

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.

3rd.—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

4th.—When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1 must be enclosed.

Veterinary.

INJURY TO HOCK-HEAVES.

1. Three-year-old colt sprained his hock seven weeks ago. He holds it up when standing, and the joint is swollen.
2. Ten-year-old horse is taking heaves.

W. H.

Ans.—1. Keep the colt as quiet as possible. Blister the hock with two drams each biniodide of mercury and cantharides, mixed with two ounces vaseline. Clip hair off joint; tie colt so that he cannot bite the parts; rub well, once daily, with the blister for two days; on the third day wash off and apply sweet oil. Let head down now, and oil every day. As soon as the scale comes off, blister again, and every four weeks after that as long as necessary.

2. Heaves cannot be cured. Feed small quantities of bulky food and a little more grain to make up. Moisten everything he eats with lime water. Feed nothing but food of first-class quality. Careful feeding will relieve the symptoms, but not cure.

PERIODIC OPHTHALMIA.

Is there any cure, if taken in time, for periodic ophthalmia. Give description and cause of it coming on a two-year-old colt. I see an advertisement in your paper, Barry Co., Iowa City, Iowa, stating they can cure it. Is that advertisement to be relied on or not?

S.

Ans.—Periodic ophthalmia (moon blindness) is a constitutional and hereditary disease, which veterinarians consider non-preventable. The attacks reappear at variable intervals. Sometimes a month, or several months, intervenes between attacks, and in most cases it results in cataract in one or both eyes, producing total blindness. When attacks come on, give a gentle purgative, as 4 drams aloes and 1½ drams ginger; keep in a partially-darkened stall, excluded from drafts and sun. Bathe the eye, three times daily, with warm water, and, after bathing, put into the affected eye a few drops of the following lotion: Sulphate of atropia, fifteen grains; distilled water, two ounces. We have had no experience with, nor complaints about, the specific above mentioned.

Miscellaneous.

WIDTH OF HORSE STALLS—WEIGHT OF STOCK BY MEASUREMENT.

1. What width of stalls are needed for large draft horses?
2. Please give a correct rule for determining live weight of fat cattle, and, also, of horses by measurement.

Ans.—1. Five and a half feet is wide enough for any but the very largest horses.

2. There can be no reliable rule for estimating weight by measurement, although there are various approximations. A trained eye is better than rules, and much better than either is a good set of scales.

CIDER VINEGAR.

1. Give the best way to make vinegar from fresh cider.
2. If sweet cider is put into a barrel and nothing more done to it, will it turn into good vinegar? If so, how long will it take?

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. To every ten gallons of cider, add one gallon of fresh-fallen soft water, boiling hot, also toast a large, thick slice of bread, soak thoroughly in good fresh yeast, and put into the barrel. Then add a liberal amount of "mother of vinegar," the more the better. Set at the back of the kitchen stove, or any warm place. Keep the bung hole open, with a bit of cheese cloth tacked over to keep out flies, dust, etc. Don't expect good vinegar in less than 5 or 6 months, and, if not satisfactory in that time, put in a few pounds of good brown sugar or coarse molasses to give more "body."

2. We have never tried leaving the fresh cider to turn into vinegar, as our corre-

spondent suggests, but would expect it to prove a slow and uncertain process. Possibly some readers will give their experience, if they have succeeded in making good vinegar in that way.

STARTING HERD OF YORKSHIRES—VARIETIES OF APPLE TREES—VALUE OF MANURE—MIXING FEED.

1. Will you be kind enough to give the necessary information of how to manage a beginning of a Yorkshire herd in regard to registration? How is it carried on with the breeder and registrar's office?

2. Will it pay to haul manure two and a half miles from a good horse stable, where good hay and oats and bran are fed largely, say at rate of five or six loads manure for one load of straw?

3. Have a young orchard, mostly Ben Davis. About fifteen trees died last year from severe winter two years ago, some not till this summer. What is your choice of trees to fill up with? Baxter, Baldwin and Ben Davis are recommended by agent. Have plenty of variety, besides, for home use.

4. Would a good load of manure balance up for the selling of one ton of hay; that is, as far as the value to farm is concerned?

5. What do you call middlings?

6. Can you recommend mixing cut feed, say hay and straw and pulp turnips together, in a pile for two or three days ahead?

SUBSCRIBER.

South Ontario, Ont.

Ans.—1. Having secured breeding stock, registered or eligible to registry, write the Registrar, Mr. J. W. Nimmo, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, for blank forms of application for registry, stating number of animals you wish to record. On these forms are printed the necessary instructions for filling them, when they should be mailed to the registrar with the necessary fees, on receipt of which certificates of registry will be furnished.

