

A DISCOVRCE OF *Horsmanshippe.*

Wherein the breeding and ryding of horses
for seruice, in a breefe manner is more fully
sette downe then hath been heeretofore. With a more easie
and direct course for the ignorant, to attaine to
the same arte or knowledge.

*Also the manner to chuse, trayne, ryde and bridle, both
Hunting-horses, and Running-horses: with all the secretes
thereto belonging discovered. An arte neuer heeretofore
written by any Authour.*

Bramo assai, poco sfero, nulla chiegio.



AT LONDON,
Printed by I. C. for Richard Smith, and are to be sold at
his shoppe at the West-doore of Poules.
Anno. Dom. 1593.

50. d. 21



To the Right worshipfull and his
singuler good Father, Ma. Robert Markham,
of *Cotham* in the County of Nottingham,
Esquire.



Haue (Syr) in this Treatise of
Horsemanship, gathered together
my liues experience, most humbly
offering the same to your patro-
nage, as a worke nothing at all
worthie your reviewing, but carrying the name of
Horsmanship which you haue alwaies fauoured, I
rather presume of kinde acceptation. If I haue
erred, none better then your selfe can correct me,
if my worke be perfect, there is no mans aplaus
can better please me; How euer it be, yours it must
be, and I my selfe for euer will be

Your obedient sonne:

Ieruis Markham.

¶ 2.

To

To the Gentlemen Readers.



HE winde (Gentlemen) standing in the mouth of my Caue, hath blowne my loose papers into the world, and canonized mee as foolish in Poules Church-yard, as *Sybilla* was wise in *Cuma*: I haue written of a subiect, which many more then most excellent in the same arte haue intreated. If therefore theyr perfection shall withdraw your eyes from my labour, imagine it to be but a Parentis intruding it selfe amongst theyr workes. And when you haue ouer-read it, you shal find it to detract nothing, but as a ready Hand-mayde, endeouour to bring theyr pleasures to effect, and discover that which hetherto hath beene obscured. If therefore I shall find grace in your sights, my thanks shall be, that thys my Treatise, shall teach you howe to preferue your Horses from tiring, which otherwise in the midst of your pleasures, would gyue ouer shamefully.

J. M.



CHAP. I.

Of breeding of Horses.



It is but ignorance and selfe will (the untwedded Parents of that ugly monster error) which hath blinded our English Heroes, from regarding in these latter times, that most excellent & payse woorthy, the gyft, the breeding, rearing, and tending type of Horses, which in all ages hath bene most commendable: because of all things most commodious, and of beastes in nature to man the nearest. The dead cynders of which famous quality, if my young experience (yet in the *Whitwiffe* ashes, scarce ready to be first smothering cloutes) may reuine againe, in the private mindes of those that shall view my labour, I shall haue my paine an eternall pleasure, and my selfe fully satisfied.

And first as touching the breeding of Horses, there be three things chiefly to be regarded, first the situation of the ground, next the fertillnes of the soyle wherein they should be bred. The ground most excellent for this purpose, ought to be on the knole by height of a hill, being of such quantitie as may suffice to heare the number of your rare spares and fillies: yet not all one entire Close, but divided by stony fencing into three: neyther is it of necessity that they lye all on one knole, if they lye on diuers it shall not be hurtfull. The first for your spares to soale in & make the soales being

Of the breeding, ryding,

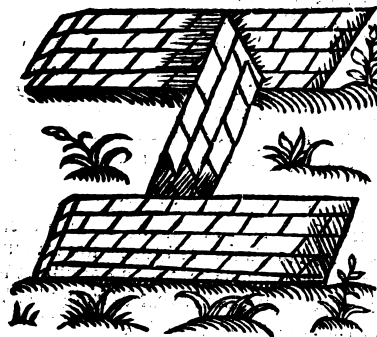
being salne. The second fo; the withering of your Hares and foales. The third fo; your Colts being weaned and drawne from theyr Damnes. For the first, I would haue it a ley ground, with high ryoges and depe furrowes, and if it may be, full of great Spole-hils: that your foales by scoping & galloping thereon, shall be brought to such nimblenesse, strength, and true footmanship, that they shall not only haue a most excellent hyane trotte, but also during theyr lyues, (not being strayned too young) they shalbe free from that foule vice of Stumbling.

Thys ground I wyl shoulde lye open of the East, that the moyning Sunne may rise thereon, which doth not onely reuiue and bying a lust to your foales, but also addes such a strength to theyr backes, and such a firme knitting of theyr ioynts, that they shall be moze ready for the Rider at thre yeres old, then others (byedde contrarily) at five. For the watring place in thys Close, I would haue it some Pond, which is fedde eyther by some fresh spring, or some running Riuer, so as your fence stande betwene the Riuer and your Hares: my reason is, because it is the nature and property of Hares, to couet to foale eyther in the water, or as nere as they can possibly gette.

For shelter in thys place, I would haue none more then the ordinary fencing which compasseth the ground, for to haue other were but needlesse, because by experience I haue found it, that those foales which haue salne in March, and haue bene most weather-beaten, haue proued alwaies the largest & stoutest in the Ryders handling. And thus much for that part of ground where I wold haue Hares to foale in. Now for the second, where I would haue your Hares and foales wintered, I would haue the situation of it in all things like the first, onely the watring place there, I would haue some fresh Riuer if it might be conveniently, as well for the purenes & soundnes of the water, as also for taking the annoyance of Ice, which is perillous for the legs & ioynts of young foales. For your shelter in that place, I would

and trayning vp of Horses.

hane it thus made, in the highest part of the Close, I would haue you make a wall of stone in length 24. fote, in height 4. fote, and at eyther ende with a crosse-wall 14. fote in length of little height, with 2 other according to this figure.



This being made, the two ends standing North and South, that the open sides may lye of the East and West, I would haue made within, Stakes of such height, that your foales may with ease reach them, and vnder them Spungers, to throw now and then into, Chaffe, Corne, or garbidge, which no doubt will bying your foales to beare most gallant fere-heads, sith it onely raiseth by a good crest, and also make them pusshant and harde Horses for seruice.

On the toppe of this house or shelter, I would haue layd ouer, layer of wood in manner of a boult, that thereon may be staked your Hay and winter provision, eyther light Corne or winter Dales in the straw, which is the one thing that euer I haue found by practise as rearing, as a chiefe nutriment for foales.

Of the breeding, ryding

For your third chace, for your husbandry, I would have it if possible likewise attending, having some running river, or fresh pond for watering: if there be shelter of trees or bushes, it much availeth, inueterable, at some end of it, would I have cyther a close house or house built with Rache and Danger: whereto in the winter they may at they willes repaire and find both hay and garbidge, the doore being alwaies open to passe in and out.

Lastly, for the fertilitie of the soyle, I would have it a rich blacke mould, so it be not forced by manure, for I assure you by prooffe, it is better to breede of a barayne stonie ground, then of such a ground as is manured every yeere, for the grasse thereof is neither sauerie nor wholesome. And thus much for the choyce of your groundes to breede upon. Nowe it may be objected by some, that I wrought my selfe in choyce of high groundes, sith they be neither so fruitfull of grasse, nor so convenient for water as lower groundes be. But my answer is, bee that breeds vpon low groundes that be fruitfull and full of ranch grasse, and keepe his spares onely for winter and not for worke, shall find by prooffe, (as I haue done) that in the winter season when they shall come to pasture, the most of his rare spares, especially those which are older, shall be yare wode of the rotte, which will as soon infect his spares as sheepe, if they be not brought: where contrary, vpon high hard groundes, they shall be free from that infection.

Again, Colts breede in low groundes, and are weake pastured and fat to chauld, the one through the treading and vncertaine foote-hold, the other through the grosse soyle in summer, and the abundance of sweet herbe in winter: wherof the fresh ayre which is contrary to the height of winter, will as soon infect his spares as Colts, that with their feeding and husbandry, they will with those vices continue pastured, which in low groundes turne alwaies to the strengthening of the same.

and trayning vp of Horses.

When you haue therfore your groundes sowed and sown as I haue before written, it then followeth that you stock it with spares, which for their strayne, colour and comelie shape, will be profitable to breede vpon: they straynes, by which I meane they kindes or generations, I would haue from a plaine English breede of the Damians, they being either Neapolitan Coursers, Spanish Jennets, Turkes, or Barbaries: the nature and pproperty of all which Horses, Crisostom hath writ effectually.

For the colours of your spares, I would haue them eyther broune dapple bayes, saye dapple bayes, or bryght white bayes: for they shapes thus, of stature tall, but not monstrous, a fierie eye, a small heade, a little eare, a firme mane, a strong thinne crest, a long necke, a bigge square chest, a broad backe, a flatte legge, a straight foote, and a hollow hooft: to which when you haue attained, it shall then rest that you chuse a stallion to watch the beauty and goodnes of your spares: in choyce of which, if I differ from other writers, make it no wonder, but pardon me as well to write mine experience as they they iudgements: sith I haue made prooffe, and seene prooffe of all those stallions they write of, yet finde them nothing so fitte as another Horse, which in our English Authors is observed.

Master Blandauill, in his third Chapter where he compareth rares together, aduiseeth him that shoulde breede a strong Horse for service, to chuse for stallion, eyther a Neapolitan Courser, a High Almaine, a Hungarian, a Flemish, or a Friesland: for the first being a Courser, I allow him as a most singular Horse to breed on, for the seconde the Almaine, I disallow him as vnfit, for he is grossly made of nature, stouff, vnmumble, cowardly, and so intolerable a burthen to himselfe, that he is more ready in a charge to stand still then trotte. For the Hungarian, like him not for a stallion hee hath so many badde shapes, as a great head, a narrow nostrill, a small pastern, a full hooft, an empty belly, a pymp, buttorke and a long lanke bodie.

Of the breeding, ryding,

For the Flanders and Friedland, they be of al f swart, they be thicke, chub-headed, hollow eyes, long backt, flatts buttockt, weake ioynted, especially in the pasterns, alwaies ready to tyre in a miles ryding: and so rough hayrd about the fetlockes, that to mend they; other deformities, in spite of the best keepers, they will neuer be without the paynes and scratches.

Also, Paister Blanduill aduiseyth hym that will breede Amblers, to chuse for Stallion a Fenet of Spaine, or an Irish Hobbie: and for him that will breede Runners, a Barbarie or a Turke. Of these I well allow, for they be good, albeit the Fenet is not so fitte for that purpose: for though he be of high pryde and comely shape, yet he they; paces weake and uncertaine, especially they; ambles, in which they alwaies waue to and fro, carrying their bodies uncertainly.

Nowe to come to the true Stallion, who for hys hane trotte, and pure vertue of valure in the fiede, is a staine to all other Hozes: whose comely and easie amble, may be an eternall instrution to all Aldermens Hackneyes, howe to rocke they; Paisters into a sound sleepe, whose wonderfull spede both in short and long courses, may make our English Pickers, hold their best runners but Waffles, who by nature hath all things perfect, nothing defective: him I hold a fitte Stallion to breede on, and a fitte beast for hys Paister to hazard his life on, and this is onely the Courser of Arabia. A Courser I tearme him, because once happening on an olde wyting of a Punks, wyitten in parchment, about the meeting of Achilles and Hector, wit that Achilles rode on an Arabian Courser.

This Hozse of Arabia, is of a reasonable stature, neyther too hie nor too lowe, but tyght and cleane fashioned, hys head is small, leane and slender, hys nostrill (if he be angled) wonderfull wide, hys eyes like fire, ready to leape out of hys heade, hys eares sharpe, small, and some what long, hys chaule thynne and wide, his thypell large, hys necke

and trayning vp of Hozes.

necke long, hys crest high, thyme and firme, his back short, hys chyne a handfull broade and more, hys buttocke long, tyght and cleane, the sterne of hys tayle, welnie so small as a mans finger, but in strength beyond any other Hozse, the hayre thereon so thynne as is possible: hys legges are small and cleane, hauing no hayre on his fetlocke, his body slender and rounde: in breefe, his cote in generall is so fine, that it is not possible almost in any parte of him but his mane and tayle, to catch holde to pull of one hayre. The collour of that Arabian which I haue seene, and which is enen now vnder mine hands, is a most delicate bay, whom if you vietue in the Sunne, you will indge him eyther like changeable Satine or cloth of Gold.

This Arabian is of nature milde and gentle to hys myter and keeper, but to strangers most cruell: they will bite like Gallifles, if you offer to strike them, they will runne open mouthed at you like a dogge, and the more you strike, the more they will bite, they feare nothing, the night and day is with them all one: and as those Gentlemen report that haue traualled in those Countreyes, they ordinarly lye till fifty and thre score yeres.

This Hozse for a Stallion is peerlesse, for hee hath in him the puritie and vertue of all other Hozes. They be so excellent for traualle, that this Arabian (of which I haue the ryding) beeing traualld from a parte of Arabia called Angelica to Constantinople, and from thence to the higher most partes of Germanie by lande, and so by sea to Englands, yet was hee so couragious and lyevely, (hauing no fleshe on his backe) that by no meanes hee coulde be ruled.

Hauing gotten your selfe a Stallion of this Countrey, being young and lustie, which commonlie are the best, or for want of such, (because they be rare,) one of those which I haue before mentioned, I woulde wishe you thus to breede, in the Moneth of March or Aprill, or from midde March till midde May following: for before and after those times,

Of the breeding, ryding.

tymes I doe not allowe the couering of Mares, who haue hauing newly changed, and finding your Mare ready for the Hovle, which you shall knowe by her running to and fro, and by her pride, or els by prouing her with some badde stond Jade, I would haue you bring her in an evening into some emptie Barne or wast house, and then your Hovle, hauing borne in the foile a weeke at least, put him to her, and let hym abide with her all night, and in the morning when the Sunne is vp take him from her, and feede him well cyther with Bread or Dates, and at night put him to her againe in like maner, and thus do so thre or foure dayes together, prouided alwaies that you kepe your Mare during that time from any meate, vntil she be a handfull or two of new mowne grasse once a day, but in any case no water at all: and in this order would I haue you doe after one, (so there be betwixen euery one thre dayes at the least) couer all your Mares, and you shall finde no way more easie, surer, nor safer.

It may seme in me a poynt of no lesse absurdity then arrogancie, to sette downe this peremptory resolution, of couering of Mares, when Xenophon, Vegetius, Griston, and all our English writers, haue concluded and set downe precepts for the couering of Mares to be abroade, and that the Stallion should run with them in open places, to which opinion I am cleane opposite. If therefore my reasons and practise shall be found in equall ballance with theyr former iudgements, I doubt not but the censures of the wisser, will allowe me, though the ignorant carpe at my writings.

My first reason therefore is, that that Hovle which can be kept within the bounds of a Pale, Meale, or quicke sette hedge, hauing a sayre prospect & liberty to looke vnder them, him I say is not worthy to be kept at, for it is not possible that he is of a gentle or good disposition, but of a fiersull, dull, heauy and weake nature: neither can he be a true Arabian, Scapolitan, nor of any good strayne, for no Hovle of good courage (much more they) will be kept but within some

and trayning vp of Horses.

some walles, ouer which they can by no means looke, and euery one that will endeavour himselfe to hyde a good hovle, cannot haue a wald ground, but were it so that euery one had a wald ground, yet shall you finde many inconueniences. First, (for I haue noted it) many yeres if your Mares be in lust or pride, you shall be in venture to haue neuer a Colt foale, for your Hovle being hote and at liberty, in thre or thre of the first dayes hee will so disorderly spende himselfe, both on the Mares and for want of foode, (for a Stallion will neuer eate much amongst Mares) that heeing weake & the Mares in pride, they will be so much to strong for him in conception, that you shall breed only fillies.

Againe, running amongst your Mares, some will be ready, some bready, in so much that the Hovle being courageous, hee will couer the ready Mare so oft, that those which shall be ready to be serued after, shall eyther not hold at all, or els being fast weake and vncomey foales. Also it is the nature and propertie of the Arabians and Scapolitans, to be so extreme furious & hote of the Mares, that if they be at theyr owne liberties, they will neuer leaue couering till they haue killd themselves, and then in want of service shall the want of such a Hovle be found: as I coulde shew a number of instances were it not needlesse. No reme- dy which auoyance and losse, and to be sure of as good or rather better Colles, I wish you onely to vse the way before described.

Your Mares being thus couered, I would haue you take a diligent regard, that in the monthes of September and October, they may by no means be chased nor stirred, for then are their foales principally in knitting, in so much that any small straine will make them that and cast theyr foales, which is very dangerous. Also haue regard that in those monthes do stand Jades very comely at your Mares, for they will by nature couer the Hovle: but if they take him, they will presently cast theyr foales: and thus much touching the couering of your Mares.

Of the breeding, ryding,

It that now therfore be expedient to treat somewhat touching the byringing up of your foales and weaning the. After your Mares haue foaled, I wold haue you let them run in some fresh pasture, that thereby they may haue store of milk, to keepe your foales in lust and puike, and in no case to take your foales from them for the space of a yere, but let them continually run with their Dams, vntill it be some baggage foale that is not worth any thing, for the weaning of them as some do at Partilmas or Christmas, is such a weakening and plucking back of their strength & groweth, that they hardly recouer it in two yeres after, as I haue found often by psofe. Besides, the weaning of them so early, and forcing them to liue eyther of Hay or grasse, which at that time is but vnsauery fodge, fills them so full of cold humors through their raw digestion, that they cannot but be incident both to the strangle, the whoozes, and great inflamations in their heads, wherof they commonly die, vntill they haue present remedie: for if they haue but grasse to fede on whil the daies and nights are sharpe & stormy, they being weak and tender, will rather pine then grasse, in so much that for want of fode they fall away, and so being in poverty, are subiect to every disease.

But some will say, when the weather is sharpe they may be foddered with Hay. Answer, that they (being tender) will be so set on edge, that they can by no means endure to eate Hay, especially so much as that suffice nature: but vntill it be as they were able, yet as it be a food of it selfe, that it yeldes but small nutriment for a foale of that age: vntill where, to the contrary, going with their Dams, & hauing such shelter made as aforesaid, their food will be so wholesome, being for the most part milke, and either the whoozes or the grasse, or both of the Hay, of both. And they will stand times fode, shalbe more amenable to them, but rather, for as physick helps to keep the sound, and vntill by this means this commodity, the sucking of your foales in long, will keep your Mares so bare and low of fleshy, that when spring of yere comes,

and trayning vp of Horses.

comes, they will be so fitte and apt to receive the stallion, as you can any waies deuise or wish, whereas if their foales be drawn from them, and they themselves haue libertie to fede without eyther tranel or working, they will grow so grosse, that by reason of the extreame fatnes, the Patrie or place of conception will be so straitnes, that they will eyther not at all holde to the Horse, or holding, bring forth but small foales. And thus much haue I thought good to write, as touching your grounds to hyde on, the choyle of your Mares and stallion, the ordering of them both, and the byringing up of your young foales. For other things which I haue omitted, as touching the speciall markes of Horses, the complexion and colours, the sundry kinds, their natures & dispositions, I refer you to Grison or Blauduill, who of those things haue writ sufficiently.

