

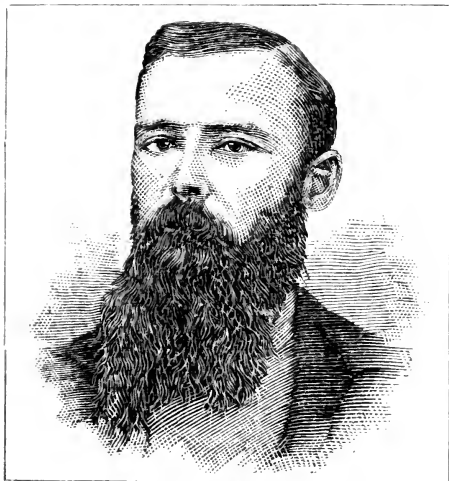
Equescurriculum

Bristol



JOHN A. SEAVERNS

PROF. D. M. BRISTOL'S
EQUESTRIAN CURRICULUM



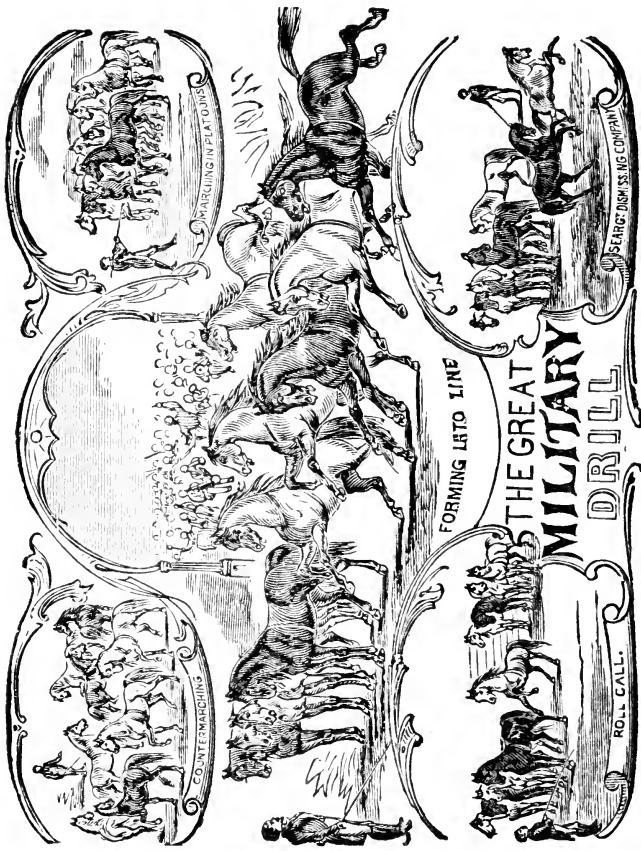
"This education forms the common mind,
As the colt is bent the horse's inclined."

PROF. D. M. BRISTOL,

WHOSE WELL-EARNED TITLE, THE KING EDUCATOR OF THE
BRUTE MIND, IS UNDISPUTED.

— CONSISTING OF —
LEWIS & BRISTOL'S
WONDERFULLY
EQUIPPED HORSES, PONIES AND MULES.

ONE WEEK, COMMENCING MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 5th.
Ladies' and Childrens' Grand Matinees. Wednesday & Saturday at 2:30 P. M.

