

**THE RACE HORSE:
HOW TO BUY, TRAIN,
AND RUN HIM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649685905

The Race Horse: How to Buy, Train, and Run Him by Frederick Warburton

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FREDERICK WARBURTON

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AND RUN HIM**

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J. Barber.

Saunderen?
Winner of the Whip, and of the Forewood Cup, 1858.

Harry Hall Newmarket.

THE
RACE HORSE

HOW TO BUY, TRAIN, AND RUN HIM

BY
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BOSTON
SOCIETY

LONDON
SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON & COMPANY

Limited

St. Dunstan's House

FETTER LANE, FLEET STREET, E.C.

1892

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Winner of the King and of the St. Andrew's Cup, 1888

PREFACE.

THE sport of racing is one which shares with other outdoor amusements the advantages of healthy employment for body and mind. It surpasses most of them in one important respect. While with those, a time must come when the loss of bodily vigour and the decrepitude of age give rise to regret that we should have paid no heed to the warning of Talleyrand, "Young man, what a dreadful old age you are laying up for yourself;" for the enjoyment of racing we are never too old; there is never a moment of his life, so long as reason holds, when a racing man cannot derive gratification from his favourite pursuit, and there are few when he cannot bodily engage in it. The other sports of youth and middle age leave in the volume of our lives many a blank space as our story approaches its conclusion. Racing fills each page up to the last, when *FINIS* announces our translation to happier hunting-grounds. But the greatest pleasure of all connected with this noble sport, one which, unlike most pleasures, contributes to his physical and temporal welfare, that of training horses himself, is usually rejected by the owner. It necessitates early rising, sobriety, and their accompaniments, and furnishes plenty of employment to the mind as well as to the body, turning an idler into a working man, besides removing at least one obstacle to success.

That racing means ruin has become almost an axiom; doubtless a similar opinion would obtain regarding any of the industrial pursuits if carried on, not only as a pastime, but without the industry and technical know-

ledge necessary to success, which, in the case of nine owners of racehorses out of ten, or even a greater proportion, are absolutely wanting. But there is really no reason why racing should not pay if conducted on business principles, just as any other industry pays, not by the acquisition of large sums of money in the space of minutes and seconds, but by the application of skill and industry and patience, which alone can ensure success in any pursuit. That these are seldom forthcoming in racing, on the part of owners, I think all will admit, and none more readily than those who have lost their money through undertaking what they were neither qualified to perform, nor willing to sacrifice time and labour to learn; preferring to entrust the task to others whose interests were not identical with their own.

As to the knowledge requisite, the apprenticeship which qualifies an uneducated lad to undertake, at a later period, the charge of a racing stable, would, of course, qualify one superior to him in this respect for the same task. This is an ordeal to which few gentlemen will submit. In place thereof they can learn the art of training from observation, from experience, and from oral or written instruction. The last I have in the ensuing pages endeavoured, and, I hope, with some success, to impart, success which I believe will attend the efforts of those who deem this little work worthy of their perusal and attention, and who intelligently interpret the precepts and practice therein enjoined. These have been derived from actual experience of training in New Zealand, the West Indies, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, and from observation of the methods employed by the best and the worst trainers, and the success or failure attending their efforts, as well as from the opinion of those whose reputation is deservedly high, and therefore worthy of consideration.

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