RAREY

THE HORSE'S MASTER
AND FRIEND

SARA LOWE BROWN

This content of this book is reprinted with permission by Richard Rarey, direct descendant of John Solomon Rarey.

This document may also be found at: thompsonrarey.com

This is a publication of www.HorseTrainingResources.com and may not be copied or distributed without the prior written permission of Charlie Hicks, HSA Marketing.
It is one of the honors of Franklin county, Ohio, that early in the second quarter of the Nineteenth century, it produced, in the person of John Solomon Rarey, a man who bore to all the world the message that in kindness there is power. Ralph Waldo Emerson said of him that he had "turned a new leaf in civilization," while William Lloyd Garrison testified to his "fitness to teach the world a great and everywhere needed lesson of humanity." The young man was educate (I at the old Groveport academy, Bishop Washburn's school on Walnut creek and at Ohio Wesleyan University, but he found his message---that of kindness to animals, especially the horse ---in the fields and stables of his father's farm. With this message that the rule of love is the condition of greatest achievement in the use of the horse, he proceeded, when he was but thirty-one, to the state capital, to Canada, to Europe, Africa and Asia, proclaiming his gospel and working what seemed to be miracles in the taming of horses so vicious that all the methods known to brutal horse-breakers had failed to subdue them. His achievements were witnessed, applauded and honored by kings, emperors and savants, and he returned to his native land to make a tour from which he emerged with the praise of reformers, philanthropists and intellectuals generally.

Mr. Rarey's great work was done within the period of ten years, and it was so well done that its influence will never be lost. It gave new vitality to the Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and put a kindlier spirit into the methods of training horses for service in the armies, not only of this country, but also of England and France. It taught to the cabmen and carters of London, Paris, Edinburgh and other cities the folly and wickedness of brutality to their animals and gave to lovers of the horse everywhere, both men and women, the real key to their successful management.

Only a man of fine intelligence, good heart and real genius could have done all this. And that is precisely what John S. Rarey was. No one can read the reports of his lectures or the accounts of his demonstrations without being convinced that he was a man of extraordinary powers of speech, of pleasing personality, of courage and of confidence never running to the extreme of egotism. He performed wonders, but he gave a reason for them and showed others how they could do as much, if they would. It was a rare lesson that Mr. Rarey taught---a lesson that men everywhere are too prone to forget. If it were applied to mankind, as one of his English admirers said, "Christianity would assign him a place among the Apostles." It is akin to the lesson that the world must learn again, if the nations are to be at peace.
THE RAREY FAMILY.

The Rarey family in America is traced back to Charles Rarey, who was born in Nord Ottensin, Hamburg, in 1744, and came, when a young man, to America as a trader in dry goods. Losing his fortune through the repudiation of Continental money, he turned to farming and, in 1778, married Margaret Wolfe who, though of English descent, was of American birth. He was a tenant farmer in Maryland and later in Virginia. Of the eleven children born of this union, one, Nicholas, died. The others came with their parents, in 1806, to Ohio, the family settling on a purchased farm in Franklin county, on Walnut creek. They were among the early settlers of the county. Their farm was surrounded by forest in which there was an abundance of game, including bears and wolves which were often a menace to the stock. But Charles and his family of fearless, energetic boys were great hunters; they retaliated on the wild animals and made merchandise of their furs, thus adding to the profits from their farming. Prosperity came as a result of this double industry, and farm after farm was added to the Rarey holdings. Charles Rarey died at the Walnut creek homestead, January 3, 1826, aged 82 years; his wife, Margaret Wolfe, died at the same place, October 10, 1839, aged 74 years; their remains are buried in the little cemetery near by.

Graves of Charles and Margaret Rarey in the Cemetery on Little Walnut
Adam Rarey, son of Charles and Margaret and father of John, was born in 1786, and at the age of 26 married Mary Catherine Pontius, a pretty young woman of Pennsylvania birth then living in Chillicothe. The couple for four or five years lived on a farm near the paternal home, but, annoyed by the overflowing of Walnut creek and tempted by the opening of the public road from Columbus to Lancaster, moved to another tract where, because their home was a convenient stepping place for travelers between Columbus and Lancaster, they opened, soon after the declaration of peace in 1815, a house of public entertainment, maintaining it till Adam's death in 1839.

Birthplace of John S. Rarey, Groveport, Ohio. Erected in 1826

It was in the brick house, erected by Adam Rarey (the front walls of which were retained in the Rarey mansion, now remodeled as the Hotel Elmont) that John Solomon Rarey was born, December 6, 1827. One of his earliest traits was an intense fondness for the farm horses and colts. When he was three years old, it was his delight to ride the plowhorse when his father or elder brother was working in the fields. When he was 12, his father gave him a spirited bay colt to break, according to his own ideas. He did so, making the animal the marvel of the neighborhood. His fame spread, and men came hundreds of miles to be instructed by the boy in the training of horses; so that, while he was yet a youth, he found himself in a prosperous business. Convinced that the horse is an animal of higher intelligence than generally supposed and having decided to make horse-training his life-work, John went to Texas, where he spent several months in studying and training the wild horses of the plains. Kindness, firmness and patience were the essentials of his system, and to these qualities the wild horses yielded as readily as did those at his Ohio home. There he also owned and trained a team of elks which he often drove to the capital and to county fairs.
OFF TO EUROPE.

Now fairly launched on his great career, Mr. Rarey returned to Ohio and in 1856 gave a public exhibition of his art at the Ohio Stage Company's yard, Gay and Fifth streets, Columbus. About the same time he published a small book containing the essentials of his method. The book had a large sale, and the principles it set forth are still employed in the training of the American cavalry horses. In 1857, with letters of introduction from Governor Salmon P. Chase, of Ohio, Mr. Rarey went to Toronto, where he gave a single exhibition before Sir Edmund Head, Governor-General of Canada, and the British army officers. Thence with other endorsements and letters of recommendation, lie sailed for England, traveling with R. A. Goodenough, a Toronto merchant and amateur breeder of horses.

On the voyage, he was invited by two Englishmen to try his method on a vicious horse in which they were interested. On his arrival in Liverpool, November 29, he undertook the task, accomplishing it to their entire satisfaction. They cheerfully paid him the fee agreed upon, and so he had $100 in gold as the proceeds of his first six hours on English soil. The Liverpool Journal complimented him by describing him as "a perfect gentleman of easy address and great knowledge, not only of horses, but of men." The young American found no difficulty in enlisting the support of Sir Richard Airey, Lieutenant-General of the British army, and Prince Albert. Hearing of his skill, Queen Victoria expressed a desire to witness an exhibition, and arrangements were made for one at Windsor Castle before the royal family and suite.

Here is Mr. Rarey's own account of it, written in a letter to his sister Margaret, under date of January 17, 1858:

"After the royal family entered the Riding House, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert came in and to the front, where I was introduced to her Majesty and the Prince Consort, while sitting on the back of a large wild colt, which stood perfectly quiet with its head up. I, facing the party, with my hat in hand, made a short speech to the Queen. A drum was afterwards handed to me, which I beat with fury, without the horse exhibiting any signs of fear.

