mortality proceeds from nicking or docking; but, in any other case, we must be extremely careful not to carry the incisions the length of the sound parts. When a separation is completely effected, treat it as a simple ulcer, with suppurative and digestive dressings, and support the strength of the system as above prescribed.

OVER-REACHING.

Over-reaching is produced by the hind feet striking the fore. Horses most subject to it, are those which are too low before, or too high behind, or have too large a shoulder, with a heavy head, and too long and thick a neck; in all which cases, the fore legs being overloaded, rise with such difficulty that they are unable to cover much ground at each step, and so produce over-reaching.

Over-reaching may also be caused by a horse's fore legs standing too much under his belly, or his hinder extremities approaching too near his fore ones; or rather from too great a bend in the hocks. A horse being too short in the body, or his back bent outwards, likewise produces over-reaching, as this conformation brings the extremities too near each other. A horse too is frequently
made to over-reach himself, by the rider throwing his weight too much on his shoulders, and abandoning the bridle, instead of keeping the animal in hand. And the last cause which we shall notice, as occasioning a horse to over-reach, may be bad shoeing; as when the toes of the hind shoes, and the heels of the fore ones are too long.

All these causes occasion a horse to over-reach, and expose the rider to many falls, which prove frequently fatal to both man and horse. It is worthy of remark, however, that the hind feet cannot strike the fore feet, which is the cause of this defect, unless the latter remain too long on the ground, or the former rise too soon; from which it will appear, that to prevent a horse from over-reaching, we must endeavour to accelerate the action of the fore feet, and retard that of the hind. The farrier should, therefore, pare and cut the heels of the fore feet as much as possible, without doing them an injury, making use of a thin and short shoe at the heels, if the substance of the frog will permit it. The toes of the hind feet also must be made as short as possible, with a very thick shoe at the heel.

If these principles of paring and shoeing the feet be attended to, there will be a sufficient interval of time between the motion of the fore
and hind legs, to prevent over-reaching. The heels of the fore feet being reduced very low, produces a degree of uneasiness that will oblige the horse to lift his feet from the ground sooner than he would have done had the heels been higher; and the additional thickness made in the heels of the hind shoes, easing the extension of the flexor muscles (or back sinews), will retard their actions.

The success of this operation is so certain, that the same effect may be observed even in the human subject. If a woman, for instance, in the habit of wearing very high-heeled shoes, should suddenly change them to wear a pair with low, or no heels at all, she would experience a very painful sensation, till she became used to it; because she would feel a considerable stretching in her flexor muscles, or hind part of the legs, which would cause her to lift her feet from the ground nearly the same as a horse which has a string-halt. But as this method of proceeding to prevent a horse from over-reaching produces pain, it cannot be a safe remedy to make use of. Therefore, I recommend acting with all possible prudence, particularly in old horses. Should, however, this defect appear in a young animal, we may proceed with safety; because at that age the disposition of the feet may be gradually altered, and other habits fixed.
When a horse cuts his heels with the toes of his hind shoes, and the part is torn or bruised, it requires to be properly dressed, with warm bathing, poultices of boiled turnips and bran; if any sinus appears, the hoof must be pared away, and the sores dressed with common digestive ointment for a few days, binding all on with a compress and roller.

For further instructions, we refer the reader to the article Bruise.

PALSY.

In the human subject palsies and apoplexies are considered as different degrees of the same distemper, only, the first consisting in a rapid weakness in some of the muscles of voluntary motion, and the last in a total loss of motion in every part of the body, except the heart and organs of respiration, together with insensibility; the cause of which is sometimes so great as to occasion instant death. The loss of the power of moving one limb, or one half of the body, is the obvious and striking character of palsy. But in the horse I have never been able to see a single case of palsy, during a long and immense practice of thirty-six years, except those symptoms observed in the articles stagggers and apoplexy; yet we read in several farriery