that the generall proposition is not good, and that the horfe (hould not loofe any teeth at all, euerie one knowes that hath feene the worke of nature, that in her creations the hath not made any thing superfluous, nor can we (how euer out of our follies we fuggeft inconueniences) diminish one iot of what shee hath made, but by bringing to the beaft farre greater mifchiefes. For the teeth being the strength of his food, the maintainers of his life, and the instruments both of his defence and strength, take any of them from him and what shall become of those powers ? And againe, a horse hath not any one tooth, which in true iudgement a man can fay may be spared : for first, the two first rankes of teeth which are eeuen before, ferue him. onely but to cut vp and gather his meate: of which in number they are not commonly about twelue, both aboue & below, & who can allow him a leffer proportion? Next those which stand higher in the vpper parts of his chaps, which we call his grinders or wonge teeth, they are to chaw & fhred his food being gatherd vp,&to make it fit for disgestion, & they are in number commonly not aboue ten of a fide, both aboue and belowe, which are fo few, that if you take any of them away, you doe not onely take away his ftrength, but a great

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a great part of his life alfo: as for his foure tufhes, they are to holde in his foode as he gathers it, and fo to conuey it vp to his grinders, fo that you may fee euerie tooth hath fuch an especiall office, that not any of them can be spared.

Now where hee faith a Horfe cannot have a good mouth, except these teeth before named be drawn out, as if the bittelying vpon his horses tushes, should by that meanes be defended from the chap, fo that the having little or no feeling of the bytt, fhould therefore owe vnto the bytt no obedience longer then during his owne pleasure. To this I say, all Horse-men knowe that the true place of the bytt is directly aboue the two tushes, the near her fide of the mouth of the byt refting not vpon the tush, but against the tush, fo that the tush, is a stay and helpe for the bytt and no hinderance: but the former Author would have men imagine, that if the bitt reft aboue the tuck, that then there cannot be space enough for the bytt to lie betwixt the tuih and the wongge teeth, but who foeuer pleafeth to looke into that part of the horfes mouth, shall finde that there is full foure inches betwixt the tufh and the horfes wongge teeth, and I hope there was neuer any mouth of bytt made fo broad, especially in that part which lyeth vpon the chap.

Thus you may fee this curious inuention, if it bee lookt into with a right fence, is both needeles and friuolous, yet becaufe of the greate authoritie of the Author, I know it hath beene retained, and held authenticall by fundrie Horfemen, and by one of our English Authors, is not onely commended, but also left in record to posteritie; which Author, to showe the loue he G beareth

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beareth to nonehie, hath to this denice of drawing of teeth, added another of his owne of felfe like nature and vertue, and that is, for as much as hee supposeth that a Horfes mouth may narurally be fo thallow, that the bytt cannot have any firme refting place, but shall bee inforced to lye vppon his tufhes, or elfe fo inconueniently, that it will much difturbe both the Horfe and man, hee would have you therefore to make fome expert Horfe farrier, to flit vp the weekes of your Horfes mouth, equallie on both fides of his cheekes. with a sharpe Rayfor, and then to leare it with a hot yron, and so heale it in such forte, as the fides thereof may no more grow together, but appeare like a natural mouth: to whome I make this anfwere, that I imagine neither hee, nor any other Horfe-man hath heere in England feene a Horfe of that shallowneffe of mouth, which would not give place for the reasonable bytt to lie in; or if they have, furely I knowe it hath beene fo feldome, that I holde fuch Horfes rather of a ftigmaticall then naturall proportion, but suppose there are Horfes of fuch shallownesse of mouth, yet I fay they ought not to have their mouthes cut to make a place for the bytt, but to have the bytt moulded and proportioned according to the shallownelle of the mouth, for were it neceffarie that all bytts fhould be of one quantitie & proportion, then I fould draw fome what nearer to their opinions; but in as much as they a ctobe made either in length, roundnes, thickneffe, charpnes, or flatnes, according to the nature, shape and temper of the mouth, why fhold horfmen make themfelues cyther tyrants or Fooles, to torment without caufe, or inuent to no purpole, thole tortures or ftrata-