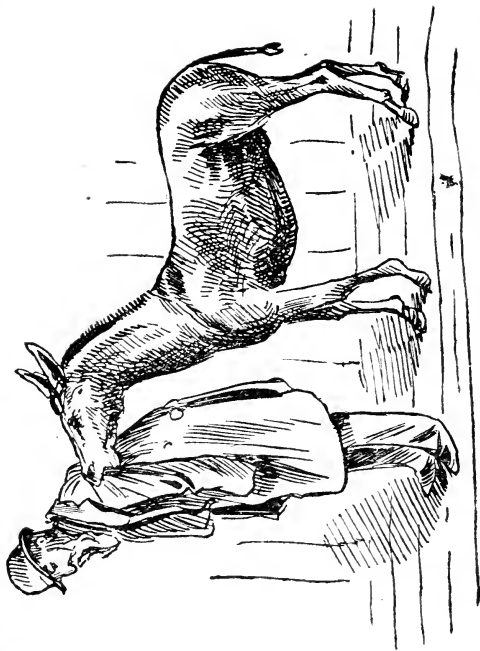


A FEW facts in relation to the history of the horse would, we think, be an appropriate introduction to our theme. Among all animals that grace this fair creation the horse stands forth pre-eminent. From the earliest dawn of history the horse has been clothed with the attributes of might, majesty and dominion. Although man was given "dominion over all the beasts of the field," it was only after long acquaintance and trial that the horse was subdued to his will. At first he was only driven, and that before a war chariot in battle. Later he was ridden in battle, and also in the chase; but it is only in times comparatively modern that the horse was degraded into a beast of burden, that position being formerly filled by the ox and the ass. The Chaldeans were the first horsemen, and afterward the Medes and Persians became renowned for their horsemanship. So rich in equine wealth did the latter nation become that one author speaks of no less than 150,000 horses feeding at one time on a vast plain near the Caspian Sea. The very name Peresh is a Hebrew and Chaldean word, signifying horseman.

His beautiful and sublime description in Job is familiar to all: "Hast thou given to the horse strength? Hast thou clothed his neck with thunder? The glory of his nostrils is terrible! He swalloweth the ground with fierceness and rage; he saith among the trumpets—Ha, ha! And he smelleth the battle afar off!"

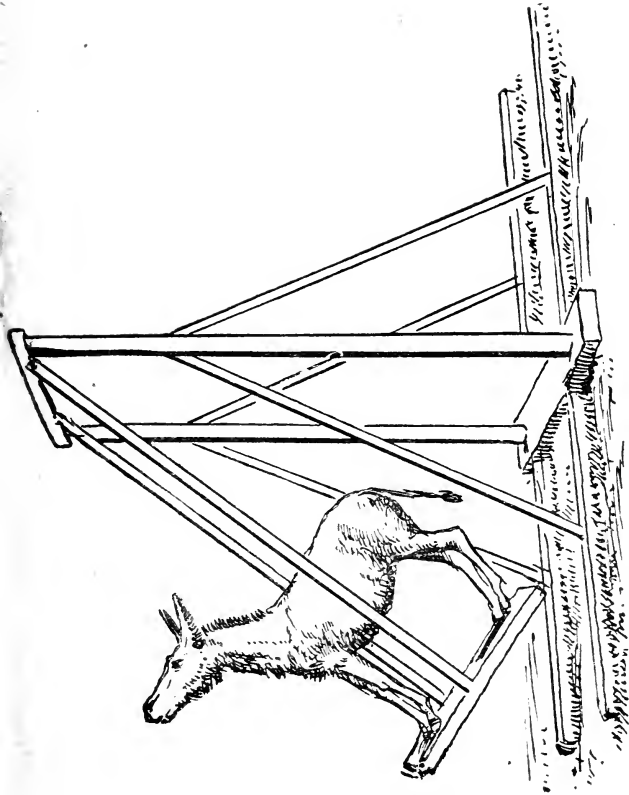
This description is the very enthusiasm of admiration, and we have in Shakespeare a reflex of this which is no less striking for its sublimity and poetry than for its similarity in language and simile: "It is a beast for Perseus; he is pure air and fire, and the dull elements of earth and water never appear in him, but only in patient stillness while his rider mounts him. He bounds from the earth as if his entrails were hairs; when I stride him I soar, I am a hawk; he trots the air—the earth rings when he touches it; the

“It is the most remarkable exhibition ever seen.”—*Evening News, Baltimore.*



DENVER HELPING THE PROFESSOR ON WITH HIS OVERCOAT.

“An exhibition of intelligence that is simply marvellous.”—*Boston Globe.*



DENVER FIRST SWINGS THE PROFESSOR; THEN GETS ON AND SWINGS HIMSELF.

The Honorable Daniel Lockwood, the gentleman who nominated President Cleveland, declared it the most remarkable exhibition.

basest horn of his hoof is more musical than the pipe of Hermes. His neigh is like the bidding of a monarch—and his countenance enforces homage.”—*Henry V.*

In Shakespeare's poem of *Venus and Adonis*, we have a pen photograph of a perfect steed, which is as remarkable for accuracy and detail, as for beauty and brevity.

Look, when a painter would surpass the life
 In limning out a well-proportioned steed,
 His art with nature's workmanship at strife,
 As if the dead the living should exceed,
 So did this horse excel a common one,
 In shape, in color, courage, pace and bone.

