

**DISEASES OF THE HORSE AND HOW TO
TREAT THE: A CONCISE MANUAL OF
SPECIAL PATHOLOGY, FOR THE USE OF
HORSEMEN, FARMERS, STOCK-RAISERS,
AND STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURAL
COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES**

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Diseases of the horse and how to treat the: a concise manual of special pathology, for the use of horsemen, farmers, stock-raisers, and students in agricultural colleges in the United States by Robert Chawner

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ROBERT CHAWNER

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BY ROBERT CHAWNER,

VETERINARY SURGEON.



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PREFACE.

THIS unpretending little treatise is an attempt to supply an oft-expressed want—namely, a brief, popular, and reliable handbook on that department of veterinary science which treats of the horse and his diseases. Although “of making many books there is no end,” yet, strange to say, no work on this subject has appeared within twelve or fifteen years. The books now offered for sale in the book stores are simply republications of foreign books that were written for the past generation: they comprise Youat’s, Mayhew’s, and Percival’s works. It need hardly be proved by any argument of mine that, in accordance with the advancement of medical science in our day a new work (written up to the present time) is absolutely required to instruct the owners of horses in the latest and most approved modes of treatment in all diseases of the horse. Within the past twenty years new diseases, or rather new forms of old diseases, (including the late Epizootic and Spinal Meningitis) have afflicted the equine race in our own country and elsewhere. These diseases were considerably altered in character from the type with which our grandfathers were acquainted. For these reasons it would be exceedingly injudicious to pursue exactly the same treatment recommended in books written for those times. In former days bleeding, blistering, firing, and physicing were indiscriminately pursued without knowing the “why and the wherefore” for so doing.

The diseases of horses is my subject, therefore the reader need not expect (as in some books) a mass of irrelevant matter on the breeding, management, training, or anatomy of the horse.

By far the greater number of the men that own horses either cannot or will not employ a veterinary surgeon, and even in many cases they are too far removed from a qualified practitioner in a country so new and extensive as our own. In the majority of cases, when any emergency arises, either of sickness or lameness of the horse, they run for the nearest horse-shoer or horseman in their neighborhood. In all such instances sufficient knowledge, "if not to heal, at least not to harm," is of the highest importance.

The object of the author has been to supply to such persons a brief, popular and, if possible, reliable work for all such emergencies. How far he has succeeded in accomplishing that object he leaves to the judgment of others.

The Author expresses his indebtedness for the plan of his work to Dr. Henry Hartshorne, of Philadelphia; Professor Cressy, of Amherst; Finlay Dunn, and others.

NEW YORK, Christmas, 1874.

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