"After taming a second horse, the riding master selected a horse belonging to Prince Albert, a wild, nervous animal. I was in a box stall alone with the horse for fifteen minutes. When Queen Victoria and Prince Albert entered, they found the animal lying down, and I lying beside him, with one of his hind feet under my head and the other over my chest. This so astonished them that they laughed. As the place was not large, all could not see; so after the Queen and Prince Consort had looked, they stepped back to let others of the royal party have a look. After that, the Queen and Prince Consort came back, talking to me about the horse, inquiring if I could make him rise. I answered 'Yes,' and commanded the animal to rise to his feet. They stood looking at the horse and said it was a wonderful performance, thanked me for the entertainment and departed.

"After the exhibition, I was shown through the castle from kitchen to cellar, the state rooms and the Queen's private rooms. It was a very interesting sight. I also dined in the castle and, the next day, I received a note by the special command of the Queen, with a cheque enclosed for $125, a gift for my entertainment. She also sent a messenger to know if I would again appear before her Majesty and the royal guests in attendance for the royal marriage. I accepted the invitation and
Of this same performance before the Queen and her suite, the *London Times* of January 25, 1858, said:

"On that occasion the subjects on which Mr. Rarey operated were three in number. One was a fine spirited black horse of high nervous temperament, which had been returned to Mr. Anderson, of Piccadilly (of whom he had been bought for a large sum of money) on the ground of his being restive and all but unmanageable. This animal, it is but right to say, had been seen and handled by Mr. Rarey, at Mr. Anderson's stable, previous to his being taken to Windsor. At the first interview with the horse at Piccadilly, he was placed in a loose box, which Mr. Rarey entered, cracking a whip. Startled by this unusual exhibition of violence, the animal struck out with both his hind legs and uttered a kind of savage yell. The company who had assembled to witness the experiment were then asked to withdraw, and Mr. Rarey was left alone with the horse. On being called in again, in less than a quarter of an hour, they were amazed to find the animal prostrate on his side, among the straw in the stall, with his head slightly raised, and Mr. Rarey, whom he was eyeing without the least symptom of alarm, lying beside him. Mr. Rarey remained with him in this position for some time, during which he knocked the horse's fore and hind hoofs together, made a pillow of his thighs and finally got up and ran a heavy wheelbarrow up to and around the still prostrate creature, without producing in him the slightest sensation of fear.

"The next subject was a young unbroken colt, brought from a farm of Prince Albert in the vicinity, which had never been handled in any way and which Mr. Rarey had never before seen. This colt was led in by a halter and left alone with the horse tamer, who intimated a wish that the company would retire for a few minutes to the farther end of the building. After the lapse of about a quarter of all hour, the royal party were summoned to return, and then they saw, as in the former case, this wild colt lying on the ground, and the horse tamer at his side, who sat upon him and handled his legs, feet and every other part by turns—a process during which the creature remained wholly passive.

"After Mr. Rarey had parted with the colt, a handsome bay charger, belonging to the Prince Consort, was brought to him. This horse, one of high spirit, which had always shown great restlessness while being mounted, and a constant tendency to take fright, would, it was thought, almost defy Mr. Rarey's attempts to tame him; but the result was as successful as in the two previous instances. In a short time, the horse tamer had him down also, as submissive as all the rest, and was seen crawling among his legs, sitting upon his shoulders and hips and knocking his hoofs together. Then, bidding the horse rise, which he did instantly, Mr. Rarey jumped upon his back and by turns held an umbrella over his head and beat a tattoo on a drum, the hitherto proud and restless animal now owning subjection to a new master, remaining the while almost as motionless as a statue."

According to invitation, Mr. Rarey gave his second exhibition before royalty, January 23, 1858, in the Riding school attached to the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace. His audience, on that occasion, included the Queen, the Prince Consort, the Princess Royal, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred and other members of the royal family, with the ladies of the Court and most of the foreign princes and distinguished visitors then in London, including Prince Frederick William of Prussia, the Prince of Prussia, Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia, Prince Albert of Prussia, Prince Frederick Albert of Prussia, Prince Adalbert of Prussia, Prince Hohenzollern Sigmaringen, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the Duke of Brabant, the Count of Flanders, Prince William of Baden, Prince Edward of Weimar, Prince Julius of Holstein Glucksburg; also the Duke of Wellington, Major General Sir Richard Airey, Lord Alfred Paget, Clerk Marshal; Colonel Hood, Clerk Marshal to the Prince Consort and Major Groves, Crown Equerry.
At this second exhibition, Mr. Rarey was assisted by Lord Alfred Paget, to whom had been communicated his secret of horse-control, as well as to Sir Richard Airey and Colonel Hood. This from the London Times shows that Mr. Rarey's power was not personal to him:

"Lord Alfred took for his subject a beautiful grey pony belonging to the Prince of Wales. He was left alone with the pony for a few minutes in the riding school, and on the admission of the royal party, it was prostrate on the ground, with his lordship sitting, caressing it, handling its feet and legs, resting on its haunches and in all respects treating it in a manner proving its complete subjection to him. That over, Mr. Rarey appeared with the black horse from Anderson's, in Piccadilly, to which reference has been made. Placing himself at one end of the riding school, lie called to the animal winch lie had left at the other, and it immediately cantered toward him in a playful manner. It lay down at his bidding or followed him like a dog around the building. When down, a plank was laid upon its shoulders, up which Lord Paget ran a wheelbarrow. Finally, when the horse had regained his legs, he was mounted by Mr. Rarey who sat on the animal's crupper with his back to the head, beating a drum and cracking a whip over him, this treatment resulting in neither motion nor fear on the part, of the horse.

"One of the fine stud of cream-colored horses belonging to her Majesty was next subjected to the manipulation of Mr. Rarey, with an equally surprising and successful result, so far as laying the animal, which is an entire horse, down was concerned, and handling him all over with the utmost freedom. Besides the frequent display of some vicious propensities, this particular animal of late has never permitted anybody to ride him; but he allowed Mr. Rarey to mount him without offering the least resistance. With this the exhibition terminated, and the Queen and her illustrious visitors, by whom it was witnessed with the most evident tokens of interest and wonder, took their departure."

At the wedding in St. James Palace, the following morning, Mr. Rarey was an invited guest.
Lithopolis Ohio, Nov. 10th, 1857

This certificate that I have been acquainted with Mr. John S. Raye, the “Horse Trainer,” from his boyhood up, and have witnessed his performances with horses for twenty years— While not at first proof of a man, he was noted for his peculiar mark-handling wild and vicious horses; and loney did he ever
play for his temerity—these different
times, that I now see clearly, have been
called, as physician to the family, in
reducing or aiding in reducing fractured
or dislocated bones, occasioned by his
experiments with intractable or vicious
horses; but by dint of perseverance and
deep investigation into the habits and
dispositions of the universal horse
family, he has at last attained to a
knowledge, or ability to control the wilder
and, in fact, most intractable horses,
unequalled, perhaps, by any man in
America—And I feel no hesitation in
saying to any who may be incredulous
with regard to his powers over wild or
unbroken horses, try, and he will
render perfect satisfaction.

