

The Horse.

HORSE EPIDEMIC.

During the past few weeks several horses have been seized with a disorder of the respiratory organs, but nothing was thought of the trouble until within the last few days, since which time the disease has attacked hundreds of animals. The malady, according to our best veterinary surgeons, may be characterized as a catarrhal fever. It commences with a severe hacking cough accompanied by considerable fever, restlessness of the animal, coldness of the nose, hot mouth, shining coat and coldness of the extremities. After a short time a discharge of matter from the nose occurs. When the animal is exposed to any vitiated influence, such as a cold draft, or impure stable, or when it is kept at hard work, the lungs become affected, and of course more severe symptoms appear. Thus far, notwithstanding all efforts to the contrary, no deaths have occurred, and where rational treatment is pursued there will be little danger. During the past couple of days, Dr. A. Smith, veterinary surgeon, has treated no less than six hundred of the diseased animals. The epidemic is not confined to any particular stable, but has appeared in all the large ones in the city. It is impossible to ascribe any tangible cause for the disease, but it is supposed to be due to a peculiar condition of the atmosphere, and if such be the case it is more than likely that all horses throughout the country will be more or less affected. In support of this supposition, it may be mentioned that several of the prize animals at the Guelph exhibition yesterday showed symptoms of having caught heavy colds. It is more than probable that instead of cures, they are afflicted with the catarrhal fever. —*Mail.*

The Parrot Tulip.

We spoke of the handsome flowers of this variety that we had seen in our last issue. We are importing some from Holland, and expect them in a few days. They merely require placing in the earth where you wish them to grow, some time this autumn; cover the ground with a few leaves, rough manure, straw or tan-bark. They will then top and be ready to shoot up as soon as spring opens. If you admire flowers as much as we do, you will be highly pleased with the bright and varied colors of this variety.

Little girls and boys go and ask your neighbors to take the ADVOCATE next year; tell them you want to get a prize, and, if you succeed, you will soon be able to give them a bulb and ornament their gardens. Your fathers and mothers will be pleased to see you decorate the garden in this way, and may help you. If you obtain one new subscriber you will have two bulbs sent you; you must mention that you are trying to get up a club. See the larger prizes for getting up clubs, and try and get one.

Veterinary.

DISTEMPER IN HORSES.

The treatment of this disease consists in placing the animal where it can breathe fresh air, and be without restraint. A loose box is the best place to keep it in. A mild purge will usually benefit the animal. Cape aloes, three drachms; extract of gentian, three drachms. This should be followed up by the following: Nitrate of potassa, two ounces; carbonate of ammonia, one ounce; solution of the acetate of ammonia, twelve ounces; water, twelve oz. This is to be divided into four doses, to be given night and morning. If the animal should appear distressed with short breathing, or effusion of the chest is threatened, the last-named dose may be continued, and mustard poultices be applied to the chest. A good bedding should be under him, and a pall of good whitened water or thin gruel placed in his manger. This last should be changed twice every day, a though it be not touched. Still, care should be maintained as much as possible near to and about the animal prostrated by this disorder. Distemper renders horses seriously affected. As soon as the strength of the animal has subsided, his drink may be made rather thicker; carrots chopped fine, and fresh grass, when in season, should compose his food for the first few days, then a few crushed and scalded oats may be allowed; and at any time give any kind of provender, rather than the horse should consume hard food. Good, whole meal stimulating food is, after all, the best tonic; and plenty of this, with a quart of good porter, morning and evening, will soon leave the horse none the worse for having had the distemper. —*Prairie Farmer.*

Correspondence.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM OTTAWA.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

Well, my dear friend, we have just had our first Horticultural Show in Ottawa. We have had spasmodic attempts before, but this time we began with a determination to continue, all being well. The 5th and 6th of September were the appointed days and you, who do so love to win your way (as we have done in this matter) in the midst of all sorts of opposition, wish, I am sure, rejoice with us in our complete success. We had quite expected that our big elder sister, the Agricultural, would have given us a helping hand in encouragement and sympathy; but no—frowning upon us in august displeasure, she bade us wait till after her fête days (when the best flowers would be done, and our success almost impossible!). Was she jealous, do you think? We wanted to go on peacefully hand-in-hand, but it we may not do so, I doubt not the nursing will fight its way onwards, and right brave too. But that is past, we'll let it be; but take a peep through my spectacles at the pretty sight which Gowan's Hall presented last Thursday afternoon. The Hall itself is handsomely decorated for the occasion, and the arrangement and disposition of the various articles exhibited reflects great credit on those who have the management of affairs. A long table occupying the centre of the room, supported a magnificent display of greenhouse plants, among which the rich glowing leaves of a large number of Coleus exhibited by Mr. Emite, attracted universal attention and admiration. Here are far too many beauties to enumerate, but graceful acacia, tropical novities, geraniums, single, double and scented; hellebores, bigonias, verbenas, petunias, lantanas, and the elegant fuschias,



