THE POCKET AND THE STUD: OR, PRACTICAL HINTS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE STABLE

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The pocket and the stud: or, Practical hints on the management of the stable by Harry Hieover

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HARRY HIEOVER

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BY

HARRY HIEOVER.

THIRD EDITION.

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PREFACE

TO

THE THIRD EDITION.

It is a usual and indeed very naturally entertained idea, that when any book has gone through more than one edition, the work must comprise some merit to render such repetition necessary or advisable.

Taking this idea in its general bearing, the conclusion drawn is more or less a correct one: yet it may lead to very erroneous judgment as to the extent of the sale of any published work, so far as relates to the numerical quantum of copies sold; for where a work is of such a nature that the price of each volume is somewhat high, both author and publisher may feel it prudent to confine an edition to a few hundred copies: whereas, on the other hand, where the price is very moderate, it may be judicious, indeed necessary, to let the edition comprise some thousands, in order to render the work remunerative: thus one work

may have the éclat of going through several editions, and yet, in point of copies sold, may fall short of another that is still in its first edition.

As Author of "The Pocket and the Stud," I could not but feel much gratified, that, after so monster an edition as the first was struck off, a second should so soon be requisite. I am now flattered on finding a third called for.

My first published Book was "Stable-Talk and Table-Talk," a miscellaneous work, in two large octave volumes. These are a general compilation, touching Racing, Hunting, Riding, Driving, and most subjects connected with field sports; and further, including the purchasing of Horses, and the breaking-in and subsequent management of them.

Next followed the present work, "The Pocket and the Stud." This enters more into the detail of purchasing and managing horses in and out of the stable; treating also of the dimensions and regulation of stables, so as to render them safe, comfortable, and healthful to their inhabitants; and further, on the feeding of horses, as regards quantum and quality of food, so as to promote the well-doing of the "Stud," with an equal regard to that of the "Pocket."

That it has been thought to have tended to promote such desirable results, I trust I may entertain a hope, from the circumstance of this third edition being called for.

Finding "The Pocket and the Stud" was meeting a rapid sale, I wrote and published a companion to it—"The Stud for Practical Purposes and Practical Men." This work keeps in view the interest of the Pocket and Stud quite as much as its predecessor, and some particulars to a still greater extent.

It sets before the reader the consequences to be expected from the different ailments, general imperfections, and peculiar habits of the horse, whether arising from treatment or natural causes, showing where he may venture to purchase, and where it would be judicious to roject an animal under the influence of any of the imperfections or peculiarities alluded to.

"The Pocket and the Stup" has been, I am aware, a taking title to the book; for, as the world is now constituted, a vast number of its inhabitants are at once on the qui vive where anything relative to a saving of the pocket is concerned. So be it; and under the impression that it is so, I venture to recommend "The Stud for Practical Purposes" for the reader's perusal, feeling perfectly confident that, if the hints given in

"The Pocket and the Stud" may be the means of saving pounds in the general management of horses, its companion, if carefully read, will cause a saving of hundreds in the judicious purchasing of them; for, it must be borne in mind that, though a saving of expense in stable management is a matter of considerable importance in the long run, the preventing the purchase of that at 100l. which is only worth 50% is a saving of 50% in the onset; and, on the other hand, the affording such information as may prevent the rejection (from erroneous ideas) of that which would really meet the wants and wishes of the reader, is a matter of quite as much importance, both on the score of economy, and as a saving of time, trouble, and much vexatious search, which will only end in being obliged to put up with some imperfection at last, - and what imperfections may best be put up with, as regards the purpose for which the animal is wanted, - is the spirit and intention under which I wrote, and venture to recommend, "The Stud for Practical Purposes."

After the two last-mentioned books, both intended to effect a saving of the pocket, it struck me that one having for its intent the saving the life or limbs of the rider might be considered as of at least some use; and, under this impression, I