H. Clark, M.D.
HE TAMES CRUISER.

Seeing what Mr. Rarey did was quickly followed by speculation as to how he did it. Sir Richard Airey and the others to whom the information had been given at once testified that in the treatment that had not been seen, there was nothing of cruelty, of tricks, of drugs, of mesmerism or any other similar influence; that his treatment was one of extreme kindness and tenderness toward the animal, the object being to convince him that man is his natural master and friend, and to elicit his confidence and kindly regard. His appeal, they declared, was, as he said, to "the intellect and affections of the horse." But that did not dispose of all the doubters.

"If Mr. Rarey would set criticism at naught," wrote Lord Dorchester, "let him come down to Murrell's Green with a few of his aristocratic friends and try Cruiser. If he can ride him as a hack, I guarantee him immortality and an amount of ready money that would make a British bank director's mouth water." That was a challenge, indeed!

_Cruiser Bridled and Untamed_

Cruiser, sired by Venison, dammed by Little Red Rover, was bred by Lord Dorchester in 1852, and from a foal had been considered vicious; he was always troublesome to handle, and showed temper on every opportunity. On the road from Danebury to Greaywell, he went on his knees and tore the ground up with his teeth. Dorchester had seen him lean against the wall of his box and kick and scream for ten minutes together.
For days he would allow no one to enter his box and, on one occasion tore an iron bar, one inch thick, in two with his teeth. But he was of great racing stock and had himself made one appearance, as a two-year-old, at Newmarket, when he was beaten a neck, after a close finish, by the Duke of Bedford's Para. In consequence of going amiss, Cruiser never started again, but at the time of the challenge, six colts and seven fillies were to his credit. However, he was the torment and menace of all who had him in charge, and his value had depreciated from $15,000 to $10,000; it had even been proposed, for the safety of his keepers to deprive him of his sight. At Rawcliffe, he was always exhibited by a groom with a bludgeon in his hand, and few were bold enough to venture into his yard, the cordial wish of every visitor apparently being that some friendly bullet would lay him low.

Mr. Rarey promptly accepted the challenge and asked that Cruiser be sent to him in London, but Lord Dorchester replied that Mr. Rarey must come to the horse. So it was done, Mr. Rarey finding Cruiser a prisoner in a brick stable with a solid oak door. For three years the horse had worn an eight-pound muzzle of iron with a bar in front of his mouth so that he could eat only by licking the feed up with his tongue. The quarters were cramped for successful operation but the situation had to be accepted and, accompanied by Lords Dorchester and Burleigh, Mr. Rarey set about the task which was to make or mar his English fame.

_Halter, Iron-bound Muzzle and Gag Worn by Cruiser before He as Tamed_
Twice Cruiser flew at the trainer with a fierce bellow, but the latter escaped only to return to the attack and at length succeeded in tying Cruiser's head to the rack. This sense of restraint maddened the horse, the blood vessels of his head, dilated and his frenzy for nearly twenty minutes was such that Lord Dorchester begged Mr. Rarey not to peril his life and to think no more of the one hundred pound bond which he had entered into to return the horse cured in three months. But Mr. Rarey knew the game better than did either Dorchester or the horse. Gradually the latter's fury was spent and the way was opened to other proofs to the animal that he had met his master.

At the end of three hours Cruiser bore Lord Dorchester up and down the straw yard, as he had previously borne Mr. Rarey. Later, he trotted, led behind a cart, to Virginia Water for the night. The next day, Cruiser was led to London behind an open buggy, where he became the chief exhibit in proof of the trainer's prowess. Queen Victoria was delighted and she and the royal children were frequent visitors, caressing Cruiser in regret for the hard usage to which he had been subjected. Four times she witnessed exhibitions by Mr. Rarey, asserting that for her there could be no better amusement.

Now began a period of triumph for the American. A class of two thousand persons was formed, headed by the Queen and the Prince Consort and including princes, dukes, earls, duchesses, marchionesses and other representatives of the nobility, each subscriber paying a fee of $52.50. Mr. Rarey's popularity ran high, due not only to his marvelous successes but also to his quiet, gentlemanly deportment and unassuming manners. Verses and music were composed and dedicated to him. There was the Rarey Waltz, written by his highly gratified pupil, Matilda Langen and played at Her Majesty's state ball by Mr. Weippert's band.

One of the literary tributes follows:

**A SONNET**

TO MR. RAREY, THE HORSE TAMER.

If it be great to conquer with the sword
And bend unwilling captives to our will;
If it be great, by utterance of a word,
To cause destruction and death's empire fill;
If, when the young, bold Macedonian king
First rode the horse, companion of his fame,
None else dare ride, the very air did ring
With long-continued plaudits of his name,
And his delighted father called aloud,
"My kingdom is too small for such a son!"
Hast thou not reason to be truly proud
Who all such feats of triumph hast outdone,
For none are like to thine, since they embrace
The noblest triumphs in the noblest race!

- Catherine.
Another who lauded the American in verse was Mr. Hamilton McCarthy, sculptor, who also added to Johnson's Dictionary the word, "Rarefy," which he defined as a verb, active, meaning "to tame a horse by kindness; to win by love; to mollify by the oil of kindness; to reclaim a badly broken horse; to cure madness by excessive kindness." The sculptor's poem runs:

**RAREY, THE EQUINE KING.**

"Amongst all the wonders known of late
Is Rarey's rising fame,
How he subdues the vicious Horse
And can the wildest tame.

The hopeless Cruiser he has tamed
And savage Stafford—they
Have winced their spirit to his eye
And owned his gentle sway.

The fearless Zebra he's subdued,
Despite his tameless fame,
To own there's one Creation's lord
Has more than the mere name.

My lord, His Grace of Wellington,
Master of the Horse is called,
Rides with the Queen in times of state,
By patent right installed.

The Horse's master Rarey is,
And noble proofs has shown
In presence of illustrious hosts
Who all his genius own.

Yea, e'en the Queen—Prince Albert, too—
Paid tribute to his fame,
Welcomed the Hero of the Horse
And saw how he could tame.

Cruiser, who late like maniac
Amongst the tombs long dwelt,
Is now so meek that e'en the Queen
His gentle head has felt.

That high-blood class, Aristocrat,
The nobles of the land,
Came boldly to the Equine Chief,  
Nor spared the generous hand.

That noble race knew no distrust,  
Nor grudged the laborer's fee,  
But thought it small comparison  
The coming boon to see.

Ten guineas they two thousand times,  
Or e'en ten thousand more,  
Most gladly would have handed down  
To know what was in store.

The charmed power, at length revealed,  
Reproved the proud surmise -  
Proved 'twas no drug, mesmeric art,  
Concealed by specious guise.

The Equine Chief, of gentle sway,  
By mind o'er mind prevails,  
Not force 'gainst force or brute 'gainst brute  
To triumph never fails.

Love in the Horse's King begets  
Love in the creature, too  
Affection's greetings there are seen,  
Most genuinely true.

By gentle means the wildest colt  
Yields to the master mind,  
Submits his noble spirit tip  
And finds that man is kind.

No cruel goad, relentless spur,  
Contortion hobbled, jocked---  
Abstaining from those coward tricks,  
His noble heart is shocked.

