

purging, you must be careful not to stop it, but on the contrary to promote it, by an open diet, and plenty of warm gruel. But if this purging continue a long time, with smart gripings, and the inner skin of the bowels come away with the dung, and the horse loose both his flesh and his appetite at the same time, recourse must immediately be had to proper medicines; among which the following are very effectual, I do not wish any one to give medicines upon merely hearing the names of the drugs, but to know in what manner the drugs will operate before they give them. Take—

1 oz. of Rhubarb in powder.
2 drams of Myrrh, do.
2 do. Saffron.

Give altogether in warm ale, and warm water for two days after. This dose will only work gently, but will be of great service to the horse, as it will bring away the slime which lodges in the small intestines, and correct the bile of the stomach, which is the cause of this disorder. If the horse be a good one, I would advise the owner never to refuse giving medicines because of the expense, as they will soon make him ample amends by their salutary effects; and sometimes the desire of saving a few pence in a medicine has been the destruction of a useful horse.

But when the disorder continues, and the horse's flesh keeps wasting away, recourse must be had to astringents. Tormentil-root, (dried, and pounded in a mortar, and put through a sieve,) is one of the best astringents yet found out, though very little known. I heartily wish my fellow-creatures would make more use of this valuable root than they do. The dose is from an ounce to an ounce and a half. I believe that this valuable root has done more good in my time, in stopping looseness and bowel complaints, than any thing else. I have known plenty people who have spent pounds on physicians, and got no relief, and whose strength has been nearly gone, and their lives despaired of, but by taking the above in red wine, they have been restored. The dose is from half a dram to a dram, in a little red wine, four or five times a day. But you may say, *Where is this root to be got, as few of the druggist keep it?* I believe they do not; neither do I wish you to apply to them for it, they will give you something else that will not answer the purpose. It may commonly be found in dry land, where whins and brackens grow. It flowers all summer long; its top is small, something like southern wood; its flowers are small, yellow, and numerous; it is seldom above half a foot high; and its root is strong; in loose land and old camps as thick as a finger, but in fast bound land not so strong.

When the purging is attended with a fever, a different method of practice is necessary. Take—

½ oz. of Rhubarb, in powder.
1 do. Lenitive Electuary.
½ do. Camphor.
1 do. Powdered Ginger.

To be given in a pint of ale. This is a very proper medicine when the horse is troubled with

a fever; but if he have no fever upon him, give the following.

1 oz. of Tormentil Root in Powder.
½ do. Japan Earth, do.

Give these in red wine, or if that be thought too expensive, in oak bark tea. Japan earth is a great healer of the bowels. Repeat this last medicine three or four times, to allow it a fair trial; giving the horse at the same time but little exercise, for he cannot then bear much. Should this medicine fail, and the disorder increase instead of decreasing, which may be known by his flanks and belly being full and distended, and his appearing to suffer strong griping pains, give the following clyster.

½ oz. of Isinglass, dissolved in a quart of warm Milk.
2 do. Mithridate.

Sometimes the flux is so violent as not to be overcome by preceding medicine, when recourse must be had to the following. Boil a handful of oak bark in a quart of water, strain it off, and add—

2 oz. of Tormentil Root, in powder. 2 oz. Bole.

Give them all together. This should be repeated once a day, for two or three days.

The practitioner should carefully attend to the symptoms that accompany this disorder; for if the discharge be attended with an acrid mucus, or slime, the griping pains being very severe, there is then a sure indication that the common lining of the bowels is wasted away; and then it will be necessary frequently to inject the following clyster, warm, in order to prevent the fatal consequences which will otherwise soon ensue.

Four ounces of Starch, dissolved in a quart of water;
half a pint of sweet oil, three yolks of Eggs, well broken; and a little loaf Sugar.

This will do for twice, at four hours' distance.

It is also necessary to observe that some horses, from having weak stomachs and bowels, throw out their aliment undigested, and their dung is habitually soft, and of a pale color; they also feed sparingly, and are always low in flesh. This complaint which often proves fatal at last, may be removed by the following medicines.

6 drams of Sacotrine Aloes. 1 dram of Myrrh.
3 do Rhubarb, in powder. 1 do Saffron.

Make all up into a ball with syrup of ginger. After the above stomachic purge shall have been given two or three times, a pint of the following infusion should be given every morning.

Take Gentian, Winter Bark, Orange Peel, Columbia Root, Aniseeds, Fennel Seeds, and Camomile flowers of each a small handful and of Orris Root, two ounces.

Boil all together in a gallon of strong ale; and when cold, clear it off and add one pint of spirits of wine. If this be thought too strong; two quarts more of ale may be added. This is an excellent cordial both for healing and strengthening the stomach and bowels. These are the best methods of treating the above disorders to which horses are often subject, and in which they are often lost for want of proper treatment.