It resteth therfore that I speake as touching the weaning of your foales, which I woulde wishe in this order. Your foales hauing run with your Mares the space of a yere, or within a yoneth, in so much that they are ready to foale againe, I woulde wishe you to draw them from their Dams, and lock them in some close house for a night: then in the morning to take them, and to giue each of them two or three slippes of Hawen, and so to let them rest two or three houres after: this Hawen is a most soueraigne Medicine for the whoozes, which will be most abundant in young foales, in so much that if they haue not present remedie by, upon the first drawing from their Dammes, they will many times suddainly drop away and die.

Hauing thus doone, I woulde haue you to put them in the Close for purpose before prescribed, where they may runne vntill they shall be found fit for the saddle, provided alwaies, that they bee neither within the sight or hearing of the Dammes for a weeke and more, nor that your filly foales be suffered to runne with your Colles, but be kept in generall.

Of the breeding, ryding,

CHAP. 2.

The arte of ryding.

How young Colts should be handled, ramed, rydden, and made perfect both for seruice and pleasure.



When your Coltes haue attained the age of thre yeres olde and the vantage, which is frō Apill oꝝ May, till Partilmas oꝝ Chylmas, it were good you bryne them vnto some close house, where hauing good strength of men, you may haulter them, which I would wish to be done with all the gentleness and quiet meanes that may be. When your Colt is once haultered, then offer to leade him forth into some Courte oꝝ Close, where when he comes, there is no doubt but (not hauing bene in hande before) he will be turuly, and offer both to runne away and plunge: which when he conuets to do, suffer him euen as far as your chafe haulter will giue him leane, and then with a good strength euen in his running oꝝ leaping, giue him such a swich backe, that you make his necke ready to cracke againe: oꝝ els plucke him vpon his buttocks, and saile not but as oft as he strines to breake away, so oft do you pluck him backe with these suddaine straynes and twitches, the commoditie whereof is this.

If he be a Horse of a thicke, short and strong face-band, and withall of wilfull and haughty courage, this straying and ouer-maistering him in the haulter, will make him so plyant of his necke and so tender of his head, that (feeling the like correction) he will neyther offer to breake from his keeper when he shall leade him, noꝝ indanger his Ryder, with that villainous quality of running away. Moreover, this manner of conquering him with the haulter, wil bring him to such a sensible feeling of correction, that when he shall

and trayning vp of Horses.

shall come to weare Busrole, Chaine oꝝ Cauerzan, at which be many degrees beyond the haulter in crueltie and terror, bys Ryder shall finde him so obedient to his hande, that he shall place his head where he list, and in one weekes trayning, rule the Colt how he list.

But if he be a fullen Jade that wil neither run noꝝ leape, but onely hang backe, then let some standers by with long poles oꝝ goades beate him and pick him, till you make him leade vnto and downe gently, not forgetting but to make much and cherrish him, when you shall finde him obedient and plyant to your will. This done, let him be sette vp in the stable, and pull off his chafe haulter for feare of galling his head too much, and put on a flatte collar of double Leather. Let his keeper be alwaies trifling and doing some what about him, eyther rubbing oꝝ clauing him in one place oꝝ other where he shall finde him most ticklish oꝝ dainty: still giuing him kinde wordes, as ho boy, ho boy, oꝝ holla lone, so my nagge, and such like tearmes, till he haue won him to his will that hee will suffer him to dress him: take vnto his legges and picke him in euery place: provided alwaies, (and let both his Rider and keeper hold it as an especiall rule of good horsemanship,) neuer to do any thing about a Colte, eyther suddainly, hastily, oꝝ rudely: but come to him softly, do euery thing about him leysurely, and be carefull not to fright him with so much as an euill worde: for whē unskillfull Horsmen wil come to their Horses with suddaine motions, and violent furies, that makes Horses learne to strike, to byte, to starte at the saddle, to refuse the bridle, and to finde boggards at mens faces. Therefore let all things be done with lenitie and discretion, and yet not so voyde of correction, but that if hee be a stubberne Jade, which through will & churlishnes will withstande bys Ryder; you may with a sharp rodde correct him: making him as well vnderstand when hee offendeth, as when hee pleaseth.

When your Colt is thus in the stable made gentle, that

Of the breeding, ryding,

he will be carried, rubb, pickt, cold, clothed, scopt, shodde, and ledde vp and downe, eyther to the water or from the water, all which a painfull man will easily performe in one sponcth, then would I haue a saddle brought to him, in the gentlest manner that may be. first let him smell to it, then let it rubbe his shoulder, then his side, then his buttocke, and so by degrees let it on his backe, not failing to let it on and take it off many times ere you let it rest: alwaies cherishing him.

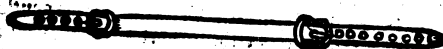
When it is so seated on his backe, then let one on the further side of the Horse deliuer you the girthes, and gyde it on first so slacke as he may scarce feele them, then by little and little, draw them straiter and straiter, till you feele the saddle so firme that it cannot stirre: then with your hande clappe vpon the saddle, at which if he startle, with saye words encourage him, and clappe harder, not desisting, but one while clapping, another while shaking the saddle. tyll you finde in the Colts a carelesse regard of the noyse, & that he wil neither shrink nor stirre for any thing you do about him. Then take a Wrench or watring snaffle, but the Wrench I rather preferre, and annoynt it with Honey and Salte, then put it in the Colts mouth, casting the raynes thereof ouer the Saddle pommel: yet in any case not so strait as eyther it may draw in the Colts heade, or force hym to strue against it, but let it lye in his mouth, that hee may twicke and play vpon it at his pleasure.

In this sort let him be trind every day for the space of a weeke, and so walke abroade in his keepers hand, that hee may be acquainted with the Saddle, with the bridle, stirrups, and other implements about him: which being done effectually, his Ryder may with more suretie and boldnesse venture to backe him, which I would wish and haue followed in this order. Let him be saddled as I haue before sette downe, but with great care, so that the saddle may neyther slippe side-ways, so, warde, or backward, but stand firme in his place.

Then

and trayning vp of Horses.

Then take a Spoutrole of wire, then draw and put it on his heade, so as it may lye iust vpon the strength of his nose, neyther so loose as it may crulhe the tender grissell of his nostrils, nor so tye, that it may by the correction, bee afterwards any blemish to the Horses face, then take, a martin-gale of strong leather, three fingers broade, made in this forme following.



Let the one end thereof be buckled to the girthes be-
tweene the Horses legges, the other ende to the leather of
the Spoutrole, but yet so slacke, that the Horse may haue no
more but a feeling of the Spoutrole wher he shall lye as thow
his heade aloft, then put on his Wrench, and let his Ryder
walke him faire and softly sooth to some new plowed peece
of ground: where after you haue passed a space & cherrish
the Colt, make offer to put your foot into the stirrop, at
which if he stop sagitt and refuse to abide, then chafe hym a-
while about his keeper on that new plowed ground, and
then cherish him and come to him againe and offer the like,
which if he refuse then, chafe him againe, and leaue him not
till such time as he stand quietly, and suffer you to put your
foot in the stirrop: then would I haue you beate and lift halke a dozen
times, still making proffers, but not getting vp: all which
if he abide, cherrish him exceedingly, and then raising your
selfe, sette halke way vp, which if hee suffer, then the next
time

Of the breeding, ryding,

time gette gently into the Saddle, and seate your selfe quietly without mouing or stirring. Place your body vpright, your eyes betwene his eares, your legs straight out without spurres, and your rodde vpright by your shoulder, least if you should hold it low before his eyes, it might breed in him some affright or amazement, which were a grosse error in a Horses first backing.

Being thus mounted & well placed, let his keeper offer to leade him forward gently, which if hee doe quietly, (as there is no doubt but he will) then let the keeper lay off his hand, and let his rider mildly put him forward, not con-ting to haue him keepe any one way or sorrowe, but suffering the Colte to goe as himselfe shall best like, sometimes overthwart, sometimes endwaies, or as hee shall be disposed: obseruing this rule alwaies, to carry a gentle vpright hand of the Colte, neither so hard that it may by any meanes either moue stay in him, or force him to finde faulte at the correction, or with his mouth or necke: neyther so slacke, that he may eyther winne the head of you to put it betwene his fore-legges, which they will most commonly couet, or make proffer to runne away by reason of too great libertie, which to the best Horses is most natural. Wherefore I say, carry a gentle hande, so as you may haue a feeling of the Colte, and the Colte no more but a perfect say of your hand, vnlesse extremitie compel you. And because the hand is the onely instrument, and chiefe guide to bring a Horse to his perfection, I will before I goe any further, shew both the vse of the hande in the first backing, and also the carrying of the raynes.

Being seated in your Saddle as is before mentioned, take the rayne of your bzidle and folde the one side ouer the other, making each side both of an euen length, & so short, that you may haue the Colts head at commaundment, then lay on both your hands, the one a handfull distant from the other, and do not draw your hands to the Saddle pomell, or plucke them close in to your body, but place them ouer the

and trayning vp of Horses.

the midst of his crest, pulling his head still vptwarde and aloft, not drawing it in as to bring him to an vniformitie of rayne, for that shal be but a marring of his mouth, and the first rule to bring a comely fore-hand to an euill show: but as I said, lift your hands still vptwarde, suffering them alwaies to goe and come with easie motions, onely to thys end, that you may gather vpper his necke to the vstermost height, that arte or nature wil by any meanes suffer it.

Howe so much as some Horses, haue naturallie such good fore-hands and such comely raynes, that the ryder needeth little labour and lesse arte, as for example, hee that hath a long large vpright necke, a wide chaule and a daintie mouth, other some so imperfectly fraimde by nature, that though the ryder vse extreme industry and much arte, yet if he haue not the very ground and absolute knowledge of horsemanship, he shall neuer bring him to staiednes, comelnesse or good show, as those which be short neckt, narrowe chaule, thicke headed, and deade mouthed. And sith these contraries, must haue contrary meanes to bring them to theyr perfections, because lenity to him that is dull and stubberne, will from a little, bring him to iust nothing doing, and cruelty to him that is free, apt and couragious, is the hie way not onely to marre him, but also to kill him: and because the onely arte of ryding, consisteth in the making of a comely, staied, and well fashioned rayne, I will here set downe the manner, howe they ought both kindes of them to be trayned and taught, drawing all the natures, dispositions and vices of Horses, into these two heades or branches, Dulnesse and Freenesse.

Vnder thys woorde dulnesse, I conclude such as be heauie naturd, slow, vnapt, churlish, alwaies craving correction, restie and fidgetfull: vnder this woorde freenes, I conclude those that be light, nimble, couragious, apt, that wil catch a lesson from his rider ere it be fully taught him, and is alwaies ready for more then can be put vnto him, therefore I will beginne first (because they aske more labour and

Of the breeding, ryding,

and arte) with those kinde of Horses which I feared but. Having backt your Horse as is before prescribed, and made him to receive you off and on at your pleasure, which may be done in a day or two, then enter into the nature and disposition of the Horse, (which who so cannot finde, let hym neyther profess nor expect to be a Horseman,) then finding him to be of nature dull and untoward, neyther apt to p[ro]vide pace nor rayne, in any case neyther offer him lesson nor King, but being mounted on his back, and having pause & settled your selfe, thrust him out into a good round trotte, the length of twenty or forty scoze, all the way with your hands working by his heade aloft: and then offer to stoppe hym, by drawing in your hand more firme and hard then you were wont in the working typpes of his heade, at which if he offer to thrust downe his head, and wil not stay, thrust him forward as farre againe, and then offer him the stoppe, p[ro]vided alwaies you keepe him in a swift trotte, in which if he p[ro]ve slothfull, as no doubt but he will, then reitue hym with a sharpe rodde, with your voyce, and with the tertiing of your legges and hodie forward at once.

If at the second offer, he refuse to yeld in his heade or stoppe, then at hym the thirde tyme, the fourth and the fift, till you have trotted him a myle or somewhat more: then turne him homeward, and exercise him after the same manner, which peradventure will the first day nothing at all p[ro]vaile with him, but be you carelesse, & in any case stryue not with hym, or seeke by strong hand to overcome him, for so you shall marre hys mouth, teache hym manie knowish qualities, and no more make his heade move then a great wake: but take hym out the second day, and then trot hym forth two milles, and alwaies in twelue scoze, six scoze, or twenty scoze, as you find your grounde or seele your Horse, offer him the stop, which if he refuse, meruaile not, but take him out the thirde day, the 4. and 5. increasing his traueil as his daies increase. And if you find in him an ability of body and strength, to which you must haue great respect, & onely an

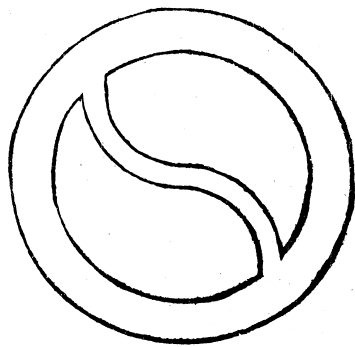
and trayning vp of Horses.

an untoward stubbornnes and unaptnes, hinders what you goe about, then spare not to labo[r] him two or thre houres together about the fieldes, til by this your labo[r] & toyle you make him yeld to your hand, which you shal no sooner perceive but immediatly make much of him, cherrish him, light from his back, and giue him grass or greene coyne if there be any nere you: and faile not but exercise him thus for a weeke or a fortnight, in which space you may make him so well acquainted with your hand, that when soeuer you shal but straine your bridle rayne, he will yeld and stop at your pleasure. It may be the first day you trot him forth, you shal finde him of such a gentle mouth, that at the first proffer hee will stop, yet couet to haue his head betwene his legs, and trot but slooely and like a Jade: which if he do, the looke what traueil I prescribed you for the stop, employ the selfe same, onely to the raising vp of his head, to the byzing of him to lightnes, to a sayze trotte and forwardnesse of way, which no meane that euer I tryed or saw, wil so soone byzing to passe as thys.

When you haue brought him to this perfection that he will yeld to your hand, carry his heade aloft, and trotte forth both lightly and freely: then shall you endeavour (having gotten his necke to his uttermost height,) to byzing downe his nose and mussell, that it may rest vpon his thropell, and so haue a perfect, staied and gallant rayne, which you shal do in this manner: bring mounted vpon his back and having pause a space, the draw by your hand, at which if he offer to yeld or goe back, then thrust your legs out stiffly vpon your stirrop leathers, and that will stay him, then loke whether your spartingale be stiffe or slack, if you find it slack, then let some footeman standing by draw it straiter, yet in any case not too strait, but so as the Horse may rest vpon it and no more, then trot him forth into some grauelde earth or newe plowed ground, but the grauelde earth I rather preferre, because it is more finer foot-holde, and not so labourfome to trauaile on: being come thether, loke whe-

Of the breeding, ryding,

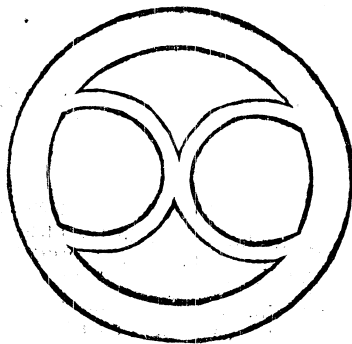
ther your Partingale continue his former stiffness or no, which if it do not, (as there is no likelihood it will,) then draw it againe to his former straightnesse, and then put forward your Horse, and upon a soft and easie foote-pace, holding his head upright, and his body straight, marke out a large Ring, being at the least forty yardes in compasse, about the which walke him upon your right hand three times, then drawing the right hand rayne a little more firme, and laying the calfe of your left legge closer to his side, pace out within your Ring two halfe circles, the first on your right hand, the latter on your left, which will be a plaine Roman Circle, in this forme following.



This done, then walke about your large Ring three tymes on your left hand, & then change within your Ring as you did before, observing for your left hande your left rayne and your right leg, then will your large Ring have two whole Ringes within the same, as this figure following sheweth.

Then

and trayning vp of Horses.



Then on your right hand walke him other three times, (because you must holde it for a generall rule in horzman-shyppe, alwaies to end on that hande you begunne) and so trotte him straight forward twenty yardes, and there stoppe him and cherrish him: which done, drawe in both your hands even together, and make him goe backe a pace or two, which if he refuse to do, then ease your handes, & pull them in againe so gently as may be, neuer ceasing, but letting them come and goe till he yeeld and goe backe, which I am sure he will instantly do, unless he be a wonderfull unruly and restie Foe: which if he be, then must you have a foote-man to stande by, who with a cudgell beating him upon the nose, and you with your rod beating hym upon his fore-legges, enforce him perforce to goe backe, which when hee doth, immediately cherrish him, and then taking com-passe enough for feare of making him weake neck, turne him about, and downe the same narrow pace him to the Ring againe, where you may exercise him in his lesson as you

Of the breeding, ryding,

you did befoze. In this manner would I haue you for foure or fve daies to practise your Hourse, not suffering him to trot or gallop, but onely to pace, to stop, and goe backe, hauing alwaies a speciall regarde to keepe your Partingale firme, that by little and little you may win in his head, till you haue it in that place you desire, where when it is, then stay, and in any case drawe your Partingale no straighter.

Nowe when by this your trauaile, you haue brought your Hourse that he will willingly pace this King, & make his change within, on both hands without compulsion, the may you well adventure to trotte him in the same, making him do it with spirite and nimbleres: provided alwaies that if you find him unwilling to make his changes on both hands within the King, and that he rather couets to moue his necke and heade then his body, all which shoulde goe euen, & equally together, then make your changes in this manner.

When you would haue him turne on your right hand, draw your left rayne straight, and so hold it, then moouing gently your right hand rayne, lay the calue of your left leg close to his side, & with your rod on his left shoulder, make him come in on your right hand as your selfe would, and so likewise for your left hande use the like contrary meanes, which when you haue found by experience to preuaile, and that by this meanes and exercise, he will both pace and trot this King with good courage, (which you must chesely respect,) and that he will make his stop close and well, and at the motion of your hande retire, which in one wordethes practise (at the most) you may at ease perfoyme, then shall it be requisite you teach him to galloppe the same King in this sort.