In all the world no country is  
So fine a Horse can show;  
For beauty, symmetry and strength  
We need no further go.

Till Rarey came we could not tame,  
Save by the cruel thong  
And hosts of dire contrivances,  
As futile as they're strong.
The breaker-in has now no place
  For cruel treatment more,
But now must train himself to see
  The better plan in store.

Yea, more! Let legislators learn
  To Rareyfy the law
And take a page from Rarey's book
  And from its morals draw.

Let breakers, grooms and owners all,
  With skill if they would tame,
Learn their unbridled hearts to rule
  And keep subdued the same.

Let gospel teachers learn to show
  How love begets its kind;
Deal not so much damnation round,
  But Rareyfy mankind.

What human Cruisers they'd reclaim,
  And two-legged zebras turn
To ornament society
  And peaceful laurels earn.

If you have got a tameless wife
And fain would have a strifeless life,
  Of patience be not chary;
Show her that you're her kindest friend,
  Sincerely proving 'tis your end
To treat her a la Rarey.

Wife-beating then will cease to be
  The sin that shames society,
So rife in our day;
Wives then will know the Rarey charm
  Has no intent to do them harm,
And joy beneath its sway.

How shall that good Society,
  Known as the Animals' Friend,
Acknowledge Rarey's patronage
  Or see when it shall end?

He comes, a Legion to their aid,
  A rich donation pays;
He brings a principle to work
This is worth preserving, if not for its literary excellence, at least as evidence that Mr. Rarey had captivated the English public. His performances, which were closely observed, not only worked a complete transformation in the methods of horse-training in a land proud of its horses, but, as the sculptor-poet indicates, set people thinking of the power of kindness, generally too much held in reserve.

As Mr. McCarthy, in his verses, indicates, Mr. Rarey tamed a zebra as he did the horses, and for the first time in the history of the world, his audience one day had the pleasure of seeing this hitherto untamable animal quietly ridden into the arena by a groom. At a dinner given by the coach proprietors, horse-dealers and livery stable-keepers of England, at Willis' rooms, King street, St. James, in aid of a provident fund belonging to their associated trades, the chair was occupied by the Earl of Shelbourne, who was supported by the Earl of Cork, Lord Edward Thynne, Hon. Sydney Pierrepont, Count Bathany, Mr. H. Baring, M. P., Mr. Rarey, Mr. Tattersall and others.

Grace having been said and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts duly honored, the Hon. S. Pierrepont said that he took credit to himself for being the oldest horse-breaker in England; that more horses had passed through his hands during the three score years he had been in the profession than through those of any other man in the United Kingdom; but there was now present a gentleman whose great ability as a horse tamer had given him a general notoriety. He referred to Mr. Rarey who had tamed Cruiser and the zebra and he would now call upon them to drink to Mr. Rarey's health. The latter, responding, expressed his appreciation of the compliment and said that, having been at all times fond of horses, he had made their habits his study. It was from what he considered a correct understanding of those habits and the temper of the animals that he derived the power that he had over them. He said he had no desire to play the charlatan and at the very moment of his arrival in England, he had waited on Sir Richard Airey and other gentlemen and had offered, as a proof of his humane mode of treatment, to lodge a large sum of money in their hands. Interested, as he was, in everything that concerned the horse, he could not but approve of the fund, in the interest of which the dinner was given, and hope it would enjoy uninterrupted prosperity.

In August, 1858, Mr. Goodenough, the Toronto merchant who had accompanied Mr. Rarey to England, returned home, their partnership not having been profitable to Mr. Rarey, as he did not assist in any way in the exhibitions.
Autographs of Some of Mr. Rarey’s Pupils

Autographs of the Special Class
at the Duke of Wellington’s Riding School
March 20th 1858

I have witnessed Mr. Rarey’s Process with great Satisfaction

Palmerston

Walter Metcalfe

Lord Stormont

Lord Troubridge

Eustace Cecil

Copyright © 2009 Charlie Hicks
This is a publication of www.HorseTrainingResources.com and may not be copied or distributed without the prior written permission of Charlie Hicks, HSA Marketing.
SOME GUESSES AS TO HIS METHOD.

With all the praise of Mr. Rarey, there came also the attempt to imitate and to teach what he was teaching. One of these imitators was so bold that Mr. Rarey authorized the Messrs. Tattersall to pay one thousand guineas to any man who could satisfy them that he was able to teach the Rarey method of horse-taming unless he had first learned it from Mr. Rarey. This offer brought some amusing claims. A. V. D. Way, a German who was teaching modern languages in Dublin, wrote:

"Having seen Mr. Rarey's letter, these lines are to state that that gentleman's secret consists in looking sharply into the eyes of the horse to be tamed and giving him some bread or other soft eatable, moistened with the tamer's own sweat. He looks sharply into the eyes of the horse because the horse cannot bear the brilliancy of the human eye, seeks to avoid the same and becomes by this manner afraid of the tamer, and begins to become tamer and tamer. He gives him some bread or other things moistened with sweat in order to make him do everything he likes, even to follow him like a dog, which the horse does as soon as he has eaten something having the flavor of the tamer's sweat. It is possible that Mr. Rarey employs but one of these two named, but that can be no reason why the promised thousand guineas should not be paid to me. I knew this secret these twenty-five years and having, therefore, not learned it from Mr. Rarey, either directly or indirectly, I hope and trust I will bear from you by return post. Pardon me this trouble, gentlemen, and believe me your humble ob'd't servant.

A. V. D. Way, from Germany.

"P. S. It strikes me that Mr. Rarey may say or think some words in using the above, which words nobody might be able to guess, done in order to avoid the payment of the 1000 guineas, but these words or other things are of no effect and can be omitted.

A. V. D. Way."

Another letter, written from the Bristol Coffee House, ran:

"Believing that I have discovered Mr. Rarey's method of taming horses, I have taken the liberty of communicating with you upon the subject, and of course, if I am correct, laying claim to the offered reward. If I am right, it is neither more nor less than the use of magnifying spectacles, placed over the eyes of the animal so as to terrify him with the apparent immensity of objects. I have been led into this belief from the fact of my often having seen horses in the Crimea brought to a sudden stand and exhibit great symptoms of terror at sight of a camel, and the well known retentiveness of memory in the horse would assist in strengthening me in my belief. Mr. Rarey's remark, as reported, about Cruiser being about to have been deprived of sight also is an additional reason, because Mr. Rarey's audience would at once have seen the inutility of depriving an animal of the only organ through which a wholesome and yet human dread could be imparted. Awaiting the honor of your reply (prevent the publication of this idea, if it should but slightly differ from Mr. Rarey's mode) I am, gentlemen, your humble, ob'd't servant,

N. Corningsby."

The only excuse for the prevalence of any mystery about Mr. Rarey's method of training horses was his effort, in the earlier days of his career, to protect himself financially. He gave lessons for a fee and sold a little book of instructions and required every one who bought a book to pledge himself to keep the book private, not to let anybody read it and,
In handling horses, to prevent anybody from learning the secret and not to instruct anybody in his art. Later, when his purposes had been served, he publicly released everybody from the pledge and was glad to have the rule of kindness everywhere proclaimed and practiced.