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gems, which shal rather make vs fcornd then imitated? Againe, thefe inconveniences, a horfe-man shal finde that wilflit vp his horfes mouth first, the skilfulst horflech that is, shall never heale it (according to the order prescribed) in such sort, that ever it will meet close againe, because the searing of the skinne with hot y. rons, doth fo feauer and dispresse it, that it wil neuer after meete close together againe; infomuch, that when he eateth his meate, it will fall out of his mouth, and put him to a double trouble, and a double time in cating. Alfo when hee drinketh, the water likewife will run out of his mouth, and both annoy and grieue him, Laftly, (and which is of all the fouleft eye-fore) you shall ever have a Horse that is so cut, both in the house and abroad, continually flauering, because the moysture which commeth into his mouth, cannot bee helde in, but will issue foorth at those open places, to the great trouble of the horse himselfe, and the annoyance of fuch Horfes as thall ftand neare him; for this by dayly experience we fee, that those barbarous & ignorant Horfemen, which with diftempered hands, rough brackes, or townd inaffles, doe treate and breake their horfes mouthes, that even those horses have all the inconueniences before mentioned.

Now belides this drawing of teeth, and cutting of mouthes, there is alfo a third practife, which many yeares fince, I have feene vfed by *Prospero*, and now to my no little admiration, I fee the opinion fortyfide by *salamon de la Brone*, a man of exquisite practife and knowledge : and that is, when a horse dooth in his ryding thrust foorth his tongue, and will not by any meanes bee made to keepe it in his mouth,

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he would haue you to take an inftrument, made according to the proportion of this figure here prefented, which opening and flutting like a paire of flat nippers, you may in it take and hold the horfes tongue fo hard and flat, that he cannot flirre it, and then according to the circle of the inftrument, which must carrye the proportion of the horfestongue, with a fharpe rafor cut fo much of his tongue away, as hee puts out of his mouth. The fashion of the inftrument is this:

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Truly, vnder the correction of his better knowledge, I can giue no allowance to this kinde of difmembring; for belides that, it is both vnnaturall and hurtfull to the beaft, whole tongue is his onely inftrument for the taking vp of his provender, & for the conneyance of enery fenerall kinde of foode downe into his ftomack: I feenot, but if any part of it be taken away or diminified, but that the horfe by fuch lacke, must incurre many mischieles. Againe, this I knowe, that no man hath euer feene any foale foaled with his tongue, eyther too long or too bigge for his mouth, nature making every member futable to his place and imployment, fo that if a horse The fir/i Booke.

cyther by custome, torment or sufferance, come to be diffigured, with such a foule and odious fault. I must for mine owne part impute the whole ground and caufe thereof to be onely the vnskilfulneffe of the Ryder, who wanting knowledge or diferetion, either to make his bytt according to the modell of the horfes mouth, or to knowe when the tongue is either at too much libertie, or too much streightned, brings on these foule errors, which are not to be cured, but with much greater mischiefes, and so by these deuises do imagine to couer the deformitie of their ignorance, for had I euer seene in my worthy olde Maister, Maister Thomas Storye, or might in these dayes see by the example of noble Sir Robert Alexander, or any of their equallknowledge (which without flatterie, I thinke Europe scarse containes) that this drawing of teeth, cutting of mouthes, and difmembring of tongues, were by them either allowed or practifed, I should (whatfocuer I thought) bee more amazedly filent, but because I see horfes of their makings, haue no fuch apparant deformities, and befides in my felfe, know that all the errors from whence Russians and others drawe the groundes of these inuentions, haue many better, safer, and more comely remedies, I could not chuse but make this protestation, & defence against this tyrannicall martyring of poore horfes, concluding thus : that if either your horfes teeth ftand too ftraite, or his mouth be too fhallowe, that you make the proportion of the bytt leffe, and fit with the work of nature : and if he thrust out his tongue, as having too great libertie by the opennesse of the bytt, that then your bytt be made closer, fo as it may refiraine the tongue from too much freedome: G 2 but