First when you come into the feldes, as I haue befoze prescribed, gently pace him about your King, that he may thereby know about what hee goeth, then put him to hys trotte, and force him to trotte it with great life, still thynking

and trayning vp of Horses.

King him forward with your kete and body, till you make him gallop, then hauing gallopt a stroke or two, drawe in your hand, and make him but trotte againe: then hauing trotted awhile, make him gallop somewhat more then hee did befoze, and then trotte, and thus increase your gallop by little and little, as first a stroke or two, then halfe the King, then thre parts, and at length all the King rounde about, but by no meanes for a day or two let him galloppe your changes.

And note heere, that although I sette you downe this abrupt manner of beginning to gallop, yet neuertheless, in this as in the rest, you must obserue your thre times on a hand, as to pace once about, to trotte once, and gallop once, or to pace the one halfe of the King, trotte the other, gallop an other, and then pace againe, as your owne discretion shall moue you, till you finde in your Hourse (through thys maner of instruction) such a readines, that but mouing eyther your legge, body, rodde or voice, he will instantly take his galloppe: which being perceiued, as no doubt but you shall within thre or foure daies ryding, then may you take this order.

When you begin in the morning, first pace him thrice about your King on your right hand, and then changing doo as much on your left hand, then change againe, and trotte thrise on your right hand, and thrise on your left, then gallop thrise on your right hand, thrise on your left, and thrise on your right hand againe, then gallop straight forth, right forty yardes or more, and there, by drawing in your hande euen, firme, and at leysure, make him stoppe and stand still awhile, then put him backe two or thre paces, and let him stande still without mouing for a good space, neyther doe you your selfe eyther stirre your legges or bodie, but onely with your hand, voyce, and the bigge ende of your rodde, claue him and make much of him, thereby to encourage him in hys well doing: And after this sorte and manner (as I haue heere prescribed) would I haue you exercise, him

Of the breeding, ryding,

him for three weekes or a Moneth, if you finde him dull or untowarde.

Now, for that sundry obseruations are to be obserued in this lesson, I will so farre digresse from my purpose, as first to let you vnderstand them. Note therefore that in this lesson as in all other, you must haue an especiall regard that your Horse carry a gallant rayne, his head round and lofty, without eyther thrusting his nose out like a Pigge, or putting his head betwene his legges like a fearefull Beare, whelpe, which you shall not bring to passe by taling or pulling at his mouth, but by keeping his Partingale stricke, and by feeding his mouth with a gentle hand, & alwaies comes and goes with swete motions. Note that when you gallop him on your right hande, if hee eyther come not in so round as you would haue him, or if hee throwe his hinder parts out of the King, as many Horses will, that then you correct him, by beating him on the flanke on the left side, with the in side of your left legge, which if it preuaile not, then with your spurre strike him, and with your rod on his left buttock: which will in once or twice going about, make hym gladd to keepe his King: and so for the other hande, vse the like meane on the other side.

Note that when you make your changes on eyther hand, in which you draw your Horse into a straight compasse, that than you pull your bzidle raines moze straight then before: and putting the calues of your legges close to your Horse sides, you ierte them forwarde againe with a good strength, not ceasing but so to doe, till you come again into your large King, the effect whereof is this: the bringing of the calues of your legges to your Horses sides, will in his galloppe make him rayse vpper his fore-parts, and then the ierting of your legges forward, will so put on your Horse, that not staying, his hinder legges will followe his fore-legges in such comely sort, that as if hee were taught to beate an artificiall turne, euen with such nimblenesse, strength, and comely grace will he make his changes: and

by

and trayning vp of Horses.

and by this meane, when hee shall be taught to make his turnes, you shall finde him moze apt, ready, and a thousand times moze free from any manner of vice belonging to that lesson.

Therefore in this, vse great labour and diligence, especially in keeping iust time with your legge and hand, for if either your legge and hand goe so very fast, that the Horse cannot keepe time with you, or if your motions be so slow, that the Horse must stay for you, or if in stead of the value of your legge you giue the spurre, then be you assured, you doe not make but marre, for as the one doth help, the other doth correct: and the difference betwixt them, who cannot iudge.

Nevertheless, if the Horse be dull and stubberne, of which kind I most intreate, for in them is the depth of arte to be tryed, and that you finde the value of your legges will not quicken him, then it shall be needfull that you vse the even stroke of both your spurres, which hauing reuiued him, the vse the calues of your legges, and as oft as he wareth heauie and dull, so oft vse your spurres and rodde, and not otherwise in this lesson. Note that when you galloppe your Horse forth-right in the euen sorrowe to giue him his stop, that a little space before you stoppe him, you thrust him out with moze force and courage then before, that thereby in the stoppe he may couch his hinder loynes the closer, and make his stoppe moze firme and comely. Note that if in the stoppe he will not couch his hinder loynes, but will altogether trust to his fore-legges, which is both vn Timer and vncomely, that then you chuse such a peece of earth to ryde vpon, as your euen sorrowe may be descending downe the knole of some hil, where in the deepest descent, you may obserue alwaies to make your Horse stoppe, by which means you shall both make him to yeeld his hinder parts, and also if the ground where by chaunce you shall ride him, be loose and vncertaine, rather then he will ouer-shoot his ground, he will stop vpon his buttocks.

D

Note

Of the breeding, ryding,

Note that when you make your Horse goe backe, if he thrust his hinder parts out of the furrow and goe crookedlie, that then with the calue of your legge on that side which he swaructh on, you correct him, in which if he persist, then vse your rodde, yet but in gentle sort, and some times your spurre, and that but selddome.

After thus your Horse can pace, trotte, and gallop your King, and make his stoppe in good sort, which be well assured hee doth perfectly and readily, ere you offer him any newe lesson, it shall be necessarie that for a grace, and beautifying of what hee doth, that then you teach him to aduance befoze: which as it doth adorne, so doth it carrie great profite and commoditie, and therefore you may bring him vnto it in this manner. Ryde him into some beaten hie-way which is eyther grauell or sandie, and there trotte him forwarde a dozen yardes or there about; and then make him stoppe; and in the stopping, giue him the calues of both your legges euen together, and also your voyce, by letting your tongue parte sharplie from the roose of your mouth, together with the noyse of your rodde shaken in your hand: which at the first will peraduenture but moue in your horse a startling or amazement, but be you carelesse, and trotte him forwarde againe as farre as you did befoze, and there offer him the like stoppe, and the like motions, at which if he refuse to aduance, and offer to runne backe, then thrust him forward with your legs, and sollicite him till you make him take vp but one of his legs, which when you perceiue, immediatly cherrish him, and let him pause a space, then trotte him forwarde, and do as you did befoze, continuing this manner, till you finde your Horse vnderstandeth your meaning.

But what for want of vse and nimblenesse hee will not performe, or do it according to your minde, when this you finde, which you shall perceiue by his lifting vp of one leg, or by aduancing of both vpon compulsion or great correction, then shal you laboꝝ him in this lesson, alwaies correct-

ting

and trayning vp of Horses.

ting him when he is vntoward, and cherrishing him when he giueth any shew of likelihood to performe your will, till such time that you haue made him, that he will vpon a mouing of your leg to his side, aduance himselfe befoze, carrying his head in his true place, and taking his legs vpon euen together, in such sort as the true arte of horsemanshippe requires.

When thus hee will aduance, then shall you exercise him to stoppe vpon foot-pace, and to aduance withall, after that, vpon his trotte both slow and swift, to stoppe and aduance: and lastly, vpon his gallop to stop and aduance. Now for such notes and obseruations, as are to be obserued during the teaching of thys, I will heere sette down. First note that when you stoppe your Horse, and compell him to aduance; that you do not hang vpon his mouth, or presse it so sore, for that is the ready way to spoyle all, and make him runne away, but onely carry such a gentle firme hand, as may moze but stay him from pressing forward, nay let your hand be such, that hee may rather haue libertie to presse forward a pace or two, then by your extreame pulling of him, that he may haue his mouth dild: and by that meanes, not onely winne the head from you, but be as new to begin, as if he had neuer bene haultred.

Note, that if he chaunce (being at the first ignorant of your meaning,) to presse forward two or thre paces, that then you make him retire and goe backe, iust so much as he went forward, that thereby he may know hee did offende, and therefore after adread to do the like.

Note, that if in a dayes ryding or two, ne thre, you can not bring him to that perfection you woulde, that then you be not discouraged, but continue your labour, for those Horses that are the slowest of conceite, and hardest to vnderstande they, Ryders meaning, being once brought to know what they must do, are alwaies the surest holders, and ever after, the perfectest performers of any lesson, what soeuer.

Of the breeding, ryding,

Note, that if he eynther aduance too hie, or when you would not haue him, as the best mettald Hozles most commonly will doe, that then with a good cudgell you beate him vpon the fore-legges, or with the great ende of your rodde, betwene the eares correct him, and vndoubtedly he will reforme that abuse.

Note, that after he will aduance perfectly and in order, that then in euery stoppe when you make him aduance, that you make him do it twice, thrice, and sometimes foure times together, without intermission, and then to stande still, the profite whereof you shall find, when you come to teach your Hozle to do the Coruett capriole, and such like salts of pleasure, to which thys is the perfect path-way and guide.

Now for asmuch as I am in matters of seruite, I will follow that purpose, and heereafter come to things of pleasure. When your Hozle can absolutely well do all these lessons before mentioned, which by continuall trauell, vse, and exercise, you must bring him vnto, for in any case you must offer no newe lesson till the olde be most perfect, least by making a confusion in the Hozles sence, and for want of true conceite and vnderstanding, he be brought to do iust nothing, as many vnskillfull Hozlemen do at this day, who will striae to make their Hozles gallop their Ringes, stop, turne, aduance, goe backe, and all in one morning: neuer considering, that a Hozle is a beast, whose capacity can conceiue no more then a beast, which absurdity I with the wisest sort to eschew.

Having therefore as I said, your Hozle perfect in these lessons, especially that he will gallop the King before specified, which King in effect, containeth all other Ringes vled by our English Ryders: yet neuerthelesse, I woulde haue you practise your Hozle in one other King more, which albeit as touching the making of a Hozle ready and perfect, it hath no more vertue then the former, and that what Hozle soeuer can gallop the first, must of force consequently with

more

and trayning vp of Horses.

more ease gallop this, yet for because this in service is in daily and hourely vse, as well in charging and annoyng the Enemye, as in safe-garding the Riders person from shotte, or such like mischiefes, I will heere set it downe as a lesson as needfull as any other whatsoeuer, learning it by the tytle of gallopping the feldes, the figure whereof is this.



The manner of bringing your Hozle to do thys lesson, is thus, first marke out vpon your right hande in a fayre fote-pace, a King of a reasonable life, being about a three yardes ouer euery way, then another on your left hand toyning to the former, and so making your Ringes still forwarde, make a third on your right hand againe, which done, put your Hozle into his galloppe, and as you did pace the Ringes, so let him gallop them backe againe: and then putting him straight forwarde twentie or forty yardes, make your stop and aduancement, thus would I haue you exercise morning when you bring your Hozle forth, to teach him.

After you haue trotted and gallopt your King first of all mentioned, finding him of sufficient strength and abilitie, after some little rest and ease, let him galloppe these latter Ringes, which I term gallopping the feldes. And note that for any certaine number of turnes in this lesson, or any other certaintie what soeuer (saue the carrying of his head, which must alwaies keepe his true place in all lessons,) there is none to be respected, but all to be refered to the Ryders

Of the breeding, ryding,

ders discretion. Therefore the Rider must haue a great regard, that in this lesson hee put not the Horse beyonde his strength, or force him to gallop, longer then he shall find the Horse of himselfe willing to presse forward: for if he be over-toyld, and brought to a wearines and sloth, he will not onely learne to proue restie, but also being young and tender, put forth splints, spauens, ring-bones, and such lyke foule diseases to bring him to lamenes.

Note that for any vice incident to this lesson, (if the Rider haue him perfect in the former,) there is none, because in effect, these things and the former thing is all one, saue that these be in a larger manner, which is more easie: and in the first, is a certaine order and method to be used, and in these none, but onely a confusion, yet a care of true tyme keeping. Note, that when your Horse can perfectly wel gallop the fildes, that then you shall not neede to exercise him in it about once in a weeke.

Now hauing thus farre continued my purpose, I will consequently forward to the other lessons, in which there is more arte, and greater curiositie. And first of all, hauing your Horse perfect in these lessons before prescribed, you shall then teach him to turne readily on both hands, and for that there be sundry manner of turnes, as some strait, some large, some close, some losse, I will shew you howe to bring your Horse to doe them all perfectly. First therefore, you shall teach your Horse to make that turne which we learne (not hauing any apt English word) incauallare, to lappe one thing ouer another.

This kinde of turne, is the ground of all other turnes, and by it, the rest are attained to with more ease: this manner of turne, is to keepe your Horses hinder parts firme in a place, and make him come about with his fore-partes, lapping his outmost fore-legge ouer his inmost as hee turneth, in this sort. Trotte your Horse straight: downe some even furrow, and there stoppe him, and stande still awhile, then drawing vp your bridle rayne somewhat firme, yeele

your

and traying vp of Horses.

your bridle hand a litte, but so little as may be, towarde your right side, then with the calue of your legge on his left side, and your rddde on his left shoulder, make him (so standing,) without any larger compasse, to turne his fore-partes that way which his hinder parts were, which if he doe willingly, cherrish him: and then making that halfe circle a complete round ene, sette him as hee stood before. Thus as you did on your right hande, doe so likewise on your left, using the like helpes with your right legge, and your rddde on his right shoulder, then cherrish him, and so doinge the like on your right hand againe, that you may ende where you begunne, light from his backe, and glue him a handfull of grasse if there be any nere you.

So walking him vp and downe a while for his ease, you may take his backe againe, and doe as you did before, increasing still his turnes, as you see him increase in perfectnesse and willingnes, till such time as you haue him so readie, as vpon the motion of your legge and hand, he will flie about so swiftly & so oft, as you shall eyther offer or desire. Now for obseruations and notes in this lesson, these be they: first you shall vnderstande when you offer him this lesson, if he refuse vpon the mouing of your legge and hand to turne, and will couet to reare, or doe such like disorderly acts, that then vpon the first proffer of such disorder, you doe but slacke the raynes of your bridle, and with your hande vppon his crest keepe him downe, offering him againe to turne, which if neuer thelesse hee will not, then drawe the right side raine somewhat straiter, then the left, yet in any case, not so much that his head may goe a bayze breadth before his body, but moue altogether, at which if he make any stick, the with your rdd on his left shoulder, giue him a good iert that may make him stir, and doubt not but he will then turne, which when he offers, immediatly followe him with your hand and leg til he haue gone halfe about, where you may then pause to cherrish him. Note furthermoze, that if hee refuse to moue his fore-partes and offer to come about

Of the breeding, ryding,

about with his hinder, that then you mete his hinder parts so mouing, with your rodde, and vpon his buttocke correct him, making him keepe his hinder parts firme and fast: if your rodde be not a correction sufficient, then may you vse sometimes your spurre in his flanke, both which, if you finde preuaile not, then must you cause him to pace out a little narrow ring, not aboue a yarde, or a yard and a halfe ouer-thwart, which you must make him treade one while on one hand, another while on another, sometimes by the space of a quarter of an houre, sometimes moze: and lette him do it continually on his foote-pace, and not on his trot. Whys shall bring him to great lightnes on his foze-parts, and make him repose such trust to his hinder, that you shall bring him vnto the incauallare, as your selfe would wish or desire.

Note that if he do it willingly on the right hand, and not without compulsion on the left, that then you alwaies beginne and end on your left hand, as you did before on your right. Note that when you turne him on your right hand, if he do not bring his left legge ouer his right, but bringes it sometimes short, sometimes vnder, and so forth. Ilfaunredly, that for such offence you vse no other correction but still to labour him the moze in this lesson: for by such laboꝝ he shall come to vnderstand his faulte, and by the knocking of one of his legges vpon another, correct himselfe enough so that vice.

Note that the moze hee lappeth his outmost legge ouer his inmost, the better and moze comely shall his turne be. Note that the moze you follow him in his turne with your hand and legge, the further you compell him to lap his legs one ouer another. When therefore your Horse can set this close turne vpon the ground, both swiftly and in perfection, then shall you procede to teach him beate a large ring turne softly, which at this day amongst our English Horsemen is most in vse, and it is to be done in this manner following.

¶

and trayning vp of Horses.

You must pace out a little narrow Ring, some 4. yardes or thereabouts in compasse, and vse to walke your Horse in the same, vntill such time that you perceiue him so readie, that he will pace it willingly, carrying his head and bodie both firme together, not offering to stie out, or vse any disorderly motion: which when you find, then shall you as you walke him about the Ring, on your right hande, with your voyce and calue of your left legge, and with drawing your bzidle rayne a little moze firme, cause him to aduance, which so soone as he doth, immediately by the thrusting of both your legs forward againe, make him pace forward as he did before, and in his pacing cherrish him, that hee may vnderstand he did your will: then hauing so paced awhile, make him aduance againe, & doe in all thinges as you dyd before. Thus may you do this or 4. times on your right hand, and then make the like Ring on your left hande, and with the helpe of your right leg, do in this as in the other, not forgetting to make your ending on your right hand, as you did in other lessons. But by the way note this, that in any case you do not end vpon your aduancement, but vpon his pace or trotte, for if you doe, you shall bring him to a restie qualitie, that vpon his aduancement he will stand still, whether you will or no. When he will therefore pace this Ring, and with the helpe of your legge, aduance and goe forward, then shall you as soone as he hath aduanced and gone a steppe forward, make him aduance againe, and so pace the Ring about, and do the like at your second going about, which if he do in good order, you shall then cherrish him, but not stand still, for in this lesson, horses wil couet to stand & be slothful. When this is perfect, then make him aduance, and goe a step or two forward, this or foure times together, increasing this lesson still by degrees, till through your daily laboꝝ & vse, you bring your horse to that perfection, that as you touch your leg to his side, so wil he aduance, and as you thrust forward your legges, so will he follow with his hynder legges euen together, beating the Ring

¶

with

Of the breeding, ryding,

with such aduancements round about, both so oft, so large and so strait as your selfe wil, still keeping that tyme with his legges and body, that you doo with your legs and hand. And this knowe, that the chiefeſt arte and grace in horſe manſhip, is true tyme keeping.