2. Yes, most assuredly.

3. Unless there is distinct evidence that the variety to which the winter-killed tree belonged is non-hardy in your section, we would advise replanting in each case with the same sort that occupied the ground before. To have trees of various sorts scattered here and there through an orchard is a nuisance in spraying, picking, and other ways, besides being an eyesore. Among the most desirable varieties for commercial planting, we should place Baldwin about at the top. In the bulletin, "Fruits Recommended for Planting in Ontario," prepared by the Provincial Fruit Experiment Station Board of Control, after careful tests at the various fruit experiment stations, we find the following among other varieties recommended for the Bay of Quinte district by W. H. Dempsey, of Trenton: King, Greening, Baldwin, Ontario, Seek-no-Further, Spy, Talman, Ben Davis, Stark. For the Burlington district, A. W. Peart recommends the following fall and winter sorts: Astrachan, Duchess, Wealthy, Ribston, Blenheim, King, Greening, Baldwin, Spy.

4. Hardly, unless about two tons of manure were hauled per load. According to Warrington, a ton of average manure contains about 10 pounds nitrogen, 12 pounds potash, and 6 pounds phosphoric acid. According to Henry, a ton of clover hay contains 40 pounds nitrogen, 44 pounds potash, and 7.6 pounds phosphoric acid; a ton of timothy hay contains 25.2 pounds nitrogen, 18 pounds potash, and 10.3 pounds phosphoric acid; a ton of wheat straw contains 11.8 pounds nitrogen, 10.2 pounds potash, and 2.4 pounds phosphoric acid. For purposes of comparison, nitrogen might be valued at 10 cents a pound. It would cost about 14 cents a pound in the form of commercial fertilizer, but no ordinary farmer would buy it in that form, since he can entrap it from the air more cheaply. Phosphoric acid and potash might be valued at about 6 cents a pound. According to the above estimates, the manurial constituents of a ton of manure would be worth \$2.08; of a ton of clover hay, \$7.09; of a ton of timothy, \$4.20, and of a ton of wheat straw, \$1.93. Of course, we must take into consideration the fact that under ordinary conditions, only about half the above constituents of hay and straw would be secured and preserved for application as manure, if the fodders were fed to stock.

5. Middlings consist partly of that part of the wheat grain between the bran

layers and the portion from which flour is made. It often contains, in addition, the germs of the wheat grain. It is rather finer and more floury than the grade called shorts, which, nowadays, is often little more than fine bran.

6. No, we deem it a waste of labor to cut and mix good hay and roots. It is all right, however, to mix chaff or cut straw with silage, as it will be rendered softer and more palatable.

WHEAT TURNING YELLOW—ELEPHANTIASIS—MAMMOTH AND ALSIKE CLOVER WITH ORCHARD GRASS.

1. What is the probable reason for the fall wheat turning yellow? The soil is clay loam, a crop of clover being plowed about a month before sowing. The high parts of the field are the yellowest. A neighbor plowed some straw in his summer-fallow with same result.

2. Is a month long enough time between plowing clover and sowing wheat?

3. Can anything be done to prevent the attacks of elephantiasis? Is it right to give aloes when the disease is first noticed?

4. What is your opinion as to sowing Mammoth clover, alsike and orchard grass on clay soil for hay and pasture? We are delighted with "The Farmer's Advocate."

J. M.

Ans.—1. The most common cause of the yellowing of fall wheat is the presence of Hessian fly. The first effect of the fly's attack is a darkening of the leaf, and a noticeable broadening. Subsequently it turns yellow or brown, and the central part of the whole plant dies. Any agency that interferes with nutrition may cause the leaves to become yellow or discolored—insects, too much moisture, or even excessive richness of the soil. J. D.

2. If the ground is promptly rolled, immediately harrowed, to conserve moisture, and worked at intervals thereafter, a good seed-bed may be prepared in a month on inverted clover sod; though, if the land can be plowed early enough to admit of longer tillage, it would be better.

3. Elephantiasis is a chronically-enlarged condition of a horse's leg, resulting from recurrent attacks of lymphangitis (Monday-morning disease). The causes of lymphangitis are irritation to the lymphatic glands by chyle rich in nutritive material, and, in some rare cases, to the blood being in a highly fibrinous condition. The latter condition may occur when the animal has not been feeding well for some time. The most common cause, however, is the first-named, produced by overfeeding and want of work. Prevention consists in moderate feeding, with regular exercise. Keep bowels and kidneys acting freely by use of laxative food when horse is idle. Elephantiasis is incurable.