THE PARROT TULIP.

with fairy-like ferns among them, form a small part of the array of floral beauties, rightly called "God's smiles upon the earth." Zinnias are unusually fine, so are the gladioli; while the boxes of cut flowers, the bouquets and floral designs are really deserving of high praise. Turn aside for a moment, however, and see "The Gem of the Fair," 'tis an alcove displayed by Mr. E. J. O'Neil, of this city, and styled by him "The Irish Nursery Department." The alcove is composed of two ribs of a whale, and resting on a veretbrae of the same, and contains a collection of about 30 plants imported from the Emerald Isle, and still growing in Irish soil; they consist of Irish yew and laurel, laurustinus, holly, laburnum, fuze or gorse, cape heather, woodbine, and the never-to-be-forgotten cowslip, primrose and daisy, while bouquets of cut flowers placed in front add much to the effect by their glowing beauty.

The display of fruit is very limited; a few grapes, open air as well as hothouse growth; a plate of splendid peaches; a few plums and Siberian crabs, are, I believe, nearly all, but what there is, is remarkably fine in quality. But as for vegetables—just listen how those side tables groan beneath their weight. Is it not enough to make one turn vegetarian? See those Murphys, enough to make an Irishman blush for his country and confess it beaten; in-cious melons; creamy marrow, with a mild looking squashes and immense pumpkins; citrons; egg plants, purple and white; corn, of various kinds, and all of it good; smooth sound tomatoes and fragrant celery; cabbage, sound and hard enough to make you declare

caterpillars a myth; cucumbers, to delight an epicure; feathery Scotch kale; carrots and blushing beets; saucy looking peppers in their scarlet coats; all these, and more than these, in such profusion as to make one say, "Surely this our land is a very goodly country; God bless Canada our Home, our bonnie New Dominion!" If equal prosperity crown our future efforts in the coming years, we shall indeed have no cause to complain. In the meantime, wishing both you and your readers every happiness and success, believe me, yours truly, AUNT PATTY.

["Aunt Patty" has our heartiest thanks for her kind remembrance of us, and her interesting epistle from the great metropolis. "Aunt Patty"—how droll a name for Miss — to assume! Well, "Aunt Patty," as well as "Uncle Tom," is much liked by our tens of thousands of readers. We know she is a great favourite with some.—Ed.]

INTERESTING COMMUNICATION FROM THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

SIR—I am yet rambling in Lower Canada, and through the prettiest and most romantic part I have yet seen. Here are magnificent ranges of mountains, interspersed with beautiful little lakes, the views of which are of the most enchanting description, and must be seen to be appreciated. One thing I give the Lower Canadians credit for, and that is, the very pretty manner in which they get up and finish their villages and farm houses. Take the latter as a whole, I see nothing like it in Ontario. Well, I must tell you that this is a very grassy section of country, consequently people devote their attention to cows. The dairies here are large, employing from 30 to 60 hands, some going altogether into cheese-making, others to butter; but it is generally thought the former makes the most money, but then this is counteracted by the loss of the milk for the calves and hogs. They consider 20 cents a round here for butter by the tub to be an ordinary price. It has been an exceedingly wet summer throughout this section, raining from two to three days a week on an average, so that it has been very trouble some to save the luxuriant and heavy hay crop; but, upon the whole, it is pretty well secured, and is worth about \$10 per ton. Oats are extensively raised here, and there is quite a quantity of late-sown to secure and cut yet, but they generally use this in the straw to feed the cattle; the early-sown is secured, and is a good crop. Threshing has commenced, and turns out well—so they tell me. Wheat, little or none grown.