Note that in this leſſon, if the Ryder be diſcrete, and will take time and leysure with his Horſe, there will happen no vice, vnleſſe it be ſuch as are befoze ſpecified in the former leſſons, together with corrections due to the ſame. But if the Ryder be an vnkilfull man, which will force his Horſe to doe that in a day, which ſhoulde aſke a fortnights labour, then be you ſure there will happen moze miſchiefes in this one leſſon, then in all the other mentioned befoze, as reſtiueſſe, running away, wything his heade awy, checking at the bzidle, and ſuch like: the leaſt of which will aſke a Monethes worke to reclaine them. And ſith they come rather thzough the vnkilfulnes of the man, then eyther the vnſowardneſſe or badde diſpoſition of the beaſt, I will heere omit them, meaning to treate thereof in another place.

Note that this turne, of all other turnes is moſt beautiful, moſt gallant, and moſt aſſured and ſtrong, both ſo man & Horſe, it is moſt in uſe in ſeruiſe, eſpecially in that manner of fight, which our Engliſhe ſouldiers learne fighting at the crope. Note, that if in thys turne you finde your Horſe at any time lothfull, or that he wil leaue befoze you would haue him, that ſo ſuch offence, you ſhale the even ſtroke of both your ſpurs, and a litle to checke him in the mouth with your bzidle hand, which is a preſent helpe: yet would I not haue you vſe it oft, but at ſome ſpeciall tymes, when other corrections faile.

Here could I ſpende a great deale of waſt paper, and moze idle time, in telling you of ſundry other turnes, and in diſtinguiſhing of halfe turnes from whole turnes, & whole turnes from double turnes: here could I ſpeake of y^e turne which Giſon calleth Volta raddoppiata, alſo of that which

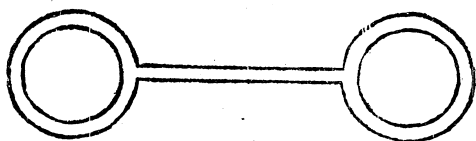
and trayning vp of Horſes.

he calleth Lacrambetta, and our Engliſh Riders Chamberla, and when I haue done, conclude of nothing els but that which I haue befoze ſette downe, ſo why all cometh but to that end and perfection. Wherefoze ſith they be ſo needleſſe, I will let them paſſe, and come to thoſe other leſſons which are fit ſo a Horſe to learne, and are founde moſt neceſſary in ſeruiſe.

Hauiug your Horſe perfect in what is befoze expreſſed, you ſhall then teach him to manage truly, iuſt and well: I neede not here to interprete vnto you, the ſignification of this worde manage, neither howe needfull a leſſon it is in ſeruiſe, becauſe both are ſufficiently done, in another moze abſolute Autho^r. Of manages there be thze kindes, manage with halfe reſt, manage with whole reſt, manage without reſt: ſo the two former kindes of manages, I find no reaſon why a man ſhould beſtow any particuler labour to traue his Horſe onely vnto them, ſith they be of no ſuch uſe as the laſt is, neither do they carry the like grace that it doth. And ſo mine olde part, ſith I vſe them but as introductions or guides to the latter, and ſith euery Horſe that can manage without reſt, can manage eyther wyth halfe reſt or whole reſt, I will here conclude them all thzee in one, vnder the tytle of managing without reſt.

To make your Horſe therefore to manage perfectly and well, you ſhall take thys order: beeing come into ſome grauelled hie way, of breadth ſufficient ſo a large Ring, and long enough ſo a managing courſe, you ſhall firſt on your right hande pace out a Ring, containing the circuite of ten or twelue yardes compaſſe: hauiug markt that out ſo as you may ſufficiently diſcerne it, pace then your Horſe ſtraight ſo ward, ſome fortye or fiftie yardes, and there on your left hande, marke out another Ring of lyke compaſſe to the firſt, according to the manner and order of thys figure following.

Of the breeding, ryding,



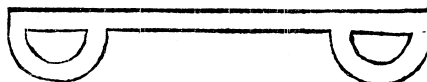
Thys done, put your Horse into his trot, and make him trot downe your euen furrow to your first King, at which when he comes, make him stop & aduance, and then immediately vpon his aduance, thrust him forward, & make him trot about your right hand King, then trot downe the furrow to your left King, at which when you come, first stop and aduance, and then trot about the King, and so backe againe, not suffering your Horse by any meane to stande or stick vpon his aduancement, but presently to goe forward withall.

In this sorte exercise your Horse two or thre dayes, after which time, I woulde haue you when your horse hath trotted your King about, to put him into a gentle galloppe, and to gallop downe the straight furrow to the other King, where, vpon your gallop make him stop and aduance, and then trot the other King about, and so gallop backe againe, stopping, aduancing, and trotting about the King. After he will doe this perfectly, you shall then make him, hauing gallopt downe the furrow and made his stop and aduancement, to gallop the Kinges also, in which I woulde haue you exercise him a weeke at the least.

Thys weekes exercise, will bring your Horse to such perfectnes, that he will doe all this of himselfe, without any helpe of his Rider: that beeing perceived by you, you may then safely aduenture to bring those your Kinges into a more strait and narrowe compasse, according to the forme of thys figure following.

Euery

and trayning vp of Horses.



Euery day making them lesse and lesse, till such time that you bring it into so small a ring, that as sone as you haue stoppt, (which stop must not be perceived by the standers by) you immediately ease your hand again, and putting him forward with your legs, turne him roundly as it were in the Incauallare, saue that this must be done more loftily, and so hauing made this turne on your right hand, gallop backe to your left ring, and do the like on your left hand, continuing these turnes, no longer then you shall find your Horse to do it with a good grace and courage. This kinde of manage, is of all lessons in horsemanship most needful and artificiall, for in it, your Horse must stop, aduance and turne, all in one instant.

Note, that in this lesson about all other, your Horse must vse the least disorder with his head or body, but in it keepe his rayne most perfect and gallant: therefore during the tyme that your Horse doth manage, be sure to carry a more strong and sure hand then in any other lesson. Note that in managing you must keepe as iust time in your gallop as in your turne, and that the time you keepe in each, be all one. Note that as in your turne you draw vp your bziidle hande, to make your horse stop, and ease it again to make him goe forward in his turne, so in his galloppe you must drawe vp your hand, to keepe his head in his true place, and also ease it again to sweeten his mouth, and make him to ryde with more pleasure, whereas if you holde your hande a waies in one stay, you wil not onely dull and make dead his mouth, but also make him ride vnpleasantly, and when you offer to stop him, make proffer to brake away with you. Note that in this lesson, you carry your body straight & byright, your legges in their true place, your rodde as it were your

Of the breeding, ryding,

swob, on the right side of your heade, and be carefull that you vse no vncomly motion, for any vnseemlynesse in the man, is a disgrace to the Horses doing.

When your Horse can make this manage, you may then if you please, make him manage in a larger sort, which is very comely, in this manner. Pace out a King of five or six yarges compasse on your right hande, and then pacing downe the furrow as is before saide, marke out another on your left hand of the same compasse, then put your Horse into a gentle galloppe, and being come to your right hande King, there making a slight kind of stop and aduancement, force your Horse to beate the King about, in such sort as I shewd you before, where I tell you how to make your horse to beate a large turne loftily: helping him with the talues of your legs, your hande and your rodde, then gallopping downe to your left King, doe the like there. This kinde of manage, though it be some what more painefull then the other, yet if the Horse be of mettall that doth it, it carrieth such a good grace, that to the standers by which shall behold it, it will be wonderful pleasing.

Nowe when this is perfected, it resteth that you teache your Horse to passe a swift and strong carriere, which you shall doe in this manner. Weeing come into some grauelld hie way, the length of a good carriere, which shoulde be measured according to the disposition of the Horse, yet sith it shall not be amisse to sette downe some certaintie, I thinke sixe scoze yarges a very fitte carriere, as well for the heauie slugge Horse, as also for the puissant and fine mettald beast: for as the one may runne it without wearines, so the other may shew in it his puissaunce and swiftnes. Weeing come (as I said) into such a place, first pace your Horse twice or thrice about a small King, and then trotte him forward sixe scoze yarges, at the ende whereof pace another King: and then letting your Horses heade straight downe the way hee came, make him stand still a good space, during which time, loke that his body stand straight and firme, which whē you haue

and trayning vp of Horses.

haue found it doth, then giuing him your bzidle hande, bending your body a little forward, and thrusting out both your legges with a good strength, force him suddainly with a good courage, to enter into a swift gallop, which with the even stroke of your spurres, enclose, till hee be at the verie uttermost speede hee can runne, in which continue him, till he come to your first King, where, by drawing vpp your hand hard and firme, make him stoppe vpon his buttockes, and then with the helpe of your legges, make him aduance twice or thrice: then trotte him about the King, and stande still a good space, cherishing him, and no more.

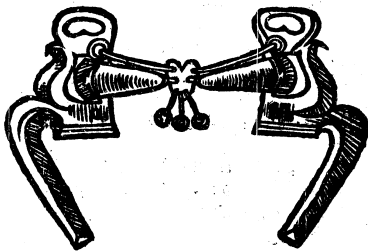
Note that when you starte your carriere, to make your Horse doe it with greater life and courage, you may vse the helpe of your voyce, by crying how, or hey very loud. Note that when you starte your carriere, it is not good to spurre your Horse, for feare you make him parke out behinde, plunge, or vse other disorder, which such violent corrections done suddainly, will bring a Horse vnto. Note that the carriere would not be past aboute once in a fortnight at y most, nor so oft neither, if your Horse bee not come to his full growth.

Thus much haue I thought good to write as touching the instructing of Horses to matters of seruice, for more the I haue before sette downe, is needlesse in seruice, and if hee doe any thing lesse, hee is not fitte to serue vpon. Where I could trouble you with a long discourse of other Kings and other maneges, as namely the Caragolo, the manage resembled to the letter S. or that called Serpeggiare, with diuers others: yet sith there is no Horse, but if hee be perfect in what is before writtē, must of force doe the at his pleasure, because there is no alteration of arte, but only change of forme, I meane here therefore to omitte them, wishing those that are desirous to vnderstande them, to looke into Spatter Claudio Corte his workes, a man pærelesse in the arte of horsemanshippe, who of those matters hath writtē absolutely.

And

Of the breeding, ryding,

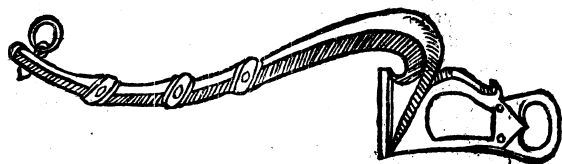
And now to pursue my former purpose, having your Horse ready in all these lessons belonging to service, that he will doe them upon his Trench, and martingale in perfection, carrying hys heade round, comely, and in good forme, you shall then bitte him, in this manner. Marke when he standeth in his pride, and carrieth his head in the most gallantest fashion, and then measure him from the neather lyp, to the fore-point of his shoulder, which is equall with the height of his breast, and take a plaine smooth Wyte, with a flying trench, whose cheekes may bee of the same length, after the manner of thys figure following, and put it in his mouth.



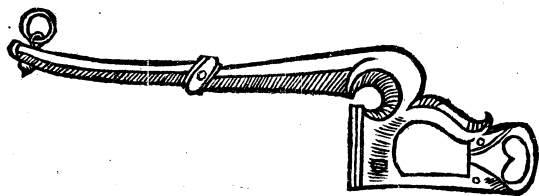
Yet by the way note, that according as your Horse is of fashion, so must the cheekes of your Wyte carry his proportion: if your Horse be in shape grosse, that is, short-necked, thicke chauld, and harde mouthed, you shall then haue the cheekes of your Wyte, made vpon thre degrees, according to thys figure following.

But

and trayning vp of Horses.



But if he be of fine shape, as long necked, wide chauld, and gentle mouthed, then shall the cheekes of your Wyte be made but vpon one degree, according to the manner of thys figure following.



The difference and nature of these two cheekes is this, the first, which standeth vpon thre degrees, bringeth in the mufell of the Horse, and maketh him perforce rayne well, that otherwise would thrust out his nose illfaouredly: the reason whereof is, because it carrieth a greater compasse then any other Wyte, inso much that a Horse cannot rest vpon it vnlesse hee drawe in the nether parte of his heade: whereas the second that standeth but vpon one degree, keepeth

Of the breeding ryding,

perth a Horses head upright and aloft, neither doth it suffer him to thrust out his nose, but correcteth him if at any time he couet to put his head downeward.

A Horse that is short neckt and narrow chaulde, reason telleth you cannot couch his head in so good a place, as he that hath a long necke and a wide chaulde: because alwaies in a good rayne, he must hide his thopell or weison within his chaulde: therefore if you shall sette him vpon a byt, that doth not carry great compasse in the cheeke, as of thre degrees at the least, you shall neuer place his head well, because the straight cheeke wil keepe vp his necke, and thrust out his nose, and he should haue his necke forced to yeelde, and his nose kept in.

So on the contrary sort, if to a Horse of large long foze-hand, you put a Bytte of much compasse, you then bring downe his necke and put out his nose, by reason of the compasse of the cheeke, which he cannot chuse but follow, whereas he should haue his necke kept by straight and stifte, and onely his head brought downe to answer it. Therefore as I said, byt your Horse according to his proportion. It shall be good that for a day or two, you let him stand vpon his bit in the stable, to play & feele the byt, then after, for other two or thre dayes, you shall in your hand trot him abroad, making his Byt somewhat strait, and rayning him so as he may haue a good feeling both of the Bytte and Bytbe. After this, you shall take his backe, and being well seated and hauing pausd awhile, take by your Bytte raynes into your left hande, and holde them in this manner: Put your little finger and your ring finger, betwene the two raynes, and lay your thombe iust vpon the raynes, opposite to your foze-finger and great finger, the bawone of your thombe being turned towarde your saddle pomell: then take the left rayne of your flying trenche, & lay it vnder your thomb, carrying it somewhat moze straiter then your bitte rayne. Then in your right hand in which you carry your rod, carrie the right rayne of your flying trenche. In this manner

pace

and trayning vp of Horses.

pace forth your Horse, bearing him most what vpon your flying trenche for thre or foure daies, offering little or no labour, vntill he be trotting forthwarde, or pacing and trotting the Kings, and stopping, all which you must put him vnto in gentle manner, for feare of dissembling his head. And as you finde him frame himselfe to his Bytte, so by little and little, let him feele it euery day moze then other, till such time that you finde he both vnderstandeth the bytte, and hath his head well staied thereon.

Then may you euery day exercise him in all the foresaide lessons, with all those helpes and corrections before mentioned, till you haue him in that perfection, that without any other helpe save the offer of your hand, he will do what you shall require.

Note, that the true place where the Bytte should lye in the Horses mouth, is about the tuske of his nether chappe: as for any other quillet or stratageme in horsemanshippe, which the curious are desirous to vnderstand, I refer them to Maister Blundeuils booke, which will instruct them sufficiently.

Nowe, to come to those lessons which though they be needlesse in seruice, yet shewe they great arte in the Ryder, together with much strength, courage, and nimblenesse in the Horse, and those I tearme lessons of pleasure, because they be moze pleasing to the eye, then necessary for any vse, and first of all to make your Horse bounde aloft, you shall thus instruct him. Having him well staied vpon his Bytte, that he is both certaine of head and mouth, you shall trotte him forth into some euen sandie way, and hauing trotted him a dozen yardes, you shall stoppe him, and vpon his first or second aduancement, giue him the euen stroke of your spurs, at which if he will not bound, strike him againe the second time, if that preuaile not, then trotte him forthwarde againe, and do as you did before, continuing this manner of labour, till hee leape with all his foure legges from the ground, which so soone as he doth, immediatly make much

ff 2

of

Of the breeding, ryding,

of him, and vpon his first bound, let him be sette vp in the stable, that he may thereby be encouraged the next tyme, and the better vnderstande what your will is. When haue him out the second day, and do as you did the first, and increase his leapes as you see him increase in vnderstanding, till he be so perfect, that vpon the offer of your spurres, hee will ryse on all foure.

Note, that if he rise not so hie with his hinder partes as with his fore partes, that then you accompany with the euen stroke of your spurres, a good lash with your rodde vnder his belly, and nere vnto his sheathe or yard. Note that if in bounding he do not keepe his ground, but presseth forward, and doth not fall where he riseth, that then so much as he presseth forward, so much you make him retire back, by beating him vpon his fore knees, and then beeing in the former place, make him bound againe.

Note that when your Horse will bound aloft lustily and well, you shall make vse of it thus. When you gallop your Horse before any assembly, as sone as you haue made your stoppe and aduanced, if then for a close you make hym bound, it will be very comely. Also in your manage, if you make your turne onely with boundes, it will be very seemly. When you beate a large turne, if for a close or ending, you make your Horse bounde on all foure, nothing can be more seemly, and then to stande still, thus much for bounding.

Now for the Coruett, you shall doe it thus: Ryde your Horse downe some descending grounde, and hauing trotted two or thre yardes, stoppe him, and make him aduance twice or thre together: then put him forward halfe so far as before, and there make him aduance thre or foure times together. In this manner make him goe a steppe or two and aduance, till of himselfe he will rayse his hinder parts, and in steede of going forward, stande aduancing both behind and before of an equall height. When hee will do this well, then may you vpon his third aduancement,

giue

and trayning vp of Horses.

giue him the euen stroke of your spurres, to make hym bounde aloft, which manner of salte, our English Ryders tearme the Gallop galiard.

Another manner of leape there is, which we call the Capriole, or Coates leape, it differeth nothing at all from the Coruett, but that your Horse in it must presse more forward then in the Coruett, and raise his hinder parts a great deale higher. Therefore you shall teach your Horse to do it, as you taught him the Coruett, adding thereunto this one helpe more, that is, to turne your rodde in your hand, so as the poynt thereof, may be iust ouer the midst of your Horses buttocks, then sette your hand fast to your side, and almaiues vpon his aduance, as you put him forward with your legges, so hit him vpon the buttocks with your rodde, which will force him to raise his hinder parts, obseruing to keepe that time with your rodde, that you keepe with your hande and legges. And thus for the making of a Horse for seruice or pleasure, I haue shewed both my practise and experience.

CHAP. 3.

Howe to chuse a Horse for Hunting, howe to trayne hym there-vnto: and also howe to dyet him, hauing made some great march or wager.



