

started from his seat, and ran to grasp her hand with his usual warmth. She gently repelled him with a sigh, and leant upon her father's breast piteously sobbing. He was alarmed at the terrific change which she so soon presented, the havoc of his neglect. The lively and beautiful Mary was now before him, a drooping, sad, and wasted form. The blue veins visible coursed along her thin hands, and a feverish glow, which was painfully perceptible, thrilled through the man's heart and affected him deeply. With agonizing attention he heard the injured parent exclaim—

'Look here, sir; see the wreck your conduct has made! None less than a villain would have thus wronged those whose hospitality he craved! Look at her, sir,—that tender bud,—and blush if you can! May the Lord forgive you, but I'm a man, a trail man—I cannot—no never!'

I regarded the speaker with peculiar surprise, for he was not an educated man. However, there is an eloquence inseparably connected with passion. He had it. It was now my time to speak.

'I must request a definite answer from you sir. What must it be?' he asked thoughtfully; 'what sum will satisfy you?'

'Simply we ask you to redeem your solemn pledge; I heard you were a gentleman,' I said.

'And who dares deny it?' he demanded.

'I do,' I replied coolly; 'while your conduct proves the reverse.'

'That's enough,' cried the indignant father; the law had better take its course. 'Shame will bend his spirit, and the good will shun him. Come away, Mary, my love; you had, after all, a happy deliverance from so wretched a monster—come!'

But Mary, instead of moving as directed, cast herself upon her knees, and clasping her father's hands, pleaded mercy. 'Hear me, father,' she continued; 'I have but a short time to live. Grant me only one request.'

'Speak, my love; I promise you anything.'

'Then abandon this law-suit. It may ruin him and for the world I would not see him harmed. Though he has wronged me, I forgive him. I have never reproached and mean never to reproach him; why then will you? I am persuaded his motives are not discreditable.'

'Discreditable!' ejaculated the father; a villain's motives!

'Pray do not, dear father, revile him. I can't bear it!'

'But my duty!'

'Forgiveness is our first duty, father; never shall you hear me breathe a word against him; forgive him as I do.'

'Gracious girl!' interrupted Hartrow, starting from his seat, and embracing her; 'no longer plead thus—I must fall down to you both, and seek forgiveness. I have been exceedingly wrong. But neither false pride, nor the sneers of friends, will now daunt a purpose which is right, if you will even yet deign to accept my hand.'

'What!' exclaimed Mary, staring in utter doubt what to do I hear aright? It is—but no! it cannot be true!'

'I do not deceive you, Mary—I would not.'

'No!' she continued eagerly; 'you could not—your heart is not so—oh thank, thank—and she swooned in Hartrow's arms. My poor client bent over them in joyous wonder, while I looked on gratified at the successful issue of my simple device.'

The suit, in which the most eminent counsel had been retained, was abandoned, and before another month had elapsed, Mary was Hartrow's wife. Of course I was a welcome guest at the wedding, and ever since have been welcome to Hartrow's mansion. Nor have I reason to regret in the least resorting to such a contrivance in order to settle a breach of promise! Though perhaps unprofessional, it is the opposite to ignoble.

Forgiveness is never without its reward; and you may be a timely friend, as well as a professional adviser. Such are the palpable suggestions of this sketch from real life.

ON HORSE-SHOEING—AS IT IS, AND

As it Ought to be.

By M. A. CUMMING, V. S.

To the President and Members of the St. John Agricultural Society.

Continued.

Its abuse however if better understood would be easier guarded against; and its use, rather than its entire disuse that I wish my remarks to tend.

The common way in which I have seen feet prepared and shod here is this. After removal of the old shoe the butts are brought over the frog, bars and heels first, and these being soft and easily cut get a liberal slicing; a scoop is then taken out of

the sole on each side, extending nearly to the toe, and forming a uniform concave from the point of the frog to the out edge of the crust; so that when a scooped shoe is placed on it, instead of the foot and shoe presenting two level surfaces to each other, they rest upon two thin edges; even with the level shoe it is the thin out edge only of the crust that bears the weight. This scooping out of the sides of the sole is all the implement can conveniently effect. It is not handy for rounding or shortening back the toe and so is seldom bid to do it, that part being left entire except a little out of the sole surface, which rather adds than otherwise to its projecting point. Neither is it available for cleaning out the sole from the angles between the heels and bars, leaving these parts prominent to rest upon the shoe. All it can do here is to bring the whole to a uniform level, and this being done with the foot off the ground, the instant it is set down all the parts change their relative positions, and if the sole was left equally full as the crust and bars (parts designed to bear the horse's weight,) it is now more so, and a week or two's work and growth brings such a degree of pressure on it as to bruise the sensitive sole underneath, rupturing some of the minute blood-vessels with which it is studded, and showing the evil that is done by the effusion of the blood through the pores of the horny sole as in the condition called corn.