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but if it proceede from too much closenes and preffing downe of the bytt, that then the libertie thereof be augmented, eyther by whole and fmooth port, vpfet mouth, or fuch like. Laftly, if it proceede from neither of these causes, but even from an euill habit and naughty condition of the horse, you shall then as soone as the bytt is in his mouth, if he thrust out his tongue, first knocke it in with the great end of your rodde, and then buckle the nose-band of your brydle head-stall fostraight, that he shall not be able to open his teeth, and thus riding him but a weeke or a little more, he will soone both forget and forgoe that vice: and thus much for these cruell inventions.

#### CHAP. 20.

Of the feperating of bad Colts and Mares from the good, and which shall maintaine the race still,

mities, and belides in my folic, know that all the creats

T is not the diligence of man, neither the curyofitie of his choice (although they be the two moft effeciall cares which begets a man his owne defires in this matter of breeding of Horfes) which can a certaine vnto any man, that he thall breede horfes all of one flature, firength, beautie, and goodneffe, fith thereby diners cafualties (as fickneffe or infirmitie in the Mare or Foale, negligence in keepers, rufhes, firaynes, heates or coldes and fuch like ) which may make foales (though they beall of one breede (much different and almost contrary in proofe; fome prouing good,

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good, some bad, and some indifferent : wherefore I would with every good breeder once a yeare, especially at Michaelmas, to looke ouer his whole studde, and amongst those Mares and Foales, which shall bee three yeares olde and the vanttage, to cull out them which be most beautifull, ftrong, nimble, and couragious, and to seperate them for his owne vie : the rest, which either by infirmie, or cafualtie, haue lost the pride of their naturall perfection, I would have you take into the house, and having made them fit for the Saddle and other mens vses, to fend them to fuch fayres and markets as shall be convenient, and so fell them to their best profit. But if the greatnesse of the breeders place doe dildaine such profit, it shall then be worthy in him, if he bestowe them either of his officers, or other men of merrit : and in this coyling of Studs, there is great arte and iudgement to be vied, for it is not at that age, the Colt which is fatteft, best proportioned to the eye, round, and close knit together, which maketh the best horse; nor he that is long, loofe, gaunt, and ilfauoured, which is to be coyled and caltaway : for the first when he commeth to ripenes of age, loofeth his beautie and goodneffe, and the other increaseth, and when his age is complete, is most worthy and gallant : wherefore as I faid, there must be art vsed in the choice of coylings, for I hau e my felfe seene a Studde coyld when there hath beene none sogood left behinde as those which have beene folde, and made away for a little money.

After you have coyld your Colts and Mares of three yeares olde, and the advantage, you shall then take a furuay of your younger force, and if you shall finde G 4 amongs

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amongstehem any that are diseased, as with Ague or inward sicknesse, with *Pestilence*, *Staggers*, *Appoplexie*, *Glaunders*, *Strangle*, or such like, all which are infections, you shall forthwith, separate the sound from the vnsound, least the infection of one, breede the losse of all the rest.

Laftly, you shall take the Survey of all your old breeding mares, and if any of them, either through naturall defect, mischance or age, shall become barraine, or if you shall perceive any of them, which from yeare to yeare bringeth foorth vncomely Foales : or if any of them having brought foorth comely Foales, shall not nurfle and bring them.vp well, but either through want of milke, or the doggednes of fome vnnaturall quality, shall flocke and starue their foalessin any of these cases, it shall bee good for them to fell or make away fuch Mares, as being vn worthy to be bred vpon, and to ftore your felfe with none but fuch as shall be both good; full of milke, and most naturall. And thus much I thought good to write, touching the breeding of Hori fes, and all fuch necessarie observations, as are incident for that art or knowledge, wherein if I have aferibed to mine owne knowledge or experience, too feuearean authoritie of iudgement, I craue onely to be cenfur'd by their excellent wildomes, who being both owners of reafon, and maisters of this Art, will not condemne me till there be inft approbation of mine errors, and in that hope I line their Seruant.

The and of the first Baoke.