In his earlier study of the nature of the horse, Mr. Rarey observed that the animal acts upon knowledge received through his senses, seeing, hearing, smelling and feeling; that he uses the nose as human beings do the hand to touch and feel every object that is new to him and determine whether or not it is something to be feared. In his boyhood, Mr. Rarey once turned a team of driving horses into a lot, in which there were two or three stumps, on one of which he had thrown a buffalo robe. The first horse, seeing the robe, was frightened. He ran to a point as far away from the robe as he could get and, with head extended, walked around and around the stump, each time getting a little nearer, until he could touch the robe with his nose. On the first contact, he jumped back but, seeing that it did not move, he touched it again, finally seizing it with his teeth and tossing it up and then jumping back again. After learning that the robe could not harm him, the horse seized the robe and dragged it about the lot. That was the boy's first lesson in the nature of the horse, but it was most valuable. It was the foundation stone of his whole theory. So, in his lectures he declared that the only way to tame or to train a horse is to work with, and not against, his intelligence, "for the horse has intelligence and every good trait of character which, if cultivated, will make him kind, docile and gentle." The horse must become acquainted with the person or object before he can have confidence, and his only means to acquaintanceship are the senses. So, in coming into the presence of a strange horse, Mr. Rarey approached slowly, spoke gently, and stroked him lightly and kindly. Having established friendship with the horse, he proceeded to prove to the animal that he was master. For this purpose he used two straps and a surcingle. One strap he buckled around the fetlock, raising one front foot; then he adjusted the surcingle around the horse's body, fastened the second strap, with a running loop, to the other foreleg, passing the end through the surcingle and held it in his hand. Thus, at the desired moment, he brought the horse to his knees and then to a lying posture. There were times when this was done with great difficulty, but firmness, courage and kindness always won sooner or later; and when the horse recognized that his friend was also his master, there was no further trouble. The muscles of the animal's legs relaxed, and the trainer's head was as safe at the horse's heels as it would have been on a downy pillow. Of course, there was nothing in the invention of the straps or in the recumbent posture, except that no other practical mode had been discovered, at once and lastingly to subdue the force and stubbornness of the animal, without a violent contest which must always irritate, frighten and perhaps ruin the most gentle subject. Replying to the charge that he used drugs, magic and witchcraft, Mr. Rarey, in one of his lectures, said: "The absurdity of this notion is apparent when we consider that, if the horse could be tamed by any of these methods, we could apply them with the same efficacy upon children---upon the human family. If any man tells you that he has a recipe for taming horses, try it upon yourself and judge of its effect upon the horse. If you are not knocked to the ground by the potency of the drug, then believe me it will have no more effect upon the horse." Mr. Rarey did not claim to be able, in a single lesson, to redeem a horse forever from vicious ways. What he did do was to indicate beyond all possibility of doubt the true mode of treatment. He had to leave to others, by constant and patient repetition, to lead the once
unruly and evil-minded horse to that constant and kindly service of which, as he believed, every animal is capable.

A Letter from Lord Palmerston.
A Letter from Lord Dufferin

My dear Mr. Raney,

Instead of my calling on you, might I
Content to ask you to come here
at 12, so I expect Miss
Gillies, and her Edna Anderson
to join us, as we by myself
might well miss them, or
have I kept too waiting:

I have been in town all day
of the Athenaeum.

Yours faithfully,

[Handwritten signature]

Do you want some wine? I have some

Copyright © 2009 Charlie Hicks
This is a publication of www.HorseTrainingResources.com and may not be copied or
distributed without the prior written permission of Charlie Hicks, HSA Marketing.
OTHER ENGLISH EXPERIENCES.

It was in 1858 that an American circus visited London and, with a view to drawing patronage, hired Cruiser of Mr. Rarey for exhibition in the ring. The horse was to be managed by Mr. Cook, the ringmaster. In due course, the latter came forward and briefly recounted the wonderful history of the animal, exhibiting to the audience the heavy muzzle and chain halter with which he had been confined. Then he gave a signal for the entrance of Cruiser. There was a suppressed murmur of voices for a moment, the doors were swung back and Cruiser, with every eye fixed on him, walked quietly into the ring, led by the groom. Mr. Cook attempted to show the several details of the Rarey process, but did his work at arm's length and manifested such bungling and trepidation that there was trouble. Mr. Cook made three ineffectual attempts to strap up the nigh fore leg and then, to make Cruiser more obedient, gave him a gentle cut with his whip. That was enough to arouse the horse's anger, irritated and nervous as he was in the glare of the gas lights, the rustling crowd and the music of the band. His eyes flashed fire in an instant and, with one desperate plunge, he freed his leg from the strap. His white teeth were uncovered and, with a cry of rage, he rushed upon the terrified ringmaster who turned and fled from the ring, with his assistant. Cruiser then had the freedom of the premises and leaped from one side of the ring to the other in a high state of excitement. A panic seized the audience, for there was only a low barrier for their protection. They rushed over the backs of the seats toward the exits; two or three mothers threw their children over into the boxes to save their lives, and not a few shrieks were uttered by the affrighted women.

Up to this time, Mr. Rarey, who had gone to the circus to see how Cruiser would behave himself in public, had sat calmly looking on; but when matters got to their worst, he left his seat and went down into the ring. The crowd paused to see the result. Mr. Rarey stood as still as a statue, holding up his hand and calling, "Cruiser! Cruiser!" The horse looked uneasily at the motionless figure but, soon recognizing the voice, approached slowly, extending his nose. Mr. Rarey let him approach and, when he was quite near, went to him, stroking him softly on the face. The maddened horse was again an affectionate slave and in three minutes was lying prostrate with Mr. Rarey cracking the whip about his ears with perfect impunity. The result of the evening's adventure was the conviction that the most perfect system of horse-taming, or of doing anything else, is absolutely valueless, if put into the hands of persons who lack the courage, patience and judgment which are indispensable in reducing it to practice. It is needless to add that Cruiser was not again permitted to appear in that circus.