4. We are not partial to Mammoth clover, preferring common red, which is finer, and produces a good aftermath, often yielding profitable crops of seed. An objection to Mammoth in the mixture mentioned is that it is some two weeks later than red, and would not work in well with alsike, for if the Mammoth were left till the proper stage for cutting, the alsike would be too ripe. Over-ripe alsike is unpalatable, fibrous and indigestible, and fed to cows it makes the milk bitter. Orchard grass is good for pasture, but has a rather bunchy or tufty habit of growth. Three or four pounds per acre might be added to a timothy-and-clover mixture, when seeding with a view to pasturing the second year.

PRICES OF SEEDS IN TORONTO.

Where can I get clover seed, alsike and red, No. 1, at from \$6 to \$7 per hundred, as quoted in October 18th issue of "The Farmer's Advocate"?

Ont.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Our quotations then were: \$6.80 to \$7 for new red clover seed, \$6.50 to \$6.60 for old, and \$6.30 to \$6.60 for fancy alsike. These are prices dealers were paying for seed, not the prices at which they offered it. Along towards spring, when seed ceases to come in, and only selling prices are quoted by dealers, quotations will take a leap upward. If desirous of doing business, correspond with Wm. Rennie & Co., Ltd., Toronto, or with other firms that advertise regularly in our columns. Any persons having seed to sell should advertise it through "The Farmer's Advocate."

WINTER STORING OF CELERY.

How may celery be kept for winter use?

A READER.

Ans.—We quote from Green's Vegetable Gardening: "For home use, a good way to keep celery is to pack the plants closely together, upright, in boxes twelve to eighteen inches wide, with the bottom covered with several inches of moist sand, a little of which should be worked in among the roots. There is no need of having sand between the plants. These boxes, when packed, should be kept in a cold, damp cellar. In storing for market use, where there is plenty of storage room, the plants are sometimes "heeled in" in sand on the floor; the cheapest practicable way, however, is to pack them between boards about nine inches apart. To do this, place the first board on one side of the cellar or shed, about nine inches from the wall, with its upper edge at a height from the floor a little less than the length of the celery. The boards may be supported by stakes, and should not rest upon the ground. In this narrow division, the celery should be packed upright, as described for packing in boxes. As soon as the first tier is filled, erect another board division at nine inches from the first, and so continue until the whole surface is covered. No soil or sand is packed among the stalks of celery, but three or four inches of either is placed on the floor, into which the roots are bedded. The temperature of the celery should be kept very low, and even a little frost in the cellar will not hurt it. If dry, it must be watered, but water must not be put upon the leaves, as it may bring on rot. If celery is wanted for immediate use, it may be stored in barrels or troughs containing an inch or two of water. This is also a very good way of hastening the bleaching process.

The green stalks of celery do not become white, and the term "bleaching" is a misnomer. The "bleaching" of celery is simply the result of the plant making growth in a dark place. Bleached celery will keep but a short time, and should be used as soon as white. Celery for use in the latter part of winter should be quite green in color when put into winter storage; for early winter use, it should be partly bleached when stored. For winter use, celery should be left out as late as is safe in the fall, so that the cellar, or pit, where it is to be stored may be thoroughly cooled off before it is put in.

BORDER KING—RUPTURE IN COLT.

1. Can you tell me the pedigree number of a Clydesdale horse called Border King? I believe he was owned in King Township, where he was a short time, and died.

2. I have a colt that was a year old last 24th of May. About two months after it was foaled, it got ruptured at the navel. Can anything be done to it now? If so, would you kindly let me know in your valuable paper?

W. H. S.

Ans.—1. Border King [2541], bred by Robt. Davies, Toronto; foaled, June 21st, 1899; sire Border Riever (imp.) (10171), dam Queen Bell (2193), by Queen's Own (imp.) (7176), etc.

2. You might try a truss by placing a surcingle around the body in such a way as that it will hold the rupture up. A pad of felt or cork might be used under the rupture to keep it pressed up. This, if kept on for a month or six weeks, often effects a cure. If not, an operation by means of a clamp may be necessary, in which case a veterinarian should be employed.

He Made a Mistake.

The following is told of an American gentleman who was recently stopping with his wife at the Hotel Cecil, in London. On the first evening there he happened to retire somewhat later than his spouse. Arriving at the door of what he imagined was his own room, and finding it locked, he tapped and called "Honey!"

No answer came, and he again called more loudly, "Honey!"

Still he got no reply, and becoming somewhat uneasy, he shouted the endearing term with his full lung power.

This time a reply came, and in a male voice:

"Go away, you blithering idiot! This is a bathroom, not a blooming beehive!"