As hether to I haue shewed my experience in the training, and bringing to perfection great Horses, mete either for seruice in warres, or the pleasures of great Princes, so heere I will declare, (since not any els hath undertaken the like Treatise) my knowledge in the dyeting and ordering of those Horses, which we tearme Hunting Horses, because the pleasure wee enioy by the, is in the following of Houndes: an arte euery way equall with the former,

Of the breeding, ryding,

mer, and as necessary in some kind of seruices in the warre, (especially vpon desperate employes to be done suddainly, or vpon occurrents or discoveries, or any other kind of seruice, wherein eyther the toughnes, or swiftnes of a Horse is to be tryed,) as the former. Yet sith the former hath been alwaies of hyer price, and moze searcht into, and sith what Horse soeuer is perfect vpon his bit, and can wel perfoyme all those lessons mencioned in the former Chapter, must of force be perfect vpon his snaffle, and if his paiser so please, be after made a Hunting-horse: where contrariwise, if a Horse be from his beginning traynd to a continuall loose kind of gallop, as Hunting-horses are, he will aske great labour and arte to be sette vpon a Witte, & made proud and gallant.

I will therfore, not make them two artes, but one, making this latter, an appende to the former, concluding him (in my foolish iudgement) not an absolute hoxsman, which hath not vnderstanding in them both: for if he haue arte to make his Horse proude of gate and countenance, and so nimble, light, and deliuer, that with his round turnes and quaint saltes, he amazeth the ignozant beholders, yet wanteth arte so to dyet him, that he neede not feare either melting his greafe, breaking his winde, or soundzing hym, all which are done instantly if he be vncleane, without any shew of extremitie, what auaileth his former skill? And if he haue arte so to diet his Horse, that if he be ridden whilst he is able to sette one fote before another, if he haue all the greafe molten within his body, if hee be in that extremitie, that some suppose he cannot possibly liue an houre, yet twithin two or thre houres after, be so fresh and couragious, as if he had neuer bene labourd, if he haue this arte, I say, yet want arte, to make his Horse haue either faire countenance, comely gate, or any agilitie or nimbles with his bobie: inso much, that the most honozable & puissant beast in the world, is made to spoile like the most dulle & vnserviceable creature, what auaileth his arte in dyeting.

Some

and trayning vp of Horses.

Some will say (yet but the ignozant) that the trayning and dyeting of these which I tearme Hunting-horses, is the onely marring and spoile of good Horses: fie, say they, thes extreame chasling and ryding of them, makes them lame and vnsounde, and this curious dyeting them, makes them so tender, neshe, and sickely, that they be good for nothing. I immitating here in a Philosopher, who seeing a Gentleman extreamely troubled with the Loofth-ach, caused all his owne teeth to be drawne out, for feare in after time he shoulde feele the like payne, saying all men were subiect to that diseale: so they, hauing seene some one lame olde hunting Horse, presently conclude all are subiect to the like infirmity, therefore not necessarie any should hunt.

For myne owne part, extreame ryding I as much disallowe as any man: yet in great wagers, where the horses value is farre exceded, I see no reason but (for tryall) they may well be put to extremitie, and if they be well dyeted and cunningly ridden, not one hayze worse afterward, although I wishe such extremitie, shoulde be as much for, borne as may be. For this slander of lamenesse raisd vpon Hunting-horses, I thus confute it, that there be some, and many Hunting-horses lame I not deny, yet for euerie such one lame Horse, I will finde twenty moze lame, that neuer knew what hunting meant, so that Hunting-horses be not onely lame.

Again, it is well knowne, especially to those that haue skill, that Hunting-horses are neuer lamed through theyr immoderate ryding or labour, if they haue a good keeper: but now and then through greedines of sport, and ouer hastines when they ouer-reach and fall, they many tymes chaunce vpon a straine, by which they halte a little, or otherwise in a leape or steepe, may happen mischiese, which is very seldome, or rarely seene. Where, on the contrarie part, who is so simple that hee knoweth not, if a Horse be kept in the stable and want exercise, his hounes wil stratten, his sinewes byp wypp, and he proue lame incurable: who knoweth

Of the breeding, ryding,

knoweth not that trauailing in the hie way, will beate a Horse, make him put out windgalles, and lame him certainly. What trauailing Horse is he that wil not stumble, and if he stumble, he may fall, and if he fall, why not consequently proue lame as well as a hunting Horse?

Your great Horses which are for seruice, whom to traine & bring to perfection, euery one almost of any gentlemanly disposition, will endeavour himselfe vnto: Why those I say are as subiect to lamenes as any Hunting-horse whatsoever, for there is neuer a turne you sette, if it be artificiall, but it straines your Horses backe & hinder loynes, as much as a Hunting-horse straineth himselfe in running ouer a furlong of the deepest earth. With then all Horses are as subiect to infirmities as Hunting-horses, why not then the Hunting-horse as tollerable as any other Horse.

Now for this vnworthie blame they impute to the dyeting of Horses, you shall see howe grosse they ignoraunce makes them coniecture, first they shall see in the sequel, that there is no meate, drinke, or any other thing whatsoever, appoynted for a Hunting-horse, but it shall by good & sufficient reasons, be proued most excellent, and most healthful for the Horse, then consequently it must be tollerable. Some will say this dyeting is but newly come vp, and that men, whose nature is to be greedy of nouelties, being new-fangled, are inamoored with this vaine toy. Their forefathers neuer knewe what the dyeting of Hunting-horses meant, yet they had good Horses. As though former blindness shold banish ensuing knowledge. For because Adam and Eue, (who were the Parents of all Parents) were naked (saue for figge leaues,) therefore we should refuse to weare clothing: this were wonderfull absurd. There is no arte, but the more a man vnderstandeth into it, the more substantiall and intricate he shall finde it, and be forced to cry with Aristotle, *ὁ ἐν ἐπιστήμῃ μισέρει μεν*, the depth and end of arte is vnsearchable.

Now that all men may be the more willing to endeavour them,

and trayning vp of Horses.

themselves to haue insight in this arte of dyeting, behold what profit insueth thereby. First, there is no disease nor infirmity in a Horse, especially within his heade or bodie, which be secrete and vnseene, and therefore most dangerous and mortall, but a man skilfull in this arte shall both discern it before it come to extremitie, and also recure it.

Thys maketh a Horse long winded, tough, harde, and stout, insomuch that a poyse Page of sixe or seauen pound price, well trayned and dyeted, will not onely tye, but also kill outright, a Courser worth a hundred pound, if he be fat and soule fedde: whereas if such a Courser were in good diet, he would tye twenty such Pages. Some peradventure will allotue of dyeting, but dislike the sport of hunting, for looke what contrarieties are in mens faces, the like may be in the Horses fancies: therefore I say it is not necessary, that Hunting-horses onely be dyeted, but other Horses as well: yet must they haue extraordinary ryding, because in dyeting, exercise is as needfull as meate. But for such as neuer loue hunting, nor haue occasion to ride further then from market to market, they may sette the Horse to a bottle of hay, and giue him pease pulse. The reason why men vse the dyeted Horses to the hunting of the Hare, is because it is a swift chase, and a continuing sport: yet not without some stoppes and staies, in which a horse may take winde, and reuiue himselfe againe, which those from whom I learne mine experience, learne defaultes in the dogges, and sobbes for their Horse.

Moreover, the cry of the dogges, is as pleasant to the horse as the man, and addeth to him both a courage to run, and a willingness to continue his labour: whereas to gallop a Horse vp and downe the feldes after nothing, makes him weary of his labour, and willing to giue ouer ere hee haue in a manner done any thing. Thus much in defence of this arte which the ignorant condemne, and notue to my purpose.

When you make choise of a horse to trayne to hunting,

Of the breeding, ryding,

as nere as you can, let him haue these properties, shapen, and vertues. first for his inward part, which is his mind, disposition, and mettall, let him be of nature gentle, louing, and familiar to the man. Let him not be disposed to dogged fullennesse, to strike or to byte: let him be of quick & lively mettall, but not hote nor drie, for they be neuer good, then for his outward shapen, thus if it may. Of colloures these be the best, Bayne dapple bayes, Bright bayes, Dapple grays, or White lyards, or blackes, so hee haue eyther white rache, white starre, or white fote. His head if it be somewhat bigge, but not monstrous, so the chaule be thinne and wide, it is the better. A small pyck eare, or if it be long and stand vpright like a fore, it is a good token of mettall and toughnes.

His fore-head woulde be broade, hating as it were a resting bunche in the midst like a spere: for to be playne smooth faced, which we tearme spere-faced, is illfaoured, and a signe of no induring spirite. His eye woulde be large and bright: his nostrilles very wide, for that is a token of long winde. If hee be bearded all vnder his chappes like a Goate, it is passing good, for that is a signe of great swiftnes and goodness. In generall, all his head woulde be leane, for if it be full and fat, doubtles the horse is dull and vnspizy. His thropell or wind-pipe, woulde be big to a mans feeling, and straight to his eye, for if when he raineth, it haue a bent like a bow, which we cal Cock-thropell, it is very ill, and a signe of great straitnes of wind. For his lymes in generall, they woulde be big, cleane, flat, straight, and very thoste betwixt ioynt and ioynt, especially betwixt the pasterne & the hofe, for if he be long in that part, he must of force be weak there, and if he be weake footed, he cannot possibly endure any wette earth, yet some that be a little sickle hoght, proue very good. His body woulde be round and large, and his ribs wold stand a litle outward. In briebe, the longer your horse is from the eare to the sterne of his taile, the better it is, so that his chiefest length consist not in his chine, but in his

hinder

and trayning vp of Horses.

hinder toynes, depth of fore-hand, and length of necke: for other wise, to be long backed, is a signe of weaknes.

When you haue gotten a Horse as nere as you can to these shapen, looke that before you trayne him to hunting, he be at the least pass foure yeeres old, and going on his feet, and that he be well wayd, and lightly trauaild. This done, you shall thus trayne and dyet him: Having taken him first graffe at Bartholmeu tide or there abouts, (for then the pride and strength of graffe is gone, and the flesh they get after, is but vnfound and naught, being excreding fatte, as a Horse that is sound must needes be hauing vnto a Sommer,) take him and sette him vp in your stable, which stable must be made close and darke, yet with such windholes and lights, as at your pleasure you may let in y fresh ayre, and make it so coole and warme as you please: the reason why it should be close and darke, is, that when your Horse hath endured a dayes labour or hunting, being set in a close stable, as soone as he hath filld his belly, he will lye downe and take his rest, as well on the day as night, which is as wholesome as any meate he can eate: where if the stable be open and lightsome, vnlesse he be an olde beaten horse, hee will not lye downe.

Let the plaunchers of your stable, be layde euen and leuell, not as many do, hyer before then behind, which maketh that your Horses can neuer stand at ease, but resting altogether vpon theyr hinder legges, prouoe often lame behind. Hereafter can they lye but at much payne, which causeth them seldome to take rest. Let the ground & your plaunchers be of an equall height, that if your horse at any tyme goe backward off your plaunchers, yet that he may stand equally both before and behind. Let your spaunger be made close, with bozdes onely, and not ligned within with eyther lyme or plaister, for the smell of lyme is suffocating and vnholsome, and plaister will yeeld great stoz of dust, which is more vnhealthfull. Let there be no mudde wall within your stable, y your Horse may reach vnto with his mouth,

1591

62

for

Of the breeding, ryding,

for by nature they will couet to gnaw and eate them down, and nothing can be worse for a Horse. Having sette your horse (being very fatte and newe taken from the grasse) in such a stable, lay your hand vpon his side neere to his short ribbes, and there you shall feele his fatnesse, which will be vnder your hand very soft and tender: which whē you feele, be you well assured all that fatte is naught, for beeing so loose and soft, the smallest trauaile that may be will melt it, and then being molten befoze it be hardened by good dyet, the outward fatte falleth into the horses legges, & maketh him haue swolne legges, and laue neuer to be cured, which secrete but few at this day vnderstand: and the inward fat which is within his stomack, bagge and guttes, putrifies, and breedes those diseases which kill the horse outright, though it be halfe a yeere, or perhappes thre quarters of a yeere after. Insomuch that the owner, who hath neyther skill to discerne such a chaunce when it is hapned, nor arte to giue him any medicine to purge him of that grosse matter, sayth he dyed suddainly he knoweth not of what, when himselfe long befoze, had willingly giuen him his death, which mischiefe to auoyde, you shall vse this meane.

First for two or thre dayes, you shall let your horse stande in the stable vnclothed, and giue him nothing but Wheate-straw and water, twice a day, morning and evening, being ledde thereunto in his keepers hand, til you see his dung (which at the first will be a darke blacke greene) be cleane changed to a palish yellow: then may you (not hauing befoze layd any curry combe on him, but onely rubbe him morning and evening with a hard wispe) bothe currie him, rubbe him, picke him, and dresse him, and also cloathe him in a single cloth made of sack-cloth, and let the surcingle be kept round about with bigge soft wispes, as well for warmth as ease of the horse.

Thys shall you doe every morning very earely, as by sire of the clock, then put a small snaffle in his mouth, and lighting vpon his back, walk him a fayre sute-pace to some
fayre

and trayning vp of Horses.

fayre River or rundle, being at least halfe a myle, and there water him, and so walke him home againe, and set him vp. that done, take a quarter of a pecke of Dates, and sift and dust them well in a small sieue, and then sweeping the Sponger cleane, giue them him, then put a sheafe of wheat straw well threshed into the hacke, and putting downe his lytter vnder him, let him stand so till one of the clock in the after noone, at one of the clocke in the after noone come to him, and turne by his cloth, and with a harde wispe, rub downe his necke, face, buttocks and legges, then sift him two or thre handfuls of Dates more, and so turning downe his cloth, let him stand till thre a clocke, at which time come to him, and first put away his dung, then shake vp his litter, and after you haue vnclothed him, currie him and dresse him in thys sort.

First, after you haue curried him all ouer with your curry combe, which raiseth vp the dust, then shall you with some dead horse taylor nailed to a stickie, dust him, and strike away that which the curry combe hath rayse: then take a wispe of straw wryethen hard together, and with it rubbe him cleane ouer, especially his legges, which the more they be chafte, the better and more nymble will the horse be, then take a hayre-cloth, and with it rubbe him ouer, for that will cleanse away the dust, and keepe his coate smooth & cleane. Then wette your hands, but not too much, and with them so wet, rubbe him all ouer, especially his face, which must chiefly be kept cleane: thys rubbing him with your wette hands, will leaue vpon hym neuer a loose hayre, nor anie other filthy thing.

Then with a cleane cloth that is not dustie nor foule, though it be course, clense him all ouer, for it will make his coate shyne, insomuch that you shall almost discerne your face therein: then looke about his eyes and if you see anie great hayres growing about the, eyther aboue or beneath, as all horses haue, pull them away, for they be perilous for a horses sight. Then take out his yarde, which of it selfe

Of the breeding, ryding,

will gather much durte and filthines, and with your hande cleane it, then combe downe with a wet maine combe, hys mayne and taile, and so clothe him vp and stop him round, then as you did before, take his backe, and vpon a gentle fote-pace, walke him forth to his water, and bying him home againe, giuing him two or thre handfulls of well sifted Dates, then if he haue no wheate strawe in his racke, put him a little in, and then thowling downe his lytter, let him so stand till it be eyght a clock at night, at which tyme come to him, and after you haue turrid vp his cloth, rubbe him, and chaffe his legges, giue him a handfull or two of Dates, and a fresshe sheafe of wheate straw into his Racke, and moze netue litter, and so let him rest till the next morning.

In this sort keepe him for the space of thre weekes or a moneth, onely with wheate straw and Dates, putting him to no further trouble then the fetching of his water, in which space, you shall see his belly will be cleane taken vp, and he will shew himselfe comely and gaunt, and you shall see his fatnesse more firme, hard, and sad then it was before at his first taking vp: which alwaies the harder it is, in the better case is your Horse. Now, if your Horse be such a grosse feeding beast, that his fatnesse and purfinesse, rather increaseth with this manner of keeping, then ought at all to diminish, as some Horses, who will fede as fowre vpon straw, as if they had Hay and prouender, which we call Kettie Horses: or if you haue made promise for ante match, so that you cannot well stay to take such long tyme as in tructh you should, or as arte would require, then to inkeame your Horse the sooner, you shall vse during this first moneth, for to ryde out your Horse every night, two howers after sunne sette, & abide abroade with him thre howers at the least, not exceeding fote-pace, which we call night ayings.

And if this be done alongst some Riuer side, it is the best, because the sharpe ayze which cometh from the waters,

and trayning vp of Horses.

fers, is colde and pearcing, and neuer a one of these eueninges, but takes as much of a Horse as if he had endured a dayes hunting: wherefore I admonish all keepers, not to ayze their Horses in the night, but with great discretion, because it brings loue, and weakens a Horse verie much. When you haue ayzed your Horse thus and brought him in, let his legges be well chaffe and rubb downe, and then giue him his Dates, and so let him rest till morning, not forgetting but alwaies when you haue brought in your Horse, to picke his fore-fete cleane, least any pible stones or grauell shoulde be gotte within the shoe, or worne into the hooft.

After you haue spent your first month thus, onelie in taking vp his belly, and hardening his flesh, then shall you beginne to cleane him in this sort. In steepe of wheate straw which before you gaue him, you shall giue him Hay; and the courser such hay is, the better it is, (so it be sweete and well gotten) so: the horse will not fede on it so greedie as otherwise he would: and a Horse will many time vpon very sweete and fine Hay, cate so much that he will bryake his winde. Hauing thus chaunged his strawe to Hay, you shall then adde vnto his Dates, Bread, which breade shall be thus made.

Take a strike of Beanes, two peckes of wheate, and one pecke of Rye, grinde these together, sift them and knead them, with water and warme, and so bake them thowly in great loaves, as a peck in a loafe; and after they are a day olde at the least, your Horse may fede on them, but not before. Some peradventure, that neyther loue this sorte of hunting, nor make any care of a good Horse, will imagine this Breade to be too costlie, and say that common Bakers Horse breade, which is made of naught but Barne and wheate chuffell, shall be as much good: but if they dyd knowe howe many inconueniences is founde by this common Horse breade, they would (without doubt) alter their opinions.

first

Of the breeding, ryding,

first, the substance whereof it is made, is but bzanne or chaffell, and this bzanne is nothing but the outmost shale or huske of the Cozne, the meale and strength whereof is taken away: now when y^e vertue is bereft, what remains but a drye harkie thing, without eyther nutriment or spirite? And what can that I pray you preuaile with a horse that must endure extream labour? When they kneade it with nothing but colde water, which makes it so heauy and sad, that it lyes in the stomacke of a horse, and neyther turnes to good blood, nor any other nutriment, but onely to putrefaction, and grosse humors, which commonly come to the Anticor, consumption of the lunges, paine in the lyuer, the pellowes, and diuers other such like diseases, all which be mortall.