One of the most thrilling of the exhibitions that Mr. Rarey gave in England was given November 9, 1859, when he tamed a powerful and beautiful thoroughbred stallion. It was, said a chronicler of the event, a mortal combat between man and beast. The moment the animal appeared, it was evident that the tamer's powers would be tested to the utmost. The horse looked at the audience, stood on his hind feet and ploughed up the ground; he roared in fury and kicked; he snapped at the groom and at Mr. Rarey and bit his own flesh severely in his passion. He tore to pieces every strap put upon him, hurling to the ground the groom who had come to Mr. Rarey's assistance. At one time the horse broke completely away and stood for a moment a victor in the midst of the excited audience. Two men came to Mr. Rarey's aid, but they were unable to hold the animal which...
scattered men and everything else around him like chaff. He was bathed in white foam and clouds of vapor arose from his body. At one moment he tossed up the straw, at another he sent the strong barriers flying; for a time he stood alone in the arena, roaring furiously and tearing with his teeth at everything within reach. Mr. Rarey, having rested from the first encounter, approached the horse, and then began a contest which no one who witnessed it can ever forget. It was a struggle of art and tact against overwhelming strength. For an hour the battle continued; now the man had gained the mastery, now the horse; the animal, touching the earth, seemed to derive fresh strength. At last, Mr. Rarey extemporized a strap from the fragments of the broken bridle and gained his first step to conquest. Still the horse fought fiercely, rising and plunging in all directions, endeavoring to bite his tamer or trample him down. A long struggle ensued. The contest had lasted an hour and a half, when at length the horse stood quiet, thoroughly subdued, allowing Mr. Rarey to strike his front and hind hoofs together, to jump over him and pull him about at will. After mounting the horse and concluding his lecture from that position, Mr. Rarey led him around the arena with a straw. The exhibition proved that, whatever tact and science he possessed, he also had most extraordinary muscular power, coolness and courage. No ordinary man would have ventured to contend to the last with so formidable and dangerous an antagonist. On this occasion, as on all when Mr. Rarey appeared, there was in a measure a reproduction of the exciting scenes of the Roman amphitheater, with none of the cruelty. There were the beautiful horses entering the arena, with flying mane and dilated nostrils - wild, vicious, neighing, snorting, pawing the earth and placing themselves in a succession of fine attitudes, rushing sometimes at, and sometimes away from the man who was to show that he was their master. For the most part, the horses were brought before the audience without any preparation, not even the trainer knowing beforehand the character of the animal. This plan gave to each performance the interest of originality and put to the greatest test the judgment and skill of the tamer.

There were those who thought Mr. Rarey took risks too great, particularly when, in demonstrating his complete mastery of the horse, he was accustomed to put his head between the horse's hoofs. This latter brought to Mr. Rarey an anonymous protest which is marked by such admiration and good will that it is worth reproducing. It read: "SIR: The interest and admiration which I witnessed your exhibition on Saturday last induce me to take the liberty of animadverting on one part of it. No doubt, your great experience enables you to judge with a certain approximation to accuracy of the degree of submission to which you have brought a horse. But still, as no rule is without an exception, I was sorry to see you run an apparent risk that was quite unnecessary, when you lay down with your head between the animal's hind hoofs. The act was striking---and why? Because every one felt be was assisting at a wager, in which you staked your life on your knowledge of a horse's temper. Now, one of two things: Either this implied wager is a real one, in which case all people of reflection would think the chances were too unequal to make it justifiable, no man having a right to risk his life without an adequate motive; or it is a certainty and, in point of fact, without any risk at all. And in this latter case I cannot but feel that an action which seems an appeal to the vulgar feeling which takes delight in seeing others in positions of danger that the onlookers would themselves shrink from, is unworthy of the reality, the absence of sham and humbug that characterize the rest of your proceedings. As a further excuse for the liberty I am taking, allow me to mention that, having just now described your victory over the King of Oude and also expressed the feeling that I have above stated to two ladies (one of whom was a pupil of yours last year), it is in obedience to their commands that I thus write. It is useless to sign my name, but permit me to subscribe myself an admirer of pluck, daring and intelligence."
Gold-backed Portfolio and Gold Inkwell
Presented to Mr. Rarey by the Duchess of Sutherland.

Duchess of Sutherland’s Note Transmitting Her Gifts

Copyright © 2009 Charlie Hicks
This is a publication of www.HorseTrainingResources.com and may not be copied or distributed without the prior written permission of Charlie Hicks, HSA Marketing.
TRIUMPHS ON THE CONTINENT.

In the fall of 1858, Mr. Rarey went to Paris where his fame had preceded him. The Emperor appointed a commission to witness and report on the American's performances, and speedily was assured that the method was rational and successful. Mr. Rarey's most notable single achievement there was the taming of Stafford, a fiery and utterly intractable half-blood, about six years old. His great strength and ferocity made it dangerous even to approach him and for a year he had been kept closely confined. A numerous assembly, comprising nearly all the members of the jockey Club, and many noble and distinguished personages, was present when Stafford, rearing and plunging in such a manner as to tax the strength of two grooms, was brought in. As a further precaution the animal had been carefully blindfolded, and he was in an utterly vicious mood when turned over to the trainer. An hour and a half later, Mr. Rarey rode the horse guided by a simple bridle. He then dismounted, unbridled the horse and led him around the arena as if he had been the most docile omnibus horse. "His submission," said a writer of the time, "was the effect neither of fear nor constraint, but simply of confidence and affection." This performance won for Mr. Rarey the applause of Paris; the Emperor caused his name to be inscribed for 2000 francs on the subscription list, and in two days a class of more than five thousand was organized. Theophile Gautier, the distinguished novelist, was one of Mr. Rarey's admirers and in Le Moniteur Universel, January 21, 1860, paid him a tribute from which this is quoted: “Assurance, thorough knowledge of the horse, the art of statics and, let me repeat, a personal influence, magnetic and fascinating, seem to me the means employed by Rarey. He astonishes, paralyzes, tires and charms the horse, he convinces him logically of his inability to defend himself. However, are the animals subdued for long or permanently? The lesson forgotten, will they return to their former character? Will another than Rarey be able effectively to apply the system? I am unable to say, and experience only can answer the questions. What pleases me in the method of this American subduer is that it is humane---no nose torture, no bridling, no whip with cutting thongs, no spurs with sharp points, no post of suffering, nothing but kindness, the moral victory, the throwing and the idea of inferiority, suggested to the animal in the succession of his futile efforts."

Baron Alexander Von Humboldt.
Who signally honored Mr. Rarey when he visited Berlin.

Copyright © 2009 Charlie Hicks
This is a publication of www.HorseTrainingResources.com and may not be copied or distributed without the prior written permission of Charlie Hicks, HSA Marketing.
Mr. Rarey's visit to Stockholm was characterized by an unusually warm reception by the Prince Regent, afterwards King, who took occasion to say, on Mr. Rarey's presentation, that he had been attentively reading the different accounts of his performances and that he had already selected a subject for reformation—a remarkably spirited animal of Arabian and English thoroughbred stock, which though four years old, had never been broken, except to be led, if gently treated, by the halter. The time was set for the test, and the royal riding school was especially prepared by the addition of splendid carpets and sofas to the already magnificent furniture. The issue was the same as it had been so often before. The animal was subdued, and the Prince Regent and his guests had an exciting experience that brought them to their feet in approval. When it was all over, the Prince Regent summoned Mr. Rarey, put many questions regarding the treatment of horses and finally presented to him a medal as a token of special regard. It was a medal bearing the motto, "Illis quorum meruere labores"—a social distinction, conferring upon the wearer special privileges in visiting the royal palaces and arsenals, commanding everywhere regard from the servants of the King. In Berlin, Mr. Rarey had a similarly cordial reception by the Prince Regent, later King of Prussia, who alluded to the exhibition he had witnessed in London on the evening before the marriage of the Princess Royal. He gave exhibitions in the royal riding school before members of the Court. In the audience was Baron Alexander von Humboldt, distinguished scientist, who later, on being invited by the American minister to dine with Mr. Rarey, expressed the hope that he would be "polite enough to live to be present." That desire was gratified and, in responding to a toast, the venerable scholar declared with much feeling his admiration for America, adding that he had always considered himself at least half American.

