

**THE COMMON COLICS OF
THE HORSE: THEIR CAUSES,
SYMPTOMS, DIAGNOSIS,
AND TREATMENT**

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The Common Colics of the Horse: Their Causes, Symptoms, Diagnosis, and Treatment by H. Caulton Reeks

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H. CAULTON REEKS

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COMMON COLICS OF THE HORSE

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Their Causes, Symptoms, Diagnosis, and
Treatment

BY

H. CAULTON REEKS, F.R.C.V.S.

EXAMINED IN PATHOLOGY AND BACTERIOLOGY BY THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

AUTHOR OF "DISEASES OF THE HORSE'S FOOT"

SECOND EDITION

CHICAGO
ALEX. EGER

1909

TQ

SIR JOHN M'FADYEAN

(M.B., D.Sc., F.R.S.E.)

Principal and Dean of the Royal Veterinary College, London.

AS A MARK OF RESPECT

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

Six years have elapsed since this little work was first published, and the passage of time has rendered necessary a few alterations and additions. The task of penning these has been a pleasant one, for the fact that after the exhaustion of the first edition, and a second large reprint of it, a second edition should be called for is gratifying proof that the book has supplied a need and served some useful purpose. It now only remains for me to mention anything of importance concerning the reception of the first edition that would interest the reader of the second, and to record here the alterations that have been made.

In the reception accorded the first, the most pleasing feature to me was the number of unsolicited letters it brought me from practitioners, both English and American, concerning what I have now come to call the 'stimulant' treatment of intestinal impaction. Many who have, in the phrase of one of them, '*put their sedatives on the shelf*,' have written in terms expressive of their delight with the change, and assuring me that, if I needed confirmation of the correctness of the treatment, their own experience would give it. Although pleasing to me, I merely mention this fact here in order that the reader, should he contemplate a change which at first sight may appear to him startling, may be assured that, concerning its wisdom, he has not to rely on my word

alone. He now has corroborative testimony. In this connection, seeing that it is more or less a summary of the arguments both for and against the stimulant treatment, I may point out that I have now included in the Appendix (Part II.) an article on 'The Use and Abuse of Sedatives in the Treatment of the Equine Colics.'

Regarding the other additions, perhaps the most important is that of Chapter X., on 'Subacute Obstruction of the Pelvic Flexure of the Colon.' This, I hope, is a further step towards the clearer diagnosis of intestinal obstructions, and I trust the matter there recorded, together with the diagrams illustrating it, will lead others to a comprehension of these troubles even more exact still.

To Chapter II., which deals with the surgical anatomy, I have added diagrams which may, perhaps, define more clearly than the words the formation of the so-called cardiac sphincter of the stomach.

Appended to Chapter VII., that on 'Gastric Tympany,' there is a description and illustration of a new stomach-tube, which shows promise of being of use in the treatment of both gastric tympany and gastric engorgement.

Of alterations, there is only one of importance. It deals with a change of opinion, which I should be dishonest in withholding, and will be found fully set out in Part III. of the Appendix.

In conclusion, I again commend this book to the veterinary practitioner, asking him, above all, to make it but an aid towards the achievement of an end we must all of us have in view—the further elucidation of the troublesome affections with which it deals.

H. C. R.

SPALDING,

January, 1909.