Againe, Bzanne is extream hote and drye, therefore the horse that shall much feede thereon, it will enflame his blood, scalde his stomacke, and breede in him many filthy diseases: as the scabbe, itch, or farcin and such like. Some againe will aske me, why I disallowe this common Bzeade, why in the other bzeade I bidde them take Beanes, & not Pease? My answer is, because Beanes are a moze strong and cleane fode then Pease, and lesse purlie, and the meale they make, is a great deale finer.

If they demaund why I put in the Wheate, my answer is, because it is comfortable and full of spirite, it breedeth in a horse lust, courage and liuelinesse. If for what purpose the Rye, then for this, because the two former graines be of great strength, and altogether bynding, therefore I put in the Rye, which is altogether loosening and scowring, that being ioyned with the former, it keepeth the horse cole and in good temper in his body. Nowe why I kneade it with warme, that is to make the bzeade light and fine, that it may be easie of digestion, and not lie too long in the horses stomack.

Having such bzeade as this, and having taken awaye your Wheate strawe, you shall then alter your horses exercise

and trayning vp of Horses.

exercise in this manner. Carely in the morning, by nine or fixe a clocke, after your horse is drest and trymd, lift thre or foure handfulls of Dates cleane, and giue the him, which so soone as he hath eaten, then immediately brydle him typp and tye him to the bare Racke, then saddle him, and after he is saddled, throw his cloath ouer him, & so let him stande till the Houndes be ready to goe forth a hunting, at which tyme take his backe, but in any case no spurs on your heeles, but onely a switching rodde, and so goe forth with them, and spend that day in hunting, till three or foure of the clocke in the euening, provided alwaies that you gallop him not but onely thwart and crosse, from Wyll to Wyll, to make in with the dogges, exceeding not his trotte at anye time: and this order see you daily obserue for a fortnight at the least.

When you haue thus spent the day and are come home, see that there be ready in your stable fresh litter enough, the sette him typp, and tye him in his brydle to the bare Racke, and all to rubbe and chafe him, insomuch that if hee be eyther wetted with sweate or any other thing, you leaue hym not till he be as drye as may be, then unsaddle him, rub his backe thorowly, & with all hasty clothe him vp warme, and stoppe hym round with hard wispes: then picke his feete cleane and chafe his legges, and so let him stande on his brydle a quarter of an howre, after which time come to him and giue him a handfull of Dates, & halfe so much Hempe, sate mingled together.

This Hempe-seede, is the most gentlest and easiest scowring that can be giuen to a horse, the vertue whereof is this. If in the dayes hunting you haue eyther disolued any grosse humors in the horse, (as labour will alwaies do) or melted any of his grease, it will cleanse and bring it away from the horse, as you shall perceiue the next morning by his doeing, which you shold alwaies regard, and loke vnto very much, for it will be greasie and full of stumie matter.

Having thus giuen him Dates and Hempe-seede, brydle him

Of the breeding, ryding,

him again, and let him so stand halfe an houre, or an houre. After which tyme vnbidle him, and put into his Racke a litle bottle of Hay, like a halfe-penny bottle in an Inne, and let him so: an houre or there abouts, eate his Hay, then geue him such a quantitie of Beade as you in discretion shall thinke fite: neyther so much as you may cloy him and make him refuse it, nor so extream little that you ease his hunger nothing at all.

Then let him stande hauing Hay in his Racke, til nyne of the clocke at night, at which time come to him, and rub him well all ouer, then hauing faire water in the house, water him: then lift him foure or fve handfuls of Dates, and mingle with them a good quantitie of Bead, and geue it him. When shaking his lytter about him, leave him so: that night.

As soone as you come to him the next morning verie earely to dresse him, the first thing you doo looke what bounge he hath made, if it be greasie, darke coloured, and soule, then it is a signe the Horse is soule within, full of glut and purfinesse: if it be well coloured, that is to say of a pale yellow hauing no grease in it, then is it a signe that your former dayes hunting did take nothing at all of him, but that his grease remaineth in his body vntwasted: wherefore the next day you may take the more of him, yet not so much that you force him to gallop.

The second thing you looke vnto, must be whether he haue left any prouender in the Wanger vneaten or no, if he haue left any, then shall you sweepe it away and bidle him vp, giuing him no meate at all till night that he come from hunting, so: that dayes gentle exercise and fast, will gette him a stomacke, and make him eate his meate with lust and greedines.

If he haue eaten all cleane and left no prouender, then shall you geue him three or foure handfules of Dates, or els some Beade, (whether of them you please,) to eate whilst you are dressing him.

Lastly,

and trayning vp of Horses.

Lastly, looke in the Racke what Hay he hath left, if he haue left neyther Hay nor prouender, then the next nyght geue him the same quantitie of Hay, but a good deale more prouender, so: it is a signe he had not before halfe enough. If he haue eaten vp all his Hay yet left his prouender vneaten, (which is commonly the property of a great feeding Horse,) then the next night geue him but halfe so much Hay, and the same quantitie of prouender as before, that not hauing Hay enough to fill his belly, hee may be forced to eate his prouender or els fast: which if he doo one night or two, be sure he will not the third.

Then dresse him, saddle him, and haue him abroade, biding him in all poynts according to the manner aforesayd. Prouided alwaies by the way, that during the time of this fort-night, you may euery morning, either before you goe out, or as you goe, water your Horse, so that you suffer him not to drinke full so much as he would desire: hauing spent this fort-night thus, the next fort-night following, you shall aduenture to gallop him a litle after the dogges: but in any wise no meane out-right chase, but gently noliue and then so: twenty or forty scoze, and no more without a sobbe, and let it be vpon an ouer-thwart ground, in meane plowed lands, or lay lands his ridged.

Moreover, let him galloppe so softly and leysurely, as you can possiblie make him, first that he may thereby learne howe to vse his legges and body nimbly, secondly, that he may strike his surrow cleane without stumbling, and lastly, that he may haue knowledge and vnderstanding of his owne faulter if he chaunce to committe any, and thereby seeke to amende them.

For any fault whatsoever he chaunceth to committe in gallopping vpon a deepe carth, in any wise you must not spurre him, so: if you doo, you shall utterly spoyle him for euer being good hunter, the reason hereof is this: a young Horse that hath neuer bene used to gallop on deapes, wil at the first be rathe and hastie, and put him selfe forth more

Of the breeding, ryding,

heretofore then hee can possible continue, then waxing a litle weake, he will snapper and stumble, or els ware doth full, for any of which faulter if you spur him, he will then through terror of the correction rushe so hastily forwarde without regard, that neyther understanding his error, nor knowing how to amend it, he will increase it: and so where he would stumble but once, peradventure stumble 3. times. Whereas if you haue no spurres to torment him with, but that he may take his owne leysure, and when he stumbleth, both see the occasion, and feele the paine thereof, which is twice so soze to him as to the man, and farre more loth is the Horse to fall then the man to haue him, he will become so cunning, that the deepe earth and the plaine meddowes will be all one to him: nay, in that he findeth his Rider will let him take leysure and tyme thereon, he will rather couet the deepe then the playne, and for a surety, cunning penealeth farre more then speede on a deepe earth.

As for his dyet this fortnight, let it be in all things lyke the former fortnight: both the same meate, the same scowring, and the same times duely obserued. Nowe after these two fortnights are thus passed, which with y^e former month makes iust too monethes, you shal the perceiuing your horse to be still fat and foule, which you shal vnderstand both by the thiknesse of his rybbe, by the grosseles of his leske or flanke, (which will be full and thicke in your hande) and also by his chaule, which you shal feele both fat and full of little knots at the roote of his tongue which stoppeth his winde, put him to greater extreamity: that is to say, you shal then hunt more soundly, following the dogges at the heeles, yet with such discretion, that you put not your Horse to aboue a thre-quarters speede, for feare you ouer-toyle him, or make hym gyue ouer before he knoweth what hee doth.

The first day you hunt him in this sorte, (through which extraordinary toyle he cannot chuse but sweate much outwardly, which wasteth his outward grease, and by his inward

and trayning vp of Horses.

intoard heate, disolue the glut and filth which cloveth bys guttes and stomache) being come home, and hauing sette him vp in the stable, let hym be exceedingly rubb, chaff and made dry, then if you gyue him no scowring that night, it shall not matter, but the next morning so sone as the sun is vp, hauing kept your Horse fasting an howre, then gyue him this scowring.

Take Rosemary and let it be chopt very small, then take a dysh of swete Butter, and worke the Rosemary and it well together, then make good round pellets thereof and put them into your Horses mouth, and make him swallow them: so done put on bys bydle, and being wel clothed and stopt round, both with his owne cloth and a single blanket, take his backe and walke him forth into some close or field, for halfe an houre or litle more: then bying him in and tye hym vp, and you shal perceiue within an houre after or thereabouts, he will grow to be exceedingly sick, but haue you no feare at all, for it is an excellent signe. When you see him so sicke, be sure to haue a warme Masse readie, made with water and Wheate-meale, Maulte, or Branne, no more then shall collour the water, & gyue it him to drinke. As soone as he hath drunke, gyue hym Hay into his rack, and so let him stand all that day and night, being sure that you prouender him soundly both with bread and Dates.

This kynde of scowring, though there be a number of other scowryngs which heereafter I will sette you downe, yet I haue alwaies found it of most vertue and profit. It purgeth the Horse of all manner of glut, foulenesse and bad humors.

If bys grease haue bene molten a moneth before, it will bying it away in his douning in great aboundance, to the admiration of those which hath not sene the like before, whereas if it should remaine, it were eyther certain death, or if nature were so strong to expell it, it would breake out into some filthy disease. The next day after this scowring thus giuen, take your Horse forth on hunting, yet in anie

Of the breeding, ryding,

wife neither put him so gallop nor any straine, but onely trotte him after the dogges that he may take the ayre, gette him a stomacke, and recouer such lust & courage, that looke what you did that daie you put him to extremitie, hee will doe twice so much the next time you shall thereunto constrain him.

In this sort twice a fortnight, for two fortnights together, would I haue you hunt your Horse thorowly after the dogges, leauing no chace vnrune, and then resting him a day after, vse him according to the manner aforesaide: and the other daies let him but play and sport himselfe after the dogges, as well to acquaint him with the spozte, as to encrease his winde and keepe him in bzeath. Some will demaunde, since I would haue a horse thus heated after the dogges thrice in a fortnight, why it may not as well be done without dogges in some plaine speedowe, poodze, or ffielde, where a man may galloppe him till hee sweate, as much or as little as one would?

I aunswere, it is not so good for diuers respects: first, when a Horse is heated after the dogges, he hath choyce of many earthes to runne vppon, one while he gallops vppon deepe plowed landes, another while vpon plaine Pastures or speedowes, one while vpon lay lands that haue his ridges and deepe furrowes, another while vppon beaten heuwaies or common tracts: which change of earth, bzinges a Horse to cunning speede, nimblenes, and toughnes.

Secondly, the heate a Horse taketh after the dogges, he taketh kindly and in good sort, for if the dogges runne a myle, without default, stoppe, stay, or double, it is verie much: nay, you shall haue them in twelue score, sixe score, and lesse, make stops and defaults, all which giue vnto your horse new bzeath, strength and courage, so that hee will be moze willing to run, then you wil be to haue him: whereas if you shold giue him his heate all in a maine chace, it wold be both wearisome, painful, and vniwholsome to the Horse, for suddaine heates are alwaies perillous, and in speede of incou-

and trayning vp of Horses.

incouraging your horse to take pleasure in his galloppe and to increase in toughnes, you shal discourage him, and make him faint and tye: and peraduenture vnlesse hee be verie cleane, hazard the breaking of his winde.

Thirdly, the cry of the dogges is pleasant vnto the horse, and he will of himselfe couet to follow them beeing in full cry. And lastlie, the seeing of other Horses to skope and gallop with him, will be an encouragement, and an encreasing of your Horses willingnes. Now by that time this thezenth month is thus spent, your horse will be cleane in his bodie, wel winded, and in good strength, so that you shal both haue an insight what hee is able to perfozme, and also adiudge rightly of his truth, which when you are acertaind of, then you may according as your fancie & discretion serues you, eyther hunt him priuately, or match him for some great wager publiquely.

If you doe match him for any great wager, and thereby doe ouer-match him, though no body can be blamed but your owne folly or fortune, yet since there be many helpes in matching which may much auaille, I wil as neere as I can, bzefely set them down. First vnderstand, it is not good to let your horse ride any match til he be past 6. yeres olde, and ful 7. for till then he cometh not to his full strength, growth and perfection. Secondly note, that according as your horses disposition is, so make your match, or els wilfully be a loser: wherfoze if you find him dead slow, that is of little speede, yet wonderfull true & tough, then make your match to follow the dogs so long as you can, as till 3. or 4. of the clock, that in that space you may with earnest riding, and hauing good tryers to keepe your abuersarie within his law, which commonly is a horse length or two, or as you agree, so foile the horse that rydes against you, that whē you come to run the Wild-goose chace, you may haue as much speede as he, which if you perceiue and know your Horse to be true, if then you lose, impute the faulte eyther to bad ryding, or to a false iudgement in your horses disposition.

Also

Of the breeding, ryding,

Also in thys match, gette your labo in the Wild-goose chase, which is most usually twelue scoze to bee twentie scoze, that if your aduersary chaunce to haue moze speede then you, yet with your truth and toughnes, you may recover him: for that Horse that lets another ouer-runne hym twentie scoze at the first in a wild-goose chase, it is pyttie he should euer be hunter.

If you find your Horse to be wonderfull arrand swift, yet not so tough that hee will endure to toyle out a dayes work with extremitie, then woulde I aduise you, not to make your match to hunt the Hare after the dogges, but rather to runne trayne sentes made with a Catte, in which strong sence a dogge will seldome be at defaulte, and the longer you conclude such traynes, to be the better for you. Also the shorter lawe you make for the twinning or loosing the match, the better hope you shall haue of winning, and withall, see you conclude to haue the leading of the first trayne, all which when you haue agreed vpon, then chusing such earth as your Horse may shew his speede vpon, and hauing the swiftest and best sented dogs you can gette, gyuing them as much space before you as you can, trye if you can winne the match with a winde, of which if you sayle, then is your match in great doubt, if your aduersarie be tough.

Wherefore seeing that your speede sayles, then loyter after, and keepe your Horse as fresh as you can, that coming to the Wild-goose chase, taking the leading, see if with stypes and turnes you can soyle him that rydes against you. In which stypes, the cunning of the Horse, man must as much auayle as the goodnes of the horse: and for that those stypes shew both a ready Horse, and an artificiall Rider, I will teache you here how to do them.

The Wild-goose chase being started, in which the hindmost Horse is bound to follow the foremost, and you hauing the leading, hold a hard hand of your Horse, and make hym gallop softly at great ease, insomuch, that perceiuing your aduersary

and trayning vp of Horses.

aduersarie strue to take the leading from you, suffer him to come so nere you, that his Horses head may wel nye touch your Horses buttocke, which when you see, clappe your left spurs in your Horses side, and wheele him suddainlie halfe about on your right hand, and then take him vp againe, till such time that he be come to you againe: thus may you do of eyther hand which you will, and in neuer a one of these turnes, but you shall shew him that rides against you, at least twenty or thirtie yardes behind you, so that whilst you ride at your ease, he shal be forced continually to come vp to you vpon the spurs, which must wearie the best Horse in the world.

If your Horse be both swift and tough, yet thicke winded, that is that he cannot runne long with a winde, but if he want stales or sobbes, that he will fainte and yeeld, then your best play is, utterlie to refuse the Wild-goose chase, and onelie to make your triall after the dogges, the such tryals be the longer in making. These necessarie helpes in matching being duly considered, and hauing made your match with god discretion, providing alwaies to haue a moneth for the keeping of your Horse, you shall then thus order and diet him.

First, beholding your horse to be lustie and full of lyfe, hauing a cheerefull countenance, willing to play in your hand, and perceiuing by your former labour, that hee is in reasonable case for ordinarie hunting, yet not so berie purged and cleane as he should be for a match, for the least imperfection that may be in his bodie, is the losse of the wagger, and for a man to keepe him in y temper all the yeere, were but too costlie, and to little purpose, with a man may alwaies in a monethes space, (if he be any thing cleane) make him fitte for a match: then for the first weeke, feede him most what vpon that breade before prescribed, and let hym haue Dates but now and then for change of meate, yet let him haue such stoe of them both, that he may alwaies haue the one or the other lying in the panger before him. If hauing
fedde

Of the breeding, ryding,

scorde him in the morning, you finde any at noone, sweepe it away, and giue it to some other Horse, and giue him fresh, so likewise doe either at euening or night, or at other times. For this first weeke and the seconde, looke that you hunte your Horse very soze, and giue him strong scowings: of which scowings, sith there be diuers of sundry natures and operations, I will before I goe any further, sette them downe together with theyr vertues, willing you to apply them thereafter, least in mistaking of them as manie doe, you rather hurte then profite your Horse.

Wherefore first, as touching these two scowings before mentioned, the one of Hemp-seede, the other Rosemary and butter. These two are of all the easiest, for they searce nothing of themselves, but onely purge away such matter as is before dissolved. As they purge the body, so they perfume the head, open the pypes, and make cleere passage for wind, therefore they be the best for fat Horses.

There is another, which is Carlike Stamp and lapt in rowles of Butter, and so giuen to the Horse: this scowying onely purgeth the head, breaketh steame, and preserues a Horse from any disease that cometh of colde: therefore it is to be giuen to a Horse that is eyther thicke winded, or subiect to take cold. Butter and Saunders mingled together and made in pellets, is of the same vertue that this is, and worketh the same effect, onely it is of more strength and force. When is there Sallet oyle and Mylke mingled together, and so luke-warme to be giuen to a Horse, this purgeth the stomacke & entrailes of all grosse matter, and molten grease, therefore it is good for a fatte Horse. Also some vse to giue this scowying to a Horse that is newe taken from grasse, as soone as hee is brought into the house. Also there is Sallet-oyle and Muskadine to be giuen together, this is of the same vertue that Sallet-oyle and Mylke is, saue that it is somewhat more comfortable, for as it purgeth, so it strengtheneth, therefore it is to be giuen to a sicke and weake Horse.

and trayning vp of Horses.