A most pressing invitation to visit Russia came to Mr. Rarey, from Colonel Baron de Wercinski, who told of the vast number of the Czar's cavalry and the great difficulty of breaking the horses from the steppes as well as of many noblemen who, being fond of horses, maintained stables, in recruiting for which both men and animals were killed. Mr. Rarey, he was sure, could be a great benefactor of the horse empire, if he would come and introduce his system. In response to this, Mr. Rarey went to St. Petersburg, hearing so many credentials that he was brought at once to the notice of men most likely to further his project. He went immediately to the residence of Baron Meyendorf, equerry of the Czar, whom he found on the point of going to the Neva to witness some national sports. Without ceremony, Mr. Rarey was invited to take a seat in the sleigh which proceeded to the river as fast as three spirited horses abreast could draw it. There he saw thousands of the nobility and common people at play. On the solid surface of the ice were erected large buildings which seemed intended to last for centuries rather than to serve the temporary purpose of a winter season. Thousands of gay turnouts, filled with ladies, half-buried in costly furs, showed the presence of the wealthy classes, while the prominent stands designated the nobility. The race-track was a circle marked on the ice by green boughs and around the entire ring congregated the peasantry on foot or in sleighs. Here Mr. Rarey observed that trotting was the national pastime and he saw many horses whose speed would have made them notable anywhere. The style was three abreast, the center horse ornamented with a towering yoke, decorated with gay streamers and a tinkling bell. After the more formal races had been run, there were scrub races which offered some unexpected amusement, the hilarity reaching a climax when three
half-tamed horses from the steppes, entered by an obscure peasant, beat the record of the best horses of the Neva. The crowd went wild over the achievement, and the young sprigs of nobility, crowding around the owner of the winning horses, carried him about on their shoulders and at last took him off in triumph to the Czar. Then came the Laplanders, with reindeer drawing rude sleighs, who offered for a small sum to give anybody a turn around the circle. Many crowded in, and away the loaded sleighs went at high speed. The deer were perfectly trained and seemed to enter into the sport with all the spirit of the jolly throng and their happy masters. A few days after this pleasant introduction to Russian life, Mr. Rarey received from the Czar an order to go to one of the imperial preserves and bring in a wild horse of the steppes that the Cossacks had designed for the imperial stables ---an animal so wild that he had been left to roam in a deer park. Accompanied by Colonel Lefler, the head of the horse department, and two other officers, Mr. Rarey proceeded to the park. Servants drove the horse into an enclosure that served as a shelter in inclement weather, and Mr. Rarey entered alone and barricaded the door. The contest, marked by the usual screaming and biting, lasted for two hours, but the man was victor and rode the animal to St. Petersburg.

The astonished Czar congratulated him and arranged for a private exhibition. At the appointed time and place, two peasants brought into the presence of the Czar and his court another animal, the wildest the steppes could produce. He came rearing, plunging, kicking and biting, and Mr. Rarey went quietly to meet him, laying his hand on the animal's neck, passing it gently over his ears and directly ordering the peasants to loose their hold on the ropes.

As the horse lost his fierceness, the Czar looked on in amazement and asked the peasants, half sternly, half humorously, why they could not thus handle the horse. To this they could only reply that Mr. Rarey must be in league with the devil.
IN ENGLAND AGAIN.

Returning to England, Mr. Rarey gave a series of demonstrations at the Royal Alhambra Palace, London, attracting large audiences and subduing many vicious horses, including the King of Oude, whose owner, Mr. Parr, had decided to have him shot, after a vicious assault in which a groom and a pony had been nearly killed. As a last effort to save the horse, Mr. Parr took him to the American trainer. The horse was brought in by two grooms, each holding a leather thong of considerable length attached to a cruel iron bit; at the end of the struggle, he was meekly following wherever the trainer led and welcoming all sorts of liberties with his head and heels. The Suffolk cart horse that had won several prizes at the Royal Agricultural Society's meeting, but had killed one of his grooms and severely injured another, was in half an hour brought into complete subjection. Before taming a stylish coach horse of Sheffield, Mr. Rarey read to the audience a letter from the owner to the effect that the horse objected to everything except an abundance of corn and an unlimited range of pasture; that no one dared to groom him, to ride him was death and to approach him was to be bitten. But after the usual contest, Mr. Rarey leaped on the horse's back and remained there, in spite of the animal's most violent efforts to dislodge him. When the horse reared, the trainer threw himself forward; when he kicked, he was allowed free scope; when he attempted to run away, he was turned round and round. Once the trainer let the horse go at full gallop down the course, to the evident consternation of the audience; but just as the animal's nose touched the rope which marked rather than made the barrier, Mr. Rarey brought him back to his haunches, as if by a powerful brake, and then a similar charge was made in the opposite direction. The trainer's horsemanship was perfect. It delighted the audience, and it ultimately convinced the horse that his master was upon his back.

At Manchester, three difficult subjects were offered to him in one day. One of them was a little cob sires that was never trusted without a muzzle; and so confident was the owner of the animal's power to foil the American that he advertised the coming combat at his own expense that his friends might all be there to see the pony win. The latter was turned unmuzzled into the arena, and flew twice at the trainer with all the fury of a mastiff. Mr. Rarey eluded the animal the first time and caught it as it rose on its legs for the second spring. Then followed the usual proceedings of getting acquainted, winning the pony's friendship and finally gaining the mastery. It was all so easily and quickly done that the great crowd that had gathered, most of them to scoff, went away wondering and admire.
Mr. Rarey toured England, Ireland and Scotland, visiting the Duke and Duchess of Athole, at their beautiful estate, Dunkeld, on the river Tay. That estate was one of the most showy places in the world, containing many thousand acres of pleasure ground, with a hundred miles of walks and drives - a place where the nobility delighted to gather and where Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had visited for weeks at a time. Game was abundant and in his park the duke had twenty thousand deer. Hunting and deer-stalking, in company with the duke and his royal guests, were among the pleasures enjoyed by Mr. Rarey there. Thence he went to the Shetland Islands, where he bought five of the smallest ponies to be found, one of which he subsequently gave to an Englishman famed for his...
undeviating kindness and courtesy to travelers from America. The Glasgow Citizen, October 22, 1859, paid him this tribute:

"In appearance Mr. Rarey is decidedly prepossessing, being about five feet, nine inches in height, light-haired, light-complexioned, with intelligent eyes, an open countenance and a manner that won the audience from the moment that he raised his hat and unaffectedly acknowledged their plaudits. He is singularly young for the noise he has made in the world, his age being only thirty-one. He did more to put down the harsh and improper treatment of the horse than all the societies formed for this purpose and all the sermons preached against cruelty to animals. As for Cruiser, he is a fine thoroughbred animal, conscious of blood, conscious also, evidently, of the admiration he is accustomed to excite, but without any indication of vice about him."

In Glasgow, Mr. Rarey gave a free lecture to the cabmen and carters, for which he was presented with a handsome testimonial by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The clergymen of Edinburgh attended his lecture, and so strong an impression did his method make that they preached sermons in which they alluded to his success as exemplifying the power of love and kindness.
IN ARABIA AND THE EAST.

