

RIDING RECOLLECTIONS

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Riding recollections by G. J. Whyte-Melville & John Charlton

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G. J. WHYTE-MELVILLE & JOHN CHARLTON

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"Would push her nose into my pockets in search of bread
and sugar." (Page 13.)

[*Riding-Recollections.*]

[*Frontispiece*]

Riding Recollections

By

Whyte-Melville

Author of "Market Harborough," "Katerfelto," "Cerise,"
"Satanella," etc., etc.

Illustrated by John Charlton

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Dedicated

ON BEHALF OF "THE BRIDLED AND SADDLED"

TO THE

"BOOTED AND SPURRED."

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE

As in the choice of a horse and a wife a man must please himself, ignoring the opinion and advice of friends, so in the governing of each it is unwise to follow out any fixed system of discipline. Much depends on temper, education, mutual understanding and surrounding circumstances. Courage must not be heated to recklessness, caution should be implied rather than exhibited, and confidence is simply a question of time and place. It is as difficult to explain by precept or demonstrate by example how force, balance, and persuasion ought to be combined in horsemanship, as to teach the art of floating in the water or swimming on the back. Practice in either case alone makes perfect, and he is the most apt pupil who brings to his lesson a good opinion of his own powers and implicit reliance on that which carries him. Trust the element or the animal and you ride aloft superior to danger; but with misgiving comes confusion, effort, breathlessness, possibly collapse and defeat. Morally and physically, there is no