The foot being prepared in this way, the shoe is fitted (so far as it gets any fitting) to its elongated and pointed form, and being turned wrong side up so far as the shape of the toe goes, it is nailed as far back towards the heels as nails can safely be driven, and the same process being repeated time after time when the shoes are removed, we have the long contracted mule looking feet produced, that we see daily in our streets.

A system of shoeing free from these defects is just as easy to practice, equally cheap, and productive of far more satisfactory results. The following is an outline of its most important points.

In making the shoes whether fore or hind, the elongated and pointed shape should be studiously avoided. Even when from previous bad management the feet are contracted at the heels and flattened on the sides to an extent admitting of only a partial restoration to the proper shape; still the projecting point upon the toe can be dispensed with, and a broad and solid bearing given in front. The fore shoes if they have a concave seat should have a perfectly level bearing of the breadth of the crust round the outside. The hind shoes do not need seating as the hind feet have a greater concavity and less descent of the sole than the fore. Both fore and hind shoes should have a tip or projection turned up in front, as a rest for the toe to bear against in the descent of the foot, and an aid to the nails in keeping it on. The web or body of the shoe would be of a uniform thickness all round, and when the keel caulks are worn they should be both one length; when only one caulking is worn the other heel of the shoe should be thickened up to the same level. When toe caulks are required, either to give foot hold for heavy draught, or for sharpening in winter, they should extend as far laterally as the breadth of the foot will admit, be as little prominent as may be to afford sufficient hold, be of a uniform depth from end to end, so that all parts bear equally on the ground, and have the bearing edge on the same level as a line drawn between the points of the heel caulks.

The fullering or grooving of the shoe is a useful device for securing the even punching of the nail holes, and protecting the heads of the nails from wear. Beyond this I am not aware of any benefits from it, and it certainly has the disadvantage of weakening the shoe and facilitating its being worn down. In France, many parts of Britain, and in all the English Cavalry Regiments, the nail holes are simply punched and counter-sunk, without any groove or fullering, and have a nail suited to the size and form of the hole. The shoe made thus has a greater solidity and durability, and I have little doubt will ultimately be the form preferred. But whether fullered or not there are one or two things about the punching of the nail holes not to be overlooked. They should all be so punched that the nails may enter the wall of the hoof on its inner edge. No nail hole should ever be seen on the seating of the shoe, nor nail in any part of the edge of the sole. To do this properly requires some nicety as both the thickness and slope of the crust alter as we proceed from the toe to the heels, and it is one of the things much neglected in the making of shoes here, there being but few in which you will see a well graduated range of nail holes. A point worse managed however is the placing of the nail holes properly as regards their distance from the heels. No nail should ever be

driven into the foot further back than its broadest part. This is a rule of nature's indication and she will not suffer its violation with impunity. Behind the broadest part of the hoof the spring and expansion is such that it cannot be fettered or confined without harm; yet we seldom see a shoe made here that has not one or two nails into this forbidden ground, and often they are nailed to the very heels.

As an instance: a gentleman drove a horse from Fredericton to St. John last winter which had been shod the day before leaving. He was two days on the way, and before reaching here was lame on all four feet. On taking off the shoes no special cause of lameness was found in any of the feet except the fettering effects of the nails; but these were driven to within half an inch of the heel caulks, so as to destroy entirely the natural action of the foot.

In another case a gentleman's horse in Portland had been lame from corns no body knew how long, as the hoof was so over-grown that the corns had never been discovered. In this case the fore feet admitted of being shortened back more than an inch, and proportionate quantity taken off the sole; and the nail holes of the old shoe instead of extending only half round as they should have done, occupied more than two-thirds of the circumference from the toe to the heels.

A third instance may be mentioned. About a month ago a gentleman from Sussex brought a colt for me to see, being in the belief himself that he was sounder, as he was equally lame in both fore feet. The most careful examination could detect no acute disease as a cause for his lameness, but both fore shoes were nailed on with ten nails each, five on each side, and back almost to the heels, as if intended not to need removal during the animal's natural life.

Since this was begun to be written, the following case occurred in town as if to impress more strongly the necessity of exposing the system referred to. A dry horse was lame on the fore foot, and was taken to a forge and had a new shoe put on. Three or four days afterwards (the lameness in the mean time having increased) I was called to see him. I found the cause of lameness to be a suppurated corn in one of the heels, the inflammation from which had run so high as to break out at the top of the hoof between the hair and horn. The cause of the corn was equally obvious. The shoe had no toe tip to steady it on the foot, but instead had a large one turned up at each heel, so as completely to fix the foot and make its lower part rigid as if in a vice. On enquiry I learned that a shoe of the same kind had been on before the recent shoeing, and had no doubt produced the corn and lameness for which he was re-shod; while the more complete fixture of the new shoe, caused the inflammation and suppuration I was called to treat.

These are not singular instances; similar ones are occurring almost every day, and anything approaching to a well made shoe is the exception rather than the rule in this country.

(Concluded next week.)

An English society has provided for sending out four Scripture readers, to labor among the British and Protestant French soldiers in Turkey.

