THE SIMPLE AILMENTS OF HORSES: THEIR NATURE AND TREATMENT

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By W. F.

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PREFACE.

THE author has drawn, for the most part, upon his own experience in writing this little book. It is intended for horse-owners in general, and contains hardly a dozen technical terms, and not even these without a full explanation.

No one would regret more than the author if the work either led to or encouraged quackery; but a simple statement of plain facts, even when accompanied by prescriptions in English (so much the dread of the weaker members of the medical and veterinary medical professions), is far less likely to do so than utter ignorance of the importance of the signs and symptoms of disease.

The works of Williams and Fleming have been largely consulted throughout, and those of numerous

medical authors also; and no pains have been spared in bringing the information down to the present time.

Besides simple ailments, some very grave ailments have been treated of. The author's excuse for this, in a little work on slight ailments, is that a few grave disorders make such rapid headway that, long before medical aid can be got, although such aid be not far to seek, the case takes an irremediable turn for want of prompt treatment to arrest it in its early stages—colic, for instance.

The difficulties of parturition have been explained, as this phenomenon is constantly requiring prompt assistance at the hands of amateurs while experienced skill is being sought.

Those who wish to make full use of the book, ought to look carefully over it and take the bearings of its subjects, at least, in order that a hasty reference in case of need may be made. There are those who may find it to their advantage to study the work thoroughly—farm pupils, for instance, who have to become acquainted with the rudiments of veterinary

science. To such the author would say, master the remarks and train of reasoning in the Introduction—fever and inflammation especially; also what is said under the heads "Parturition" and "Bowel Diseases," because these diseases and phenomena will be encountered in five-sixths or more of the cases which the amateur will ever require to treat.

W. F.

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