If you giue a Horse Musterd-seede in his poudner, it is very good, for though it clenseth the stomacke little or nothing, yet it purgeth the heade exceedingly: therefore to be vsed to the same Horses you vse Butter and Carlike.

Lastly, and the chæfist scowying of all, is this. Take the leaues of Bore, and dry them at the fire till you may crush them in peeces, then mingle with them Brimstone beaten to powder, and gyue it your Horse in his poudner, yet very discretly, as by little and little at once, least your Horse take a loathe at it, and so refuse it. This purgeth the head, stomacke and entrailes, of all manner of filthines, leauing nothing that is vnsound or vnclane: it cureth the cold, it killeth the wormes, grubbes, or bots in a Horse, and it neuer abateth, but increaseth courage & flesh. Wherefore it is to be giuen eyther to foule Horse or cleane Horse, but chifely to the cleane Horse, because it will preserue hym from any foulness.

Thus haue I sette you downe sundry scowings, with theyr natures, vse them accordingly, and you shall perceiue their vertues. A fortnight of your monethes keeping being spent in sound hunting, as is aforesaid, in which I woulde wishe you to haue a certaine knowledge of your Horses goodnesse, and hauing vsed such scowings as you finde to be fittest for the state of your Horses body, which when you perceiue to leaue their working, and that there comes nothing from your Horse but cleane excrementes, without grease or filthines, then may you be certaine and wel assured, that your Horse is cleane within, sounde, and without anie manner of imperfection, eyther of winde or distemper.

When shall you the second fortnight, endeavour to continue the aforesaid cleannies: and to augment his strength, courage, and abilitie, you shall for this fortnight, make him Bready in this manner. Take of Beanes a strike, of Wat-meale two pecks, of Wheate two pecks, and of Rye two pecks.

Of the breeding, ryding,

All these being ground together and finelic sifted, let it be knoden with meale Ale, the Barne and all being beaten together in the fatte. If you put the whites of Egges into it, it will be the better, and the moze wholsome for the horses winde. These being well knoden together, let them for an houre or thereabouts, lye in the kneading tubbe, that it may haue time to swell: then let it be wrought vp and baked in great loaves.

With this Breade and with Dates, see that you feede your Horse extreamely, euen so much as hee will eate. As for his exercise let it be thus: foure or fve times in a weeke, let him goe forth on hunting, yet in any case let him not gallop, especially to straine himselfe aboue twice a weeke at the most. If he be such a kettie horse that you perceiue hee feedeth too fast, and that you feare he will were pursue, then may you once or twice a weeke, about foure a clocke in the euening, after you haue trotted after the Houndes all day, sending your Houndes home, breake into a mayne chase with your Horse, and so giue him a good sounde sweate, which so soone as you haue giuen, then taking him vp both in good lust and courage, walke him softly vp and downe, sometimes trotting, sometimes racking, till you haue cold him well, and then carrie him home and sette him vp in the stable.

In this wise exercise your Horse till it be within three dayes of your match, during which thre dayes, let your Horse take his rest, saue that you may if you will, walke him forth to gette him a stomache if it faile him, as it is likelie it will: because for those thre dayes, you must night and day watch with him, making him to eate all the meate he eates, out of your hand. And when he hath eaten a little, offer him a little dish full of water to drinke, and then giue him moze breade, then offer him moze water, and in this manner feede him till he be full. When let him take his rest and lye downe, and alwaies when he riseth do the like, and in this sorte feede him till his match day: provided alwaies that

and trayning vp of Horses.

that you let hym haue Hay in his Macker, and let hym be ledde to the ffield, bequeathing the rest to God, and good fortune.

CHAP. 4.

The secretes and arte of trayning, and dyeting the Horse for a course: which we commonly call running Horses.



The difference betwene the Hunting-horse before mentioned, and the Horse for a course is great, therefore the arte of moze esteeme, and the secretes moze woorthye disclosing. The first, (which is the Hunting-horse) hath his vertue, consisting in long and wearie toyle, this other in quicknes of spæde and suddaine furie. And as the one requireth a whole day for his tryall, so this other in comparison, must dispatch in a moment. For the choyce of your running Horse, if nothing differeth fro your hunting, saue that you may dispence with sundry faults in this Horse for a course, which may not be tollerable in a Hunting-horse, as for example. If your Horse be long and loosely made, that is, not so short and closely knit together as a Hunting horse should be, yet for a course he may be excellent, and in those races show great swiftnesse. Also if hee be small lymde and weakely ioynted, although these faults utterly disalow, and mislike, yet shall you find many Horses of a wonderful spæde, to entertaine these infirmities.

Nowe, when you haue a Horse, whose shape, countenance, and demeanure, promisseth assurance of great swiftnesse, and you addicted onely to that pleasure or exercise, in this sort shall you trayne and bring him thereunto. First being faire and fatte taken from the grasse, or bought in the Market, see that in all poynts you diet, dresse and order him,

Of the breeding, ryding,

him, as is befoze prescribed for your Hunting-horse & two first moneths, onely let his exercise not be thereafter, but in this manner.

Every morning and evening, ride him into some sayze pediton, horse or heath, and there for halfe an houre, gallop him gently vpon the hand, euen so softly as you can possibly make him sette downe his seate: but if hee be so furious, that he will not gallop at his ease, but with too great vehemencie, then shall you make him gallop tenne yardes, then trotte as much, and in this sort gallopping one while and trotting another, exercise him, till hee vnderstanding your minde, fall of himselfe to a gentle, light, and easie kind of gallop: which attained to, practise him therein for two monethes, not by any meanes putting him to matter of force, or extremitie, nor euer suffering him to vnderstande his owne speede: but that all he doth, he may do with lust, courage and strength, still pressing and striving to do more the he doth. The benefit of this exercise is this: the ground being so plaine, smoth, hard & firme, without eyther feare of stumbling, or doubt of too great toyle, and your labour so moderate, your horse shall learne a true nimble stroke, and withall, so couche his body thereunto, that when you shall neuer so little force him, he will launch out himselfe in such wonderfull manner, that what strength and nature may possibly bring to passe, arte shall assist in the highest degree that may be.

Whereas, if you should exercise him vpon euerythwarts and deepe groundes, first as the toyle would be so wearisome, that for want of ease, he would rather loyter then encrease in swiftness, so would the vncertaintie, and vneuenness of the earth so alter and breake his stroke, that not finding meanes to lay his body to his length, or to launch out his legges to the aduantage of great speede, hee shall be made to frame himselfe to a short idle gallop, which albeit he may be able long to endure, yet will it be so slowe, that it will breede little profit for a swift course. Some may make

an-

and trayning vp of Horses.

answere vnto mee. and say: that forasmuch as I instruct them vpon the plainest groundes, not to excede the slowest gallop that may be, that thereby I shall as wel wonte my horse to tolenes and to a short stroke, as if I did exercise him on the deepest osethwarts.

My reply is this: vpon the faire plaine groundes, galloping my horse at this ease, if at any time I list (as many times it must be done) to make him spring into some good round speed, I shall both find the groundes so fit for the purpose, and my horses willingnes so great, that the more I offer, the more he shall desire: where on the other parte, if vpon osethwarts I shall offer it, neyther will the groundes serue, vnlesse a man will wilfully breake his neck, nor long can the horses strength endure it, be hee of neuer so great ability. Having trained your horse in this sort evening and morning, for the space of two moneths, keeping him in good hunting vpet, and finding his speede and towardnes to encrease, as there is no doubt but it will, then being at the least five yeres old, you may aduenture to course him more thoroughly. And if eyther pleasure or necessity vge you, eyther runne bell course, or wager. If you do make any matche, haue great respect to the nature & propertie of your horse, for if you excede his ability, there is no doubt but you shall loose wilfully: therfore in this manner regard it. If your horse be quick, hote and fire, then is it impossible he should be tough, hard and durable, wherefore for him, the shorter, harder and plainer your course is, a great deale the better. Yet if it haue as we tearme the, either inwithes, or outwithes, or downwithes, that is, either running within the side of a hil, climbing vp a hil, or descending down a hil, it much auaileth, as wel for recovery of his wind, as the maintenaunce of his strength and courage. For a hote horse that runnes of an euen leuell, vnlesse he be exceedingly straitly helde in, will not onely spende himselfe too outragiously, but also runne hymselfe out of winde wilfully, which once too farre spent, is in a course very hardly recovered: whereas if he

haue

Of the breeding, ryding,

haue eyther defent or clymbing, nature teacheth him as well to be his owne fauourer, as arte in his Ryder to be his gouernour. If your horse be still and heavy of himselfe, slow, starting, alwaies rather crawing, then oft of free will offering, such Horses I say be tough, strong, and durable, or els for nothing but a Colliers coale-sack profitable, wherfore for such Horses, the long, deepe, and tedious course is most available, because what want of speede loseth, trueth and toughnes may recouer. Hauing made a match, be alwaies well aduised to reserue a moneth at the least to dyet and make your Horse sit in: nay, if he haue not ben before in dyet for a course, if you reserue fire waketh it shal be better, because a horse newly entred into so strickt a dyet, will for the first fortnight mourne, and fall away exceedingly, that a moneth will be little enough to recouer his strength, and bring him to absolute perfection: wherfore for his dyet and keeping, let it be in this manner.

First looke vpon him, and as nere as you can by hys doung, thiknes of his ribbe, cleannes of his chaule, and o- ther externall parts, iudge in what temper and state hys body standeth, and howe farre he is eyther out of case or in case, for the running of a course. Some Horses will runne best when they be hie and full of fleshe, which is the worst and least to be trusted: others when they be but in indiffer- rent case, and somewhat poze to looke vpon, which is best, and most to be esteemed: of which of these kindes your Horse is of, your experience in his trayning must giue you knowledge. As for them both they haue but one manner of dyet, saue that you must haue this care, if hee that runneth hie be poze, then must you in his dyet pamper him, and get him into lust and strength, making him to endure no more labour then you are forced vnto for preservation of his wind: and let your strongest scowzing be a swete mash of spaulte, which as it scowzeth, so it strengthneth and com- forteth, so him you may spare sweats and night ayzings, or any other thing that abateth his strength or flesh.

3f

and trayning vp of Horses.

If that horse which runneth best loame and poze, be hie and fatte, then to him must you vse the contrary meane, which meane I will expresse in a larger manner, shewing the true arte of dyeting in him, because hee craueth all the helpes that may be: wishing you to vse the same manner to all running Horses of what nature former, onely refer- uing to your discretion, matters of extremity.

Hauing therefore made your match, and taken such sufficient time as in good discretion shall be requisite, enter well into the consideration of the state of your Horses bodie, which finding to be strong, full of lust, and couragious, throughe his great fatnes: yet by that meane so purtie, ket- tie, and thick winded, that he cannot shew that wonderful speed and goodnes which otherwise he would demonstrate, thus enter him into his dyet. First next his skinne, lay a faire linnen sheete, because Horses naturally loue to bee sweetly kept, and the more neate they are, the more proude and pleasing to themselves: next the sheete, lay a blankette or two, and ouer them a housing cloth of Canvas or sack- cloth, binde these close before your Horses breast, and then gyrd them on with a Surcingle, stopping it rounde about with little wispes.

Thys done, let your stable wherein hee standeth, bee made darke, close and warme, hauing continually great store of lyster lying about him, the reason for these fore mentioned things is this. First for the linnen sheete, as it is neate and pleasing to the Horse, so it carrieth this com- modity, when nature shall so vehemently strue in the beast, as what throughe his extream fatnesse, vnusuall swarme keeping, and continuall rest, hee shall, (as many times he wil) breake into great sweats, insonuch as when you come to him, you shall find him all of a water, the lin- nen being next his skinne, euen as the force of nature shall leaue his working, so will the linnen dry, and be no fur- ther annoyance: whereas if the wollen shoulde lye next hys skinne, it would not onely force him to sweat vnaturally,

3k

but

Of the breeding, ryding,

but also suffer and continue his sweates, till it turne to faintnesse, and then as the sweates proceeding of naturall causes, strengtheneth, comforteth, and maketh cleane the body, so those being forced, weakeneth, bulleth, and maketh fainte every part and member.

For the many clothes before prescribed, they are for two causes: first, to be a helpe to nature, and an occasion now and then to sweate as hee sleepeth or takes his rest, if he be extreme foule, and most abundantly full of grosse vmoys: for otherwise the selfe sweates will not chaunce. And this manner of dissolving these vmoys, is most naturall and wholesome. The second cause is, a Horse being pestered and as it were loaden with many clothes, when he shall come to be stript naked and eased of them, will finde himselfe so light, nimble and deliuer, that in his course hee will shew the uttermost abilitie he can possible. Again, being kept so warme in his clothes, when hee is naked, the cold ayre will bee so pearcing, that whereas otherwise a course of three or foure myle, would thrust him into an extreme fainte sweate, by this meane, such a course shall but maintaine a naturall heate without sweate or faintnesse.

For the darknes of the stable, I haue rehearsed a reason in the former Chapter, therefore in this place I will yelde no other but this: because the Horse shall not distinguish the day from the night, but being kept darke, take his rest in both. My reason for the much better I would haue hym continually stand vpon, is this. First, because it will defend him from the colde dampnesse of the earth, which is wonderfull vnholsome. Secondly, because hee shall not detain and holde his vyne longer in his bladder then willingly nature would, which if he haue better vnder him, hee will not do, but if he want, vndoubtedly hee will: because naturally Horses will refuse to pisse vpon the bare plaumchers.

Lastly, because it will occasion him to lye downe and take his rest, when otherwise he would not: and hee that will

and trayning vp of Horses.

will expect his Horse should take great toyle abroad, must prouide that he may rest at home. These foresayd reasons being well considered, you shall consequently see that the Staunge wherein your Horse is kept, be kept sweete and cleane, without dust, filth, or any other excrement of vncleannesse.

Also haue regard that his back be cleane, without cobwebbes or other annoyances, and that there be not any Hudwall neere him to bite or gnaw vpon. For his ordinarie meate in his stalle, it shall be nothing but wheate straw well threshed, giuen by a sheafe at once, morning and evening: and these much for these generall things, now for other particular matters, they shall ensue in order.

First, when you come to your Horse in the morning, (which would be if he be a very fatte Horse, an howe or two before day, if leane, not before sunne-rise, if neyther fatte nor leane, then after day, and before sunne-ryse) put your hande vnder his clothes, and feele about his flanche and rybbes, whether hee be wette or dry, that is, whether he haue sweat that nyght in his clothes or no, if you finde he haue and is not fully dry, then leaue him, and let hym rest vntill such tyme as naturally hee dry of hymselfe. If hee be dry ere you come, or haue not sweat that nyght, then see that his clothes be well gyzt about him, and take a Whyle and Snaffle, the Snaffle being washt eether in Beere or Ale, and hauing bypried hym, leade hym forth in your hand to the height of some Wyll: and there walke hym vpper and downe for the space of an howe or more, not by any means pulling or compelling him to leade, but suffering him to goe how and which way he list.

If hee offer to stande still, stand you still with him, if he offer to goe, goe you, if he couet to lye downe, do not hinder hym, but in all you can further him thereunto, and with the whyle (if he cannot) helpe him to tumble ouer and ouer. If he be desirous to play, run vp and down, and skope with hym in your hand: and thus in all things follow his mind,

Of the breeding, ryding,

that he may vnderstand he cometh abroad, not to doe your will, but his own, if he be stonde, lead him where some other Horse hath dunged before, and let hym smell thereto, which will presently make him to dung himselfe, by which meanes you may empty his belly at your pleasure. After you haue thus waited an houre or little more, leade him home againe and let him by, this we call ayding of a Horse, the reason and profit whereof folloiweth.

As a fatte Horse that is ayzed before day (through the sharpnes of the ayze, cold dew, and discomfort by want of day or sunne-shine,) it abateth his fleshy, and dryeth vp purines, it refresheth him if he be dull, and causeth courage: it getteth him a stomacke, it greatly increaseth his wind, and addes a great desire vnto him to runne and scope. If he bee leane, and ayzed in the pleasantnes of the morning & fayre sunne-shine, it prouoketh pleasure, and maketh a Horse proude in himselfe: by reason whereof his strength (which want of fleshy decayeth) is the sooner recovered. For as ayding before day diminisheth fleshy, so this augmenteth, it keepeth him from lothing his meate, so that you can hardlie cloy him, but hys stomacke will be ready to receiue meate as oft as you offer it him: which is the chiefest thing to be regarded in a running Horse, because they will ordinarilie take such loathings to their meate, & they will refuse what euer you make proffer of, and is no way to be remedied but by ayding: this kinde of ayding helpeth the Horses winde, and giues him desire to endure labo.

If your Horse be in good state of body, neyther too fatte nor too leane, then the ayding him after day and before sun-rise, shall keepe him in that state, and neither abate nor increase his fatnesse, but onely help his wind, preserve his stomacke, and make him willing to endure his course the better. Being ayzed and sette vp, after his legs haue been well rubb and chafed, vnbzidle him, and giue him the quantity of a penny wheaten loafe, or as your discretion shal rule you, (so in these quantities your owne witte must be your gouernour)

and trayning vp of Horses.

uernour) of that breade which is last prescribed for your Hunting-horse in the former Chapter, which as soone as he hath eaten, leaue him sweet Wheat-straw in his rack, shut vp your stable windowes and the doore, and let him rest till it be twelue or one of the clocke in the afternoone, at which time, after you haue put away his dung & made your stable cleane, vnclothe him, and dresse him as is before expressed in the former Chapter, and then clothe him vp againe as he was before: hauing due regard, that during the tyme he is naked, you let him not stand still, but be working or doing somewhat about him: for whilst a Horse doth eyther sturre himselfe, or hath his keeper labouring about him, so long the Horse will neuer take cold.

When you haue finished your dresing, leade him out in your hand to the water, and let him drinke his fill. Note for that there is great diuersitie in waters, as namely some smal some strong, some feeding, some scowzing, I wil shew you which water is for which Horse. First for the fat horse the smallest water is best, as that whose spring issueth from the Roke, and runneth vpon stone or pebble, which to the eye is pure and cleere as Christfall. For the leane Horse the strongest water is good, as that which runneth from some dunghill, or that which issueth from some common sewer, so it be refind and sweetned by his course of running, or the Riuer into which is cast much garbidge, blood, or other excrementes.

