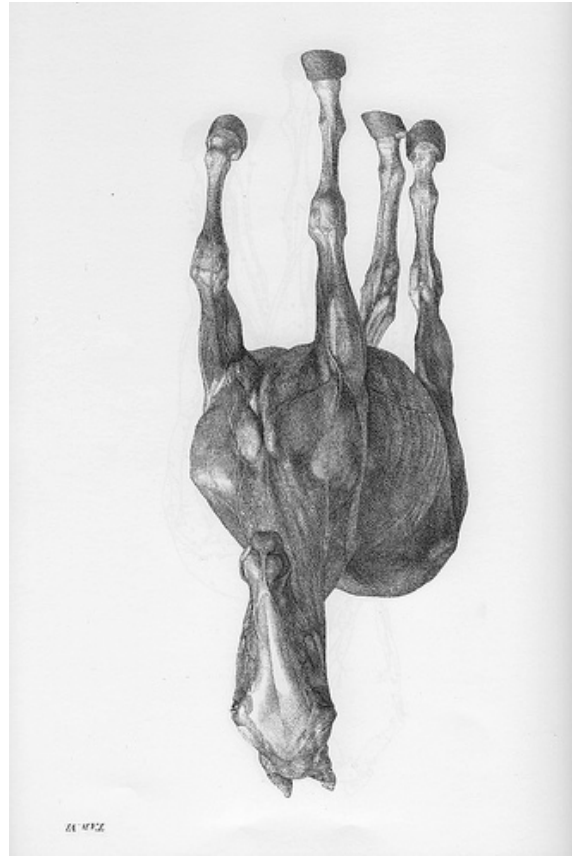


When first I resolved to apply myself to the present work, I was flattered with the idea, that it might prove particularly useful to those of my own profession; and those to whose care and skill the horse is usually entrusted, whenever medicine or surgery becomes necessary to him; I thought it might be a desirable addition to what is usually collected for the study of comparative anatomy, and by no means unacceptable to those gentlemen who delight in horses, and who either breed or keep considerable number of them.

The Painter, Sculptor, and Designer know what assistance is to be gained from the books hitherto published on this subject; and they must be supposed best able to judge, how fitly the present work is accommodated to their purpose, any address to them is superfluous.

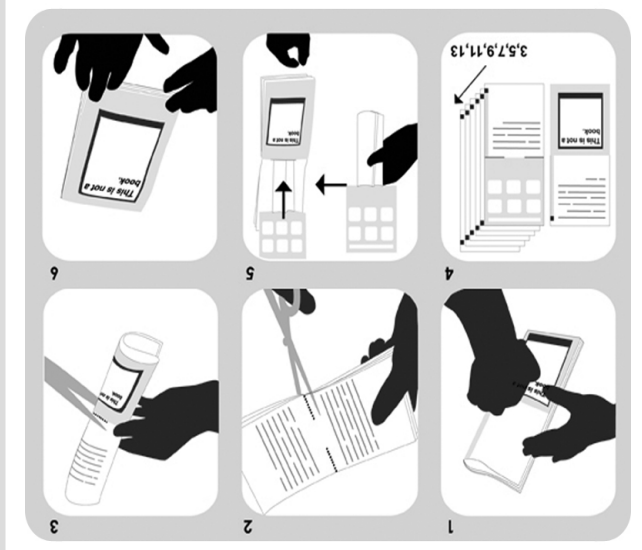
As for Farriers and Horse-Doctors, the Veterinarian School lately established in France shews of what importance their profession is held in this country; amongst us they have frequent opportunities of dissecting, and many of them have considerable skill in anatomy: but it were to



The Anatomy of the Horse

George Stubbs





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be wished that this, as well as other parts of medical science, were as generally attended to by them, as by those gentlemen who treat the diseases and wounds of the human body. If what I have done may in any sort facilitate or promote so necessary a study amongst them, I shall think my labour well bestowed.

I will add, that I make no doubt, but Gentlemen who breed horses will find advantage, as well as amusement, by acquiring an accurate knowledge of the structure of this beautiful and useful animal.

But what I should principally observe to the Reader concerning this my performance, is, that all the figures in it are drawn from nature, for which purpose I dissected a great number of horses; and that, at the same time, I have consulted most of the treatises of reputation on the general subject of anatomy.

It is likewise necessary to acquaint him, that the proportions which I have mentioned in several places of the book, are estimated from the length of the head, as is usually done by those who have treated on the proportion of human figures; this

length is taken from the top of the head to the ends of the cutting teeth, and is divided into four equal parts, each of which is again divided into twelve minutes.
George Stubbs, 1766

