half-wild state. When any of the riding animals become used up, an inroad is made upon the band of unbroken cayuses. The animals chosen are driven first into a small field enclosed by a high fence, where they can be lassoed at will, and whence they are taken one at a time into the “corral,” where the breaking is done. The corral is a circular inclosure, built of unhewn logs, and about sixty feet in diameter, in the center of which stands the “snubbing-post.” This is usually an oak stake six or more inches thick, driven deeply into the ground, and having a height of four feet or thereabouts. The mustang, after considerable fuss, is tied close to the post, and a blind put over his eyes. A bridle with a harsh bit is first put on, and then the heavy saddle is securely fastened by means of two sinches, each about six inches wide, and made of braided horse-hair. The rider mounts, the lariat is loosened, and when all is ready the blind is removed. The untamed animal stands shaking and dazed,—but for a moment only. With a mighty effort he leaps into the air, almost turns a somersault, and comes back to earth stiff-legged, and with rounded back. With the next bound he is in another part of the corral, and thus he “bucks” incessantly for half an hour, snorting and twisting, till, completely tired out, he ceases, and is a good mustang ever afterward. Sweating, panting, and trembling in every muscle, he follows his conqueror into the barn, and when sufficiently cooled, he is given a feed of oats. These are entirely new to the mustang, who sniffs at them timidly before he tastes them; but from the first mouthful he likes them, and soon forgets the sting of defeat in their delicious qualities.

It is very essential that the mustang shall not throw his first rider, for he will be likely to “buck” again when opportunity offers. I have in mind now a cayuse whose eyes have seen the light for more than a quarter of a century, and which has bucked every time she has been mounted since the day when she was broken, at the age of four years. Her life has been threatened time and time again, but the old lady does not mind that in the least, and continues to buck if she is tied up for ten minutes and a-gin mounted. Any cayuse can be made to buck if one knows how, but, as a rule, these performances are not invited. One mustang whose acquaintance I made on a three days’ journey could be made to buck by pinching his back-bone just behind the saddle; but he never bucked while I rode him.

One of my favorite rides before my college life began was to the home of a friend of my own age, who lived several miles out in the country, and it was my habit to spend every Saturday hunting or fishing near his home. One morning during the middle of summer I was riding toward my friend’s house, when on suddenly turning a bend in the dusty road, I saw a boy leading a horse and limping along slowly. I urged my horse into a brisk canter, and as I drew nearer I recognized my friend, and shouted to him. He presented such a ridiculous sight that soberness was out of the question. He was leading an innocent-looking nag, and was covered completely with dust, face, hair, and everything; and a more dejected specimen was never seen. On being asked what the matter was, he spat for a time, rubbing the dust out of his mouth, and then told me how he came in such a plight. He had saddled the beast to go to look at some traps he had set for mink, but he had not been gone long when the mustang took the bit in its mouth and began to run for dear life. Suddenly she stopped, planting her fore feet firmly. But not so with the rider; he kept on for several feet, rolling in the dust, which was a foot deep there, and accumulating it about him in layers. He didn’t tell me what he said when he picked himself up, but he concluded to walk home, letting the traps wait a few days longer.

Two friends who were out camping killed four deer one morning, and having their horses with them determined to put the hind-quarters of the deer on the horses. Accordingly, four hams were fastened together; and a gray broncho was brought up. The deer were put on him all right, and were quite tightly fastened, the