I am sorry to say that the potatoes are rotting badly with the wet; they were also a heavy crop. What with the failure of these in this Province and in the Upper one from the Colorado Bug, I fear, sir, we must expect a high price and a scarcity this winter of this, one of the most useful roots to mankind. I was pleased to get an ADVOCATE or two, and I will make a remark about one thing I saw in last month's paper, relative to using arsenic for the destruction of the Potato Bug; let me advise your readers by no means to do so. I came from a part of England where tens of thousands of tons are raised annually from the mineral poison, not a vegetable one. I recollect in the old country, some years ago, a neighbor using this on his turnip crop to kill the fly; in the winter several of his cattle died rather mysteriously; he had their stomachs at last analyzed, and discovered enough arsenic to kill them; on examining the turnips it was found (by the aid of a microscope) to be adhering to the fibres and leaves.

A word now for the ADVOCATE. The post-masters here tell me they never get it now—why not? you would find scores would take it here. Wake up a little in this section, send some handbills to the post office, as there is a wealthy class of farmers in this neighbourhood, many of whom I am sure would take it. Yours truly, RAMBLER.

Belford District, P.Q., Sept. 18, 1872.

[We thank our kind correspondent "Rambler" for his valuable communications. His testimony to the great danger attendant on the use of arsenic confirms the information given in a previous number of the ADVOCATE. We are glad to have to say the value of an agricultural paper is increasingly felt by the farmers. Repeatedly they tell us that we have done more for the agricultural interest in Canada than any other institution—more than the Government. Our constantly increasing subscription list proves the estimation in which farmers hold the ADVOCATE.

We regret the last letter from "Rambler" came to hand too late for insertion. He told

us "the potatoes had so far escaped the attacks of the Colorado Bug, but they have an insect almost as bad, a long, black bug or fly, as bad as the ten-striped one." This black bug has been met with in the United States, in company with the others. For them, as for the striped bugs, Paris Green is the best remedy.—Ed.]

SIR.—Will you oblige me by answering the following questions?—What quantity of corn does it take to put on 100 lbs. of pork, under favorable circumstances? How much if ground and steeped? How many bushels of turnips to put on 100 lbs. of beef? What is the cost per bushel and per car load for corn from Chicago to London or Toronto? Will it pay in Canada to feed a quantity of hogs, especially where a large dairy is kept? I have found by actual experiment that it takes 7 bushels of peas to put 100 lbs. of pork on a good thriving hog, but the difficulty I have experienced is this: the price of peas may rise to 65 or 75 cts. in the fall or winter, and then I feed my own peas at a loss, and find it difficult to buy the quantity I need. If corn feeding will pay, then it is easy to buy as many car loads as are needed.—Yours truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

["What quantity of corn does it take to put on 100 lbs. of pork, under favorable circumstances? In reply to this query from "A Subscriber," we must premise that the figures we give may not be quite correct as regards the hogs he proposes to feed. In feeding stock of any kind so much depends on circumstances other than the food given, that the result of one feeder's experience may differ very much from that of another. The condition of the stock when put up for fattening should be taken into account. Nor is this all.—A good house, good bedding and cleanliness are to receive due attention in the fattening even of hogs. The quality of the corn or other food to be given, and whether it be given whole or ground, cooked or uncooked, are to be taken into account. And there is yet another consideration as to the hogs—what is their breed? Berkshire or what? Some breeds of hogs will put up more pork in a given time and with the same quantity of food than others. A writer in the *Rural New Yorker* says one acre, if seeded with clover, will feed and keep in good condition five hogs; and that a half acre of corn will fatten them. This is rather indefinite. A writer in the *Country Gentleman* gives the results of his experience, which we give condensed as follows:—"Corn meal steeped in boiling water at night for the next day's use, made in one instance 16½ lbs. of pork to the bushel of corn; in another instance 18 lbs. to the bushel. Marketable corn made 118 lbs. to 120 bushels of corn, being a fraction less than 12 lbs. of pork to the bushel." Another authority says one bushel of corn will make 15 lbs. of pork. We have met with other calculations very different from those given. An Ohio farmer, whose article on the subject we give in another column, says also that fifteen pounds of pork are made from one bushel of corn.—As't Ed.]

ECONOMY.

SIR.—Some time ago, under the general caption, "A Few Thoughts," I gave in the ADVOCATE a very few thoughts on "Economy." I will now, with the Editor's permission, add a few more on the same subject, which may be regarded as a supplement to cluster No. 10 of the above-mentioned series.

First, then, it is not good economy for farmers to butcher or sell to the butchers all the best of their lambs, and keep a few of the poorer ones for ewes. Nor is it a good plan to let them have lambs when only one year old; give the lambs one year to grow in. By neglecting these two things a flock of sheep will soon run down so as to be hardly worth their keep. The proper plan is to kill or sell off all the worst of the lambs and keep a few—what-