Round hoof'd, short jointed, fetlocks shag and long,
 Broad breast, full eye, small head, and nostril wide,
 High chest, short ears, straight legs, and passing strong,
 Thin mane, thick tail, broad buttock, tender hide ;
 Look, what a horse should have he did not lack.

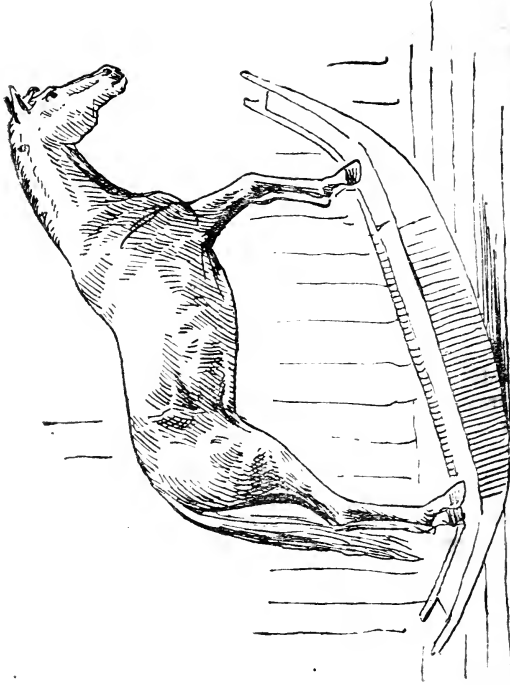
Horses seem to be sensible of pride, and it is recorded by Plutarch that Bucephalus, the renowned horse of Alexander the Great, when once caparisoned would let no one approach him but his royal master. Many instances of the remarkable attachment of horses for their masters and mistresses, and vice versa, are on record, but we only have space to record one. Lord Raglan's white pony, which that commander rode before Sebastopol, was seen to mount the steps of a palatial residence and enter the hall through the open door, and was there met and embraced by Lady Fitzroy Somerset, the daughter of the noble earl—who lavished the pony with kisses. Horses seem capable of much chivalrous feeling toward the weaker sex. It has been said, let the wildest and fiercest Arabian be mounted by a woman, and you will suddenly see him grow mild and gentle as a lamb.

The above applies to our clown mule Denver ; this mule has been taught among other comical tricks to permit no one to sit on his back. Imagine our surprise when at Ford's Opera House, at the conclusion of the performance the ladies and children were invited to the stage, and before the attendants were aware of it, two little

misses had mounted Denver's back and were having a pleasant ride; the little mule evidently realizing that they were children. We had always admired Denver, but since his gentle behavior on this occasion we love him.

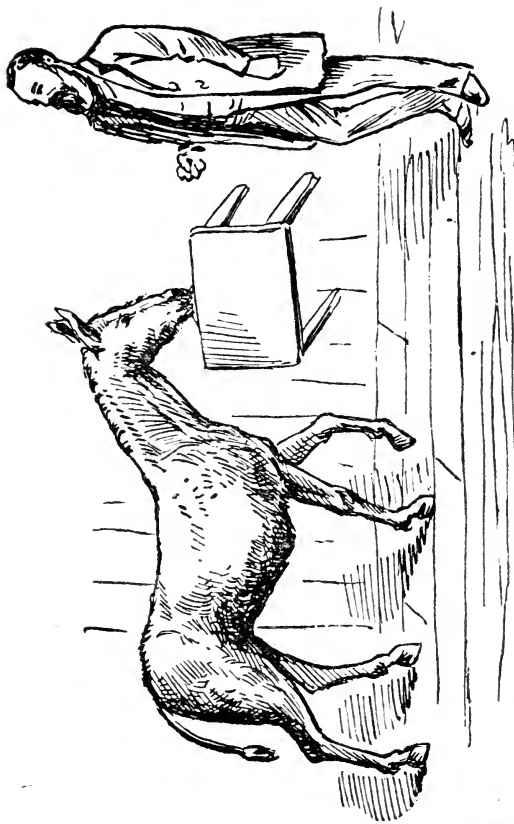
We say these horses do everything but talk; indeed it is a question if they haven't a way of conveying their ideas one to another. One almost comes to believe this when he becomes acquainted with this wonderful school, for when one of their number's name is called, as they stand in line on the stage, should the animal be slow in answering the others in various ways tell him to go, proving that his name is known to all the others, although without the power of speech. No intelligent human being can come away after once seeing them without being convinced that they are reasoning creatures. Will some of my readers explain how, when a horse is told to squeal that she immediately obeys the command, if she doesn't understand what is said to her, and when told to squeal louder, she does so? I mention this as one of the innumerable tricks done by these graduates of Prof. Bristol's school.

