

**VETERINARY MEDICINE
SERIES NO.
11; THE ITINERANT HORSE
PHYSICIAN**

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Veterinary medicine series No. 11; The itinerant horse physician by Mart R. Steffen

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MART R. STEFFEN

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I received a letter from a friend in El Paso (Page 51)

VETERINARY MEDICINE SERIES

No. 11

THE
ITINERANT HORSE
PHYSICIAN

BY

MART R. STEFFEN, M. D. C.

Author Special Veterinary Therapy, Special Cattle Therapy, Etc.



Chicago

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By
D. M. CAMPBELL

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INTRODUCTION

THE ITINERANT HORSE PHYSICIAN

The experiences of the Itinerant Horse Physician as recorded in the following pages can never again be duplicated, for matters veterinary have changed for the better throughout the regions he traversed. Still the deplorable conditions dependent upon unregulated veterinary practice of unqualified men calling themselves veterinarians, is yet a serious problem in far too many localities and states; and this work cannot fail to help solve that problem by placing vividly before the whole profession and others interested the real calamity that unqualified veterinarians constitute to the live stock industry. Never before has the evil of the charlatanic veterinarian been portrayed in such glaring ugliness or condemned so tellingly.

It must not be thought that the author or the publisher hold out the example of the Itinerant Horse Physician for the emulation of the young practitioner; rather is it to show the folly of believing the largest and ripest berries are always to be found on the next bush. But along with considerable information of a scientific nature, many a lesson in self-reliance can be gleaned from these pages that will stand the young practitioner in good stead when he faces that greatest problem of a veterinary practice—the public.

The historical value of this record of experiences of the Itinerant Horse Physician is not

to be minimized. Here we have delineated in the inimitable style of the author the evolution of farriery into the profession of veterinary medicine, concurrently with the attainment of professional accomplishments in older parts of the country, of which every veterinarian may be proud.

The historical value of the work and the interest which it arouses are enhanced not a little by the punctilious accuracy of the author as to places and dates; by the fact that he has neither overdrawn nor underdrawn in his description of occurrences and by the unusual realism of the pen pictures of his characters. In only a few cases, and then only for very obvious reasons, have fictitious names of persons been employed.

THE PUBLISHER.

Chicago, April, 1916.