

PRECEPT AND PRACTICE

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Precept and Practice by Harry Hieover

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HARRY HIEOVER

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AND PRACTICE**



Departure of the English Knights. P. 168.

PRECEPT AND PRACTICE.

BY HARRY HIEOVER,

AUTHOR OF

"PROPER CONDITION OF ALL HORSES," "HINTS TO HORSEMEN," "SPORTING
FACTS AND SPORTING FANCIES," &c. &c.

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P R E F A C E.

THE Proprietors of the "Field" Newspaper, having suggested a desire that I should from time to time furnish a succession of Articles affording such information as might enable those unaccustomed to the possession and management of Horses, to avail themselves of the ordeal I have gone through without its consequent trouble, risk, and expense, I wrote the following sheets. However I may have acquitted myself of so difficult and varied a task, the intentions of the Proprietors of that Journal were, at least, good; and, judging by the approval the articles furnished have met with, I trust my humble efforts have not been made in vain.

A Journal that now embraces so large a portion of the aristocracy of the kingdom among the subscribers, which are daily increasing, emboldens me to hope that the articles that have stood such test, will meet success with the public when published in the form of a volume, so indexed that any subject may be referred to without trouble.

PRECEPT AND PRACTICE.

HINTS TO YOUNG SPORTSMEN AND OTHERS.

To the very young owner of horses I particularly address myself, well knowing that to be compelled to have their establishment managed for them, however well or satisfactorily it might be done, would do away with half the pleasure they might derive from their newly-acquired possession.

It is very true that a young man educated at home is so accustomed to see the general routine of his father's establishment that he becomes acquainted with even the minutiae of its arrangement,

and, on coming into the possession of one of his own, is perfectly qualified for its management. Yet even to him a few hints, aided by long practical experience, would not perhaps be quite thrown away, albeit he might think them not wanted.

Now, the youth brought up at school and college does not possess such advantage. He has only the insight he might gain during the vacations for his guide ; and this is not sufficient (whatever he might think) to enable him to manage his horses to the best advantage. But we will go still further, and suppose a youth to have a father who, from pursuits, inclinations, or any other cause, has never kept horses, or perhaps only a pair for his carriage. On his son coming of age, either from the liberality of his father or in his own right, he finds himself in a position to keep his half-dozen hunters or other horses, as his taste or inclinations may lead him. He can know *nothing* of such matters till practice and experience, at great cost, have taught it him ; and it will be found that such experience is not gained in a year or two ; but, on the contrary, when he fancies that years have