

them. But this is not a fact ; and it is probable that the ancients grounded this supposition merely on the analogy it bears to the falling of the horns of the stag, goat, &c. which, in reality, never fall off after castration. The gelding it is true, can never engender, but we have sometimes examples of their being able to copulate.

*Horses of all colours shed their coats, like most animals covered with hair, once a year, usually in the spring, though sometimes in autumn ; as they are then weaker than at other times, they should have more care, and be more plentifully fed. There are also horses which shed their hoofs ; this usually happens in humid marshy countries, such as Holland.*

Geldings and mares neigh less frequently than horses. Their voices are not so strong, but much more shrill. In all horses we may distinguish five kinds of neighing, relative to different passions ; in the neigh of joy the voice begins and ends with sharp tones ; the horse kicks up at the same time, but without attempting to strike. In the neigh of desire, whether of love or attachment, the horse does not kick, and the voice is dragged to a great length, and ends with a deep sound. The neigh of anger, during which the horse kicks violently with his