We have frequently been asked why we remain so long in a place. Our answer is this, in no place that we have exhibited have we failed to draw the same people again and again, because they become more interested. It is in fact astonishing; and while it perhaps is far more entertaining than most plays seen, it is instructive. This new system convinces us that we have never thoroughly understood the horse. We have already referred to the Arabian steed as believed to be the true horse. You will not think so after reading the description of this school's performances? As hard as it may be to believe, you will be convinced on seeing one entertainment, and will say it is wonderful. The idea of a mule ringing a bell to call a class to school; the horse scholars running along to the school-house, carrying in their mouths baskets, slates and lunches; and let me here mention the fact that almost any of these horses will eat pie, cake, lunch or the food' eaten by their human friends, Eagle being very fond of sandwiches. What do you think of a mule cracking a whip, another assisting the Professor to



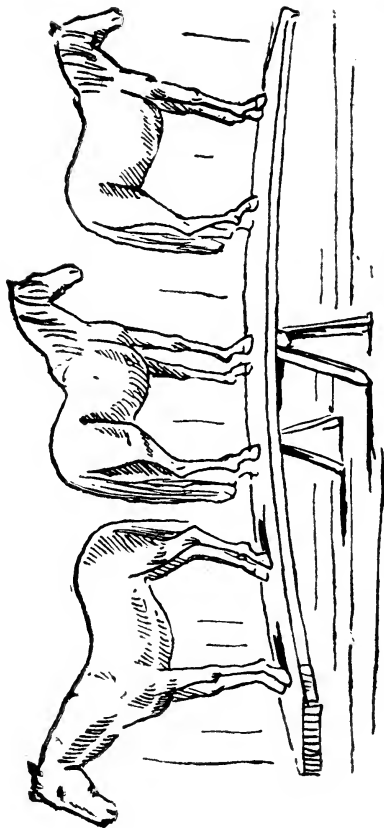
HORNET IN HIS UNEQUALLED HOBBY-HORSE ACT.

For two weeks Prof. Bristol's Equescurriculum has drawn packed houses at Court Street Theatre.—*Buffalo Courier.*



5 DENVER BRINGING THE PROFESSOR A TABLE.

Such exhibitions should be encouraged.—*Telegram, Baltimore.*



AN EXTRAORDINARY FEAT,

As performed by Eagle, Mattie and Minnie. It is impossible in this small space to give even an idea of the new and original feats performed on the teeter.



PUPILS RECEIVING PUNISHMENT.

Col. Wood, Lotta, Eagle, John Sanborn and Denver reported for punishment. John Sanborn is made to lie down before the whole school and sleep; Eagle is ordered to stand on dunce-block; Lotta to kneel; Col. Wood to hold out his right hand; and Denver to fish.

remove his coat, another to carry it out, hang it up? The idea of a horse telling the month, day of the week, and hour of the day.

Oh! you don't believe it. Well, come and see and be convinced. Then see them swing their teacher, then themselves, jump over each other, teeter, play soldier, do a military drill equal to a squad of soldiers, churn, ring bells in imitation of the "Swiss bell-ringers." Well there is no doubt that it is hard to believe. The idea of a horse telling colors, opening a draw, taking from it silver or paper money in turn, as requested by the Professor. You say the latter you have seen in Barnum's Circus. Here let me say, if you have seen this, as performed by these wonderful equines, we will forfeit the school. We picture one churning, one carrying warm water in a tea kettle for the churner's use, another making a rocking-horse of himself, Denver rocking in his chair, having a lunch with his teacher, ringing the bell when he thinks the Professor has had his share of the bottle, shakes his teacher's arm, so that it is impossible for him to drink; then think of several of the school jumping a rope, and apparently enjoying it like so many children; catching a ball, rolling barrels, boxes, &c., about the school-house. The entertainment lasts about two hours, and the like has never been seen. We have, at this writing, exhibited at Ford's Grand Opera House, in Baltimore, three (3) weeks, to the greatest crowds ever seen in the house, and Mr. Ford is offering us every inducement to remain three weeks longer. It has been the same at every place we have exhibited. The *Buffalo Times* said: "The Educated Horses at the Court Street Theatre are packing the house where Margaret Mather and Janauschek failed to draw."