Leaving Great Britain, Mr. Rarey went again to Paris, gave four exhibitions, declined splendid offers to lecture in the French provinces, pushed on to Rome and Naples and, by way of Sicily and Malta, to Alexandria. In the second week in February, 1860, he was sailing up the Nile toward Cairo. It was just the season for turning the Arab horses out to grass, and there they stood up to their knees in it (with an ever-shifting background of camels, donkeys and buffaloes, on whose back three or four dusky urchins might be seen riding home at nightfall), mile after mile in bay, chestnut and fleabitten gray platoons, about five yards apart, and tethered to stakes by one fore and both hind legs, so as just to command their allotted range of herbage. At Cairo his stay was very limited, although he received a pressing invitation from the Viceroy of Egypt to visit him at his country seat higher up the river; but to gaze on the high-caste "children of the star" was his sole mission, and he had no time to linger. He accordingly went at once with his party across the Great Desert to the shores of the Red sea and, taking leave of them there, merely stepped aside to see the pyramids, as he retraced his steps to Alexandria.

Thence he sailed to a port near Jaffa, and proceeded to Jerusalem. It was on a picturesque grassy knoll, hard by a grove of olives, that he gave the Pacha a specimen of his art. The latter had ordered out for his inspection four of his best mares of the purest Nedgedee caste and, after Mr. Rarey had ridden one, a spirited gray, he took a brown horse from the, hands of the attendant eunuch and, with the aid of the two little straps, made the animal follow him all about the pasture. The gray, whose ragged hips and long neck did not improve her, was a little over fifteen hands high and so highly valued that her master had refused a thousand pounds for her.

Then followed an excursion to the Dead sea, which was somewhat spoiled by a party of Bedouins, who descended on the tent and cooking utensils, made the cook stand and deliver his watch and maltreated the solitary soldier for saucily remonstrating. Mr. Rarey and his party were some miles ahead at the time; but the former learned from the incident the lesson of caution and left all of his possessions in Damascus when later, accompanied only by Major Frazer, of lion-hunting fame, and an interpreter, he spent several days in the desert in search of horse lore, riding up to every encampment he could descry and trusting for food and a night's lodging to the sheiks of the villages.

At Beyrout, on his return, he found the best Arab he had seen on his travels, among a lot of twenty which some Sardinian officers had got together for their king. Rhodes and Smyrna had little to show in this way; but at Constantinople, he found several studs, principally saddle-horses, where the animals were thoroughly understood and scientifically handled. The Arabs had disappointed him. Their intimate life with the horse from the animal's birth had given them complete mastery, but he doubted if they had thought out any system or discovered any principle by which they could handle a horse entirely new to them. He was confirmed in this belief by the helplessness and fright they showed when the stallion he was riding on the tour refused, one morning, to let one of them bridle him. The Prophet was invoked in vain, and finally Mr. Rarey had to be summoned from the tent of the sheik where he was eating brown bread and wild honey,
to put matters to right—a matter of no great difficulty when the crowd of agitated turbans had been thrust back a space.

But Mr. Rarey found beauty in other things as well as in the horse. He tells in his diary of camping one night close to the foot of Mount Hermon at the upper fountain of the Jordan. Proceeding thence at daybreak on the road to Damascus, they saw Arab villages built like swallows' nests on the edge of the mountain cliff. He met tall, dark-skinned, white-bearded fathers, bearing themselves like princes and driving their flocks of goats, sheep and cattle down the winding mountain paths to graze in the meadows below. With one of these patriarchs was a beautiful Arab girl sitting astride a proud, prancing steed and affectionately looking to the care of the kids, whose heads came to the top of the pockets on either side of the saddle on which she sat. Her picturesque attire—handsome red jacket, full blue trousers and thin veil head covering, which she drew closely about her face, almost hiding her regular features—completed the splendid picture this child of nature made. The men he found to be intelligent and manly specimens of their kind.

During his stay in Constantinople, Mr. Rarey was a guest at the Sultan’s palace, where he drank coffee with his hosts and smoked a pipe whose amber mouthpiece was set with diamonds.
FAREWELL TO ENGLAND.

Returning to England in the spring of 1860, Mr. Rarey found himself even more famous than when he left. The news of his trip had preceded him. Colonel Thomas Seymour wrote: "Since his return, men and not horses have gone wild. If he could find a way of training the Cruisers of mankind, Christianity would assign him a place among the Apostles." Mark Lemon, editor of Punch, wrote: "I feel proud of knowing you and still prouder that I can call you my friend." Both in text and picture, Punch paid tribute to the young American and reflected the general applause. J. M. Browker, of Calcutta, editor of the Indian Field, offered his services in arranging a class, if Mr. Rarey would visit India and give a course of lessons in horsetraining. The invitation was declined, but Mr. Rarey was glad to give lessons to Captain Beresford who was later employed to carry the art to India. P. C. French, of Southampton wrote: "It is to be hoped that the horse will be henceforth better understood and better treated. The subject is now constantly discussed, and a dinner seldom passes without your name being mentioned in connection with this wonderful power you possess." C. Goodchild, of Enfield, wrote, asking for an interview, and saying that he could not otherwise tell of the good he had received from the lectures; he had successfully employed the method in the training of two ponies and a horse.

Two Medals Presented to Mr. Rarey.
[Swedish medal, left, English medal, right.]

For a free lecture to the cabmen and omnibus drivers of London, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals presented to Mr. Rarey a splendid gold medal. The government employed him to teach his method to two classes of cavalry, and so the method was communicated to the entire army. Resisting many invitations to make England his home, he decided to return to his native land and, on October 27, 1860, gave a farewell lecture to an audience of 8,000 in Crystal Palace. In the course of his remarks, he thanked England for the great kindness he had experienced and hoped that the introduction of his method had been of advantage to the cause of humanity. He had always sympathized with the noble horse and he was delighted that he had been able to prove that so much might be done by kindness. Returning to America, he would bear the most grateful feelings toward the English people.
With the esteem of all he had met and unspoiled by their praise, Mr. Rarey took passage for New York. The Herald of November 11, 1860, hailed him as "the subjugator of vicious steeds, the recipient of honors and decorations from royal and imperial hands, the tutor of chevaliers and dames with equestrian tastes, the wearer of medals awarded by several humane societies of England and Scotland, the modern Centaur." "He is returning," continued the Herald, "after a three years' absence, during which he astonished high and low with proofs of his wondrous skill in taming refractory brutes. A cavalcade of our best horsemen and Amazons can be formed to escort this American prince of horse-tamers from the battery to the Fifth Avenue Hotel. And why should we not honor Mr. Rarey with a grand reception. He is one of those men whose talents have helped to make our country famous in other lands. In fact, in all departments of art and science, Americans have shown themselves first among the foremost. In his own useful way, Mr. Rarey has outstripped all the world. The very Arab marvels at his influence over the horse, and calls upon Allah to attest his wonderful power. Is it not then highly proper that we should extend a fitting reception to the great horse tamer? We feel assured that our suggestion will be acted on and that Mr. Rarey will meet a welcome worthy of him."

Letter of Commendation from the Duke of Wellington

March 1, 1858

I have just received an account of your treatment of two horses belonging to me...