Four Days Late News.

NEW YORK, Nov. 26, '54.

The Collins steamship *Baltic*, from Liverpool, Nov. 15th, with four days late news, arrived at Sandy Hook at 11.30 last night, and reached her dock at half past 9 o'clock this morning, bringing 148 passengers, amongst them are Beverly Jordan and John Platt.

The *Africa* arrived at Liverpool, on the afternoon of the 12th.

The *Indiana* arrived at Southampton, on the 14th.

The U. S. frigate *Savannah* and brig *Bainbridge*, were at Montevideo on the 6th of October.

The news is extremely interesting.

There is news of the massacre of the English Light Cavalry under Lord Cardigan. It is reported that they charged a Russian battery of 30 guns and lost 400 dead. Only 200 returned. Since then there has been incessant and sanguinary fighting.

The allies are almost overwhelmed, and urgent request is sent for instant reinforcements.

50,000 Frenchmen are to be instantly sent, and every available steamer is taken, including the *Europa*, *Alps*, *Indiana*, *New York*, and others.

On the 4th of November a sanguinary engagement took place, and on the 5th a terrible combat, including attacks by sorties and a general attack by Menschikoff's army.

The battle lasted from day-break till 4 P. M.—

Both sides claim the victory. The English took some 1000 prisoners. The Russians stormed several batteries, and silenced their guns. Loss by the allies, 5000; the Russian loss, 8000.

The battle was resumed by the Russians next day, the 6th, but we do not yet know the result.

The allies are preparing to storm before the Russians can recover losses, and a practicable breach is effected.

The war news was exciting the most profound anxiety.

Raglan and Canrobert had sent the most urgent demands for reinforcements, and great haste was manifested to meet their request.

Seven first class steamers are taken up for instant service, and others are wanted.

The *Alps* sailed on the 11th for Toulon. The *Europa* would go to Kingston on the 18th, and various others were under orders to embark troops.

The disastrous result of the battle of the 25th to the English, is confirmed, though it is not quite so bad as at first reported. It was owing to the misconception of an order from the commander.

Lords Raglan and Cardigan rode with the light horse over a plain a mile and a half in length, and exposed to a full cross fire from the Russian battery of 30 guns. The attempt was madness, and the result destructive. Out of 607 only 193 returned, and these must also have been destroyed but for a magnificent charge to the rescue by the heavy dragoons, and the brave stand of the Highlanders, which redeemed the day.

After the action, it was resolved by the allies to abandon the position at Balaklava, and to retire to the hills overlooking the town, in which case the depot would have been established at Arrow Bay or Cherson.

Advices however of the 27th state that it had been re-decided to retain Balaklava.

A despatch from Menschikoff, sent to Berlin, in cypher, states that on the 4th of November unusual activity having been observable in the allied camp, doubtless making preparations to storm Gen. Leprandi, reinforced by a corps sent by Menschikoff, had attacked the allied camp, and killed 800 men.

This report however, is doubtful as also is a statement that a practical breach was opened in the walls on the same day.

General Canrobert's official report of the battle of the 4th of November, is published in the *Moniteur* of the 13th. He says:

'The Russian army was swollen by reinforcements from the Danube, as well as by the combined reserves of all the Southern Provinces.'

The English army sustained the attack with the most remarkable firmness and solidity supported it by a portion of General Bosquets division, which fought with admirable vigour, as well as by the troops which were nearest to the English position. The enemy who far outnumbered our force, beat a retreat with a loss of 8 to 9000 men. The struggle lasted the whole day. At the same time Gen. Fart, forced to repulse a sortie made by the garrison, and under his energetic command, the enemy were driven back, into the place with a loss of 1000 killed and wounded. This brilliant day which was not purchased without considerable loss by the allies, does the greatest honour to our armies. The siege continues with regularity.'

(Signed) GEN. CANROBERT.

English advices of the 11th from Bucharest, states that the summary of the 5th, that Menschikoff's whole army attacked the English position. A sanguinary battle ensued which lasted till 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The allies obtained a decisive victory. There were severe losses on both sides. The English took many hundred prisoners. Generals Butler, Adams, Reintwick and Torrance, and it was said also, that Sir George Brown were wounded.

The English official account has not arrived.

The Russian accounts: A telegraph despatch from St. Petersburg of the 11th, states that Menschikoff's reports under date of the 6th of November, Sebastopol, that on the 5th, the garrison made two sorties, one against the right flank which was successful and resulted in the capture of one of the enemy's batteries—the guns of which were spiked. There was great loss on both sides.

The 2nd sortie was also completely successful. The Russians, having spiked 15 guns, immediately afterwards a French infantry division pursuing the retiring Russians, attempted to mount to the assault but was thrown back with immense loss.

The *Morning Post* of Vienna, has the following despatch:

'Czernitz Nov. 11th On the 6th, the whole garrison of Sebastopol, amounting to 65,000 men made a sortie. A famous battle ensued which