The Arabian is not the only true horse. Prof. Bristol proves to us conclusively that the American horse is capable of acquiring as finished an education as the equine of any portion of the globe; also that its hybrid, deemed the most stubborn of the brute creation, the "genus mule," can be taught. In evidence of the fact, we call your special attention to the numberless novel feats performed by blind Ruth the Solemn, and Denver the Clown. If, after seeing this most extraordinary school of "mind-endowed,

reason-gifted animals, you are not convinced of the reasoning powers of the horse we would like your explanation. The question is often asked, "Why did the Professor educate a blind animal?" The answer is simply this, to convince you that the mule understands what is said to them when the idea is properly conveyed by one whom they know and trust. This of course takes time, patience and a peculiar talent, as exemplified in Prof. Bristol.

J. M. Lewis, a successful and well-known business man of Michigan, is associated with Prof. Bristol, and is well known as the owner of some of our fastest horses. Messrs. Lewis & Bristol were engaged in the business of training and dealing in fine horses, when Mr. W. C. Coup heard of them, and after a few visits succeeded in arranging with them for a term of years for a tour of this country and Europe. The success of the exhibition has been wonderful wherever it has been exhibited.

We haven't space in this little pamphlet to describe one-half of the wonderful things performed by this school of educated animals, but invite you to come and see, be convinced, amused, astonished and entertained; at the same time encourage this remarkable man in his good work. At Cincinnati, after the performance, he was publicly thanked by the members of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

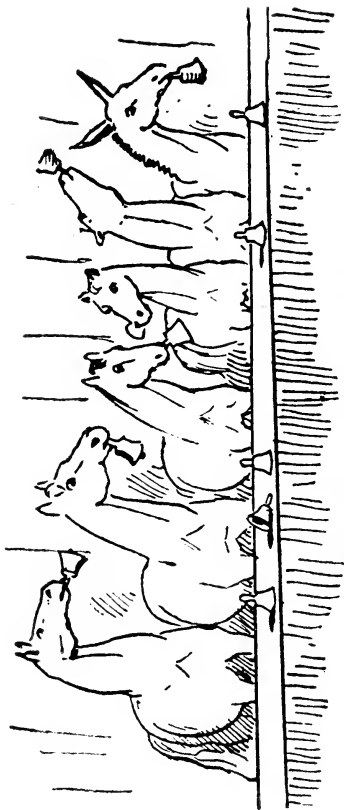
W. C. COUP,

Director

Mr. W. C. Coup being no longer connected with this attraction the management will be under the personal direction of J. M. Lewis.

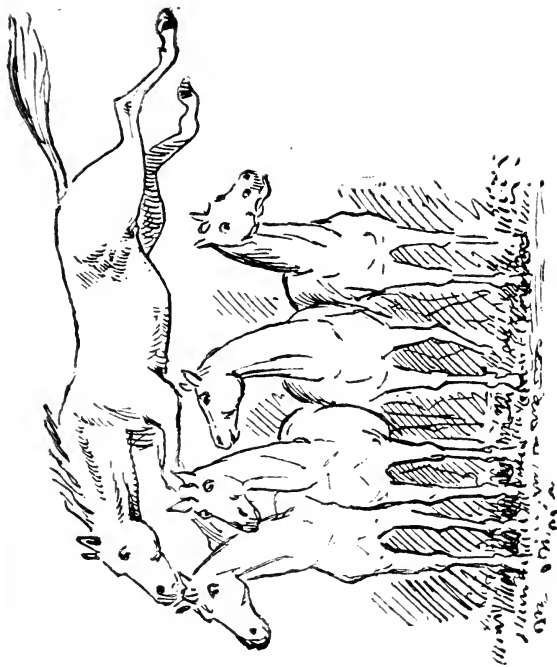
LEWIS & BRISTOL.

"These wonderful horses," endorsed by the entire press of Boston as being the most remarkable exhibition of Horse Sense ever given.



EQUINE BELL-RINGERS.

They were a surprise even to those who expected much of them. Boston has seen some wonderful performances of educated horses, but never any like this,—*Boston Herald*.



HORNET LEAPING OVER FOUR HORSES,

This feat surpassing all others ever exhibited upon the stage.

No such exhibition has ever been seen as that now at Heuck's New Opera House.—*Cincinnati Enquirer*.