For the Horse that is in good state of body, as neyther too fatte nor too leane, a meane betwene these would doe well, as the standing pond water, which is fedde by a fresh spring, or that which issueth from eyther chaulke or lyne stone: for that water which I tearme smal, as in dede it nourisheth little, it altogether scowzeth and clenseth both the body and raynes, it preserveth a Horse from the stone, and helpeth paine in the hyndes: yet is it to the taste both vnpleasant and vncomfortable. Those waters I call strong, are hynding, pleasant, comfortable, and full of nutriment,

Of the breeding, ryding,

yet being taken excessively, haue many badde tymes, as fluxe of badde blood, head-ache, dimyness of sight, and great purfynesse.

Those waters which are a meane betwene these two extremities, are the best, and most wholsome, therefore to be had most in vse, and yother two put as phisicke helps in time of neede onely. And thus much touching waters particularly, now in generall thus. The lesse water your Horse drinketh, the better, so that nature throught too much brought be not inflamed: for by drinking you may kill your Horse, by want you can neuer hurt him. And thus I am thus farre entred into the treatise of water, I will in generall shew the discommodities that grow, by letting your Horse drinke vnadvisedly.

First, if before you course your Horse, you let him drink, in his course you shall not onely hazard the breaking of his winde, but also assuredly endanger the incoring or bursting him. Besides, in such a case, hee can neyther shewe speede, trust, nor any goodnes. If after he hath coured and is hote, you let him drinke, you shall eyther founder him in his bodie, (which is a mortall disease,) or els so suddainlie coole his greafe, that it will clappe to his hart, and cloy him so, as eyther hee will die instantly, or els consume and waste away in short time after: which manner of death, vnskillfull Horsemen attribute to guiltlesse diseases, therefore in such a case, there is no other remedy but strong scowrings & comfortable washes.

If after you haue coured your Horse, and rested him two or three howres, you then in the house geue him colde water, you shall so force him to quare and shake, that hee will be in danger of a fluxe or worse infirmity: which shaking, if at any time you see your Horse vse, immediately take his backe, and trotte him by the hand till hee be warme, or els with a good rode in the backe, chase him till he leane trembling. And thus much for the discommodities of water.

Now

and trayning vp of Horses.

Now to returne backe to my purpose, after your Horse hath drunke and is sette by againe, his legges being well chaff and rubbd, let him stand halfe an howre vpon his byrle, which time being expired, geue him the like quantitie of bzeade as you did in the morning: or if you find he eateth his bzeade with no good appetite, you may geue him five or sixe handfuls of Dates, well dusted and sifted in a fine sieue, suffering him so to rest till five of the clocke in the evening. At five of the clocke come to him, put away his doing with your foote, and geue him of bzeade or Dates, which you find he hath most minde vnto, as you shall perceiue, by offering him first a little of the one, and then of the other, such lyke quantitie as is before prescribed: vpon which let him rest till it be two or three howres within darke night, at which tyme byrle him vpper, and leade him forth to ayre, dooing in all poynts as you did in the morning, saue that as in the morning you leade him to the height of a Wyll, so in the evening, you must leade him vnto the valley nere the edge of some running Riuer, where he may receiue the ayre of the colde water, which is sharpe and piercing, working many good effects in your Horse. This manner of ayryng is for the fatte Horse.

The leane Horse would be ayred halfe an howre or an howre before Sunne-sette. The Horse who is in good state of body, would be ayred after Sunne-sette, and before day part. The reasons for which, are before dylated. Nowe after you haue brought your Horse in from ayryng, and haue chafed his legges well, geue him the former quantitie of bzeade, and so let him rest till the next morning, obseruing to spende all the next day in euery poynt like this. It may be objected to mee by some of our stricke keepers, as I knowe dyuers of that mynde, that this manner of dyet is too grosse, and that it will rather nourishe then any way diminish glutte, fatte, and purfynesse: yet when they shall with good iudgement consider the want of May, and the extremity of his carelie and late ayrynges, and way them in

Of the breeding, ryding,

in equall ballance with his sode, they shall finde it no deale at all too much.

Having therefore spent two dayes in this sort, the thyrd morning in stedd of ayzing him, leade him in his cloathes to the place appoynted for his course, where when you come to the stake let him smell vnto it, and if he will (as manie will couet) let him rubbe himselfe thereon, and so leade him to the place of starte, obseruing to leade him with great lenesse & care, forcing him as much as you can, both to douring and stale. If all the way you leade him he refuse to stale, then being come to the place of start, vnloose his surcingle, and breake all the wisps vpon the ground vnder his belly, then by whistling gently with your mouth, procure him to stale, which vndoubtly he wil do instantly, if he haue not piss immediatly before. When he hath piss, vnbind his clothes, and thrust them back with your hand euen to his buttocks, and so gyrd on your saddle: then doe your selfe piss in your Horses mouth, which will gyue him occasion to wozke and ryde with pleasure, and so gette vp into the saddle.

In which when you are seated, let some person for that purpose appointed, (who hauing a spare Horse to carry your Horses clothes after him,) strypp the clothes from his buttocks, of which when he is disburdened, fayne and gently start hym in his course, and make him runne it ouer couragiously and speedily. When you are come to the ende of your course, turne your Horse gently about, and bring hym to the stake, where let him a little pause and smell a while, to giue him vnderstanding that there is the presyred end of hys labour, to which knowledge hee will attaine in short space. That done, gallop him gently as may bee, to meete the man who bringeth hys clothes, which presently throw vpon him, and gyrd them with the surcingle, then leaping vpon hys backe, pace him gently home to the stable. Where when you haue sette him vp, let his legges and body be well rubbd, but no cloth remoued, then stop the surcingle round about with great wisps, and so being tyed in

hys

and trayning vp of Horses.

hys bydle to the stake, and hauing good stoz of lyster vnder him, let him stande thre howres, or two howres and a halfe at the least, at the ende of which time come vnto him and vnbydle him, making him eate out of your hande two or thre handfuls of wheate caryes, of that kind of wheate which we call Pollard wheate, because it is without aunds, that is, not bearded.

When hee hath eaten them, offer him a spasse luke, warme, made of ground spaulke and water, being both swete and strong, which when he hath drunke off, depart from him, and let him rest. At one or two of the clocke in the after noone, come vnto him, and if hee be thoroowe dry, and the sweat hard baked vpon his hayre, let him be vn-clothed, curried, rubbd, and trimd, and so clothed vp againe warme as he was before, giuing him a good quantitie of bread to eate, and so that day no water at all, because hys spasse must serue in stedd of it, and a Horse for a course, is neuer to drinke but once in twenty foure howres. Whys done, let him rest till within an howre of sunne sette, at which time leade him forth to aye for two causes, the one because considering his course in the morning, which was full of toyle and labour, it is necessary that in his ayzing he take some pleasure, least wonted altogether to things vn-comfortable, his courage decay, and he grow dull and vn-spirite: secondly, that you may haue great respect to hys dung, and whether he boyde any grease or no, which if hee doth, then may you be well assured of his extreame foul-nesse, and alio vnderstand, that your last course dyd your Horse great profit.

Having ended your ayzing and sette him vppe, gyue him both bread and sweet wheate straw, letting him rest, and as you spent these thre dayes, so spende your first sort night, at the end whereof, you shall come to haue almost an absolute knowledge touching the state of your Horses body, if you will be circumspect and diligent, as an excellent keeper ought to be.

Of the breeding, ryding,

If you perceiue by this fortnights spending, that your Horse is reasonably cleane within, sounde, strong, and desirous to endure his course, yet through some little purfines and straitnesse of winde, what his harte in willingnesse would performe, want of abilitie hindereth, then in his second fortnights keepe, you shall thus helpe it.

First let him haue Wheate straw in his sticke as hee had before, also obserue the same hotwyes for his ayzings, the same time for his feedings, and the same manner of dressing and watering him as in the former fortnight: onely you shall alter his fode in this manner. When you giue him bread, let it not be the Wheate mentioned before, but bake hym a batch in this sort.

Take of fine Datemeale well dzyed, two peckes, of Weanes one pecke, of Wheate a pecke, and of Rye a peck, let these be ground altogether, and well boulded through a boulding cloth, kneade thys meale with nothing but newe Warne and the whites of Egges, putting therto a ponde and a halfe of sweet Butter y hath not bene potted. These beeing well wrought and laboured together, let it be thoroughly baked in great loaves. Thys breade is moze hartp and strong then the other, yet it doth not cloy and feede so sore as the other doth. It is quicke of digestion, openeth a Horses pypes, and increaseth wind.

Also during thys fortnight, when you bring your horse from ayzing, you shall gyue him hys Dates washt in thys manner. Take two peckes of the best whyte Dates, and let them lye in the sunne for the space of an houre or moze, which done, lay them betwene two cleane clothes, and with a couple of stickes let them be thorowly batted, then sanne away the hulls from the Dates, which your bating will dzyue off, and take the whites of a dozen or twentie Egges, and in those whites wash your Dates, which beeing thorowly washt, dzy them agayne in the sunne, and gyue them to your Horse accordyng as your discretion pleaseeth.

¶

and trayning vp of Horses.

Of all foodes belonging to a running Horse, thys is the lightest, finest, and most excellent for hys wind. You may also if you please, (finding your Horse grosse and kettie) in the morning before you ayz him, giue him a new laid egge or two rawe at hys mouth, which is very soueraine for a soule Horse, because it scowzeth the stomacke, and procureth long wind.

During thys fortnight, let your Horse after euery two dayes rest, haue a course, yet in all, not aboue thre courses that may be soze in dede, and the rest in a playing manner, not exceeding a good round gallop. After euery course let hym haue a sweet Pasthe, because that will cleanse and scowze away all such filthynes as shall by his courting bee dissolued. If your Horse be eyther so old that you dare not well aduenture to course him so oft as you would, for feare of decaying hys courage, or remaing of former straynes, which might bring hym to lamenes: or if the weather bee such that you cannot course in it, or there be any other impediment to hinder that exercise, which should bring your Horse to perfection, and neuerthelesse, you are both compelled to holde your wager, and also find your Horse in no good temper, you shall then to bring hym to perfectnesse, gyue hym a sweate in his clothes in the stable after thys manner.

First you shall stryppe hym naked, then take a blanket, and warme it hote against the fire, foulding it in many fouldes: thys blanket thus heated, wappe rounde about your Horses bodie next hys hart, pynning the same verie close and strapte, then lay vpon him two or thre other blankets, and two or thre good thick Couerlets, gytt these about hym with a Surlingle, and make them fast and close before hys breast, then stoppe the Surlingle rounde about with great wispes of strawe, and lay him good stoe of lytter vnder hym vpe to the bellie. In thys maner let him stande a quarter of an houre, your stable beeing made so close and warme as is possible.

¶ 2

31

Of the breeding, ryding,

If in that space he beginne not to sweat, lay some more clothes vpon him: if all that doo no good, then take him forth of the stable, and leape vpon his back, trotting him in some faire Court or Close, til he begin to sweat, and then set him vp again, and lay a blanket or two more vpon him. In this manner let him sweat for an houre, or an houre & a halfe, daring which time stand by him, and with a cleane cloth, wipe away the sweat from his face and necke. When hee hath sweate sufficiently, you shall coole him by little and little, as first taking away one cloth, and then within halfe a quarter of an houre another: and so one after one, til you haue lightned him of diuers, hauing great regarde to haue some keeper with you, who with wipes and clothes, may all the while rub his face, his neck, his belly, and flanches, till with his rubbing and the abating of his clothes, he become to be as dry as euer he was.

When he is thus dyed, and clothed againe after his vsuall manner, giue him a sweet Pasthe, and all the day after, feede him well with bzeade. These manner of sweates be the onely meanes that may be, to bring an extreamely fat Horse to clearenesse, and the hye way to bring a leane horse to such pouerty, that he will hardly be able to goe. As these sweates be violent, and of great force, so to a fat Horse that hath strength to endure them, they adde such lightnes, agilitie and pleasure, that they be wonderfull profitable: one of these sweates, doth take as force of a Horse as three courses, therefore the seldomer to be vsed, and the greater care to be taken in vsing them.

If your Horse in this fortnight (being vnacquainted with dyet, or being inwardly hote of himselfe) shal proue so collicke or bound in his body, that he can either hardly dung, or dunge more hard then you would haue him, which is a great signe of vnsoundnes, and sickness to ensue: then to remedy that impediment, and prevent daunger to come, you shall when you bring him from apping, giue him hys Dates, wash in strong Ale, the Ale being no more but
drying

and trayning vp of Horses.

drying from them. This kind of foode is coole and loosening, it is strong and hartie, yet doth a little increase purgation, therefore more fitte for the leane horse then the fatte, yet in time of neede conuenient for both.

If this wash meate preuaile not, but that his collickenesse continueth, then it shall be necessary for you, to giue him that scowering of Butter and Carlike, mentioned in the Chapter of hunting Horses, which assuredly will loosen any Horse, yet but in a reasonable sort neither. And withall, as it maketh felible the body, so it purgeth the head of impuritie, and increaseth wind. Yet beware you scoure not your Horse too much, for as to be too extreamely collicke, is an euill signe of sickness, so to be too much loosened, is a signe of weakenes, therefore keepe him in an indifferent temper rather hard then too soft, to the colour of his dunge be good, which is pale and white, not redde and hie coloured. And thus much for this second fortnight.

Solue for this last fortnight, which is all you haue to keepe him in before you runne your wager, as I sayd before, so shall you now obserue the same hounes for apping, the same times for feeding and dressing him, as is before mentioned: onely his water you shall giue at no certaine time, but alwaies when you feede him, after hee hath eaten a little, giue him a dishfull of water, and then let him eate againe, and then a little more water: and in this manner let him haue his meate and water together, but haue care that hee haue no more water then to quench thirst, not to glut his greedie nature.

For this fortnight, you shall let him haue no Wheate-straw, nor any other thing els in his Racke, and for hys heade you shall prouide a mofell of Leather, or Canvas, made like a bagge to come ouer his mouth, with two holes before his nostrils for to receiue his winde, which being made fast at the toppe of his heade, it will keepe him from eating his lytter, gnawing the Rack, Panger, or Waller about him, and your selfe shal be assured, he eateth nothing
but

Of the breeding, ryding,

but what commeth from your owne hands. Into this must sell you shall put thre or foure times every day, Annyseed finely beaten into powder, for your Horse to smell vpon, and now and then to licke on with his tongue, which is both wholesome, pleasant, and increaseth wind.

For this fortnight you shall not by any meanes suffer him to eate in the Stanger, because it may vsually be foule and vncleane, although you rubbe it neuer so soze, but provide to haue a cleane boule, which you may your selfe diligently keepe cleane and swete, neyther put all the meate he shall eate at one tyme into the boule, for feare of cloying his eye, and so consequently his stomacke, but put it in by little and little at once. Let his meate for this fortnight, be the bread last prescribed, and Dates washt in the whites of Egges. Course him in this fortnight as in the former, so you be sure he may haue two whole dayes to rest in before he runne for the wager.

Also the last course you gyue him, let it be in his clothes, and let him not erre a false gallop: nay if hee halfe gallop, halfe trotte, it shall not be amisse, but profitable, for the more gently you vse him that day, the more willing he will be the next time to accomplish your desire. The first thing you giue him to eate after euery course, let it be a handfull or two of Wheate, eares, and a little Musterdseede sprinkled vpon them, to purge his head, and occasion him to sleepe, which is very soueraine.

If in this fortnight hee shall dze inwardly, or growe sickly, and that you find washt meate preuaileth not to remedie him, then you shall not by any meanes gyue hym any scowzing, because whatsoever entred into the stomacke and scowzeth downward, beeing compounded (as it must be) of thinges in some sorte contrary to nature, must of force weaken and draw lowe your Horse, and then you shall want sufficient time to gette him into his former lust and courage againe: but you shall minister vnto hym a glyster of Sallet-oyle, Hyke, and the decoction of Mal-

lowes,

and trayning vp of Horses.

lowes, this will drawe hys bodie into good temper, and both coole and comfort him.

There be some keepers which I knowe, that in such a case as this, will gyue the Horse a handfull or two of thraist Haye, or if it be at the time of the yeare, thre or foure handfuls of forrage, which is the younge grane blades of Wheate or Haye, being sprung halfe a fote aboue the ground. I disallow of neyther of these, though for myne owne part I haue little used them: therefore I referre the same to the discretion of them, which shall haue occasion to imploy them.

In this fortnight, I woulde not haue you gyue your Horse any sweat in his clothes in the stable, vnlesse it be at the beginning thereof, for feare least you thereby draw him to greater weakenesse then you can recouer. During this fortnight, you shall not let your Horse eate any cruttes of Bread, as well to auoyd filthinesse, as for that they be very hard of digestion.

Nowe lastly, as touching the day in which your Horse must runne for your wager, thus shall you vse him. First the night before, you shall gyue him but a very little supper, so that he may bee passing empty in the morning, on which morninge haue hym out, and ayze him an houre or two before day, taking great care that hee emptie himselfe thorowly whilst he is abroad, then bring him in, and after you haue well rubd all his foure legges, and annoynted them thorowly, cyther with Peates-foote oyle, Treane oyle, Shæpes-foote oyle, or Lynxede-oyle, all which be the most excellentest oyles that may be for a Horse, especiallie the two last. When gyue him this foode, take a good bigge pennie white loafe, and cutte the same all out into toastes, and toast them against the fire, then stape them in Muscadine, and lay them betwene hote clothes, and beeing layde before the fire, dze them againe, and so gyue them to your Horse.

These be so pleasant and comfortable, that your Horses emptines

Of the breeding, ryding,

emptines, (as he must be wonderfull emptie when hee goeth to his course) shall little agrieve him. If you haue not this ready to giue him, if then you giue him halfe a peck of fine Maltmeale well dyled, if that be as good, for though it be not so pleasant, yet being so light a foode as it is, it will both comfort his stomacke, and be soone digested. When he hath eaten this, put on his Husell, giue him great stoe of lyster, and vnloose his suringle, that his clothes may hang loose about him, and so let him stand to take his rest, till the houre in which he must be ledde forth to runne his wager, not suffering any man to come within your stable, for feare of disquieting your Horse.

When the houre is come in which you must lead him out, gydd on his clothes handsonlie, brydle him up, and then take your mouth full of strong Vineger, and spyzt it into your Horses nostrils, the strength whereof will search and open his pypes, making them apt for the receit of winde. Whys doone, leade him to the race, and when you come at the end thereof where you must vnclouth him, hauing the Vineger carried after you, doe the like there, & so bequitarh him and your selfe to God, and good fortune. Ché sera sera.

FINIS.