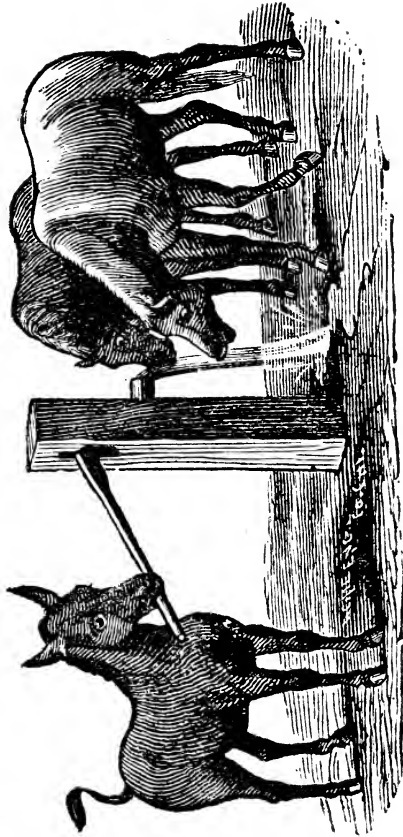
PROF. D. M. BRISTOL,

The most remarkable man in his system of education yet known was born on his father's farm near the present city of Flint, Michigan, December 25th, 1849. He developed his love for the horse at the early age of 10 years, his father being the owner of a number of valuable horses and a splendid stock farm. The Professor was educated at Hillsdale College, in his native State. We are sorry we have so little space to devote to his early life; suffice it to say his whole mind seemed to be devoted to the horse during his vacations, his horse being his constant companion. On one occasion his father came suddenly upon him on the bank of a stream in a wooded pasture, accompanied by his favorite colt, his pastime being then to try to teach the animal to hold a fishing-rod, a feat so ably accomplished by the clown Denver, of the present school. His father reprimanded him severely for loss of time in such (to him) silly employment, but nothing could persuade the boy Deloss from spending his time with his father's horses, appearing to be determined to teach them seeming impossible tricks. On one of these vacations he taught his colt to drive without reins, simply by the motion of the whip. This mode has since been imperfectly copied by a few horse trainers, the secret undoubtedly originating with Prof. Bristol. The father little knew what his seemingly useless boy would accomplish in after years, evidently being instrumental in introducing an entirely new method in making man's best and most useful friend (the horse) comprehend and obey the wishes of his master without the use of whip or cruel treatment.



PROFESSOR AND DENVER AT LUNCH.

No company has ever held the boards so long as Lewis & Bristol's equines.—*The Sun, Baltimore.*



DENVER PUMPS.

Tableaux, "Right oblique position."

One of the most laughable plays ever seen is the mule trade between the Professor and the colored preacher.

Besides the special features enumerated in this book any number of [minor acts are introduced, rendering the entire performance one of the most astonishing as well as entertaining, of the kind ever given.

PROF. BRISTOL,

Having twenty-five years' experience in the study and management of colts, awkward, nervous and vicious horses, while teaching this theory throughout the United States and Canada he gained hosts of friends and accomplished an entire revolution in the humane treatment of the horse. He is the inventor of the Bristol Bit, which has ten different changes for the vices and habits to which horses are addicted. It does not irritate the mouth. He is the author of Bristol's Illustrated Horsemanship, a book of 135 pages, well written, with sixty-seven illustrations. It explains the uses of his bit and contains the latest and most humane, practical and scientific system known to the world, as by it horses are educated, not exhausted, as by other theories where the animal is whipped, hopped about on three legs, thrown and drugged and whirled, which tends to exhaust for the time only and frequently ruining the disposition and ambition of the animal. His books and bits may be had at the box office of the theatre, or by calling on him when in your city, or by enclosing \$1.00 to D. M. Bristol, Battle Creek, Mich.

PROF. D. M. BRISTOL'S
EQUESCURRICULUM!

CONSISTING OF

LEWIS & BRISTOL'S
Phenomenal Equines.

For dates and time of this, the most remarkable Exhibition of this or any age, see Newspapers, Small Bills, Etc.

“The finest tribute to success was paid last Saturday, when scores of carriages and a multitude of cars conveyed to the Opera House thousands of ladies and children, and the thoroughfares leading there were radiant with youth and beautiful womanhood. The audience, in itself, was prettier than a picture—every seat, every aisle, filled with applauding admirers of the admirable show.”
—*Baltimore Daily Sun*, Tuesday, May 12th.

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