

influences of unwholesome matter. Chalk is frequently used as a preventive to purging, and may, with advantage, be placed where the calves have access to it. It is, besides, an excellent ingredient in all drinks given in diarrhoea or scouring. The tendency to purging is caused by acid, which the alkali mixing with it neutralizes, and so checks disease. The animal suffering from inconvenience is led to seek some corrective or palliative, and, though seeming at times to pick up food unsuited to it, it is in fact having recourse to simples placed within its reach. We observe dogs eating grass, pigs rejoicing in cinders, and cattle regaling themselves on grass with clay adhering to the roots, may, more, the cow has often been seen to pick up earth and eat it, particularly when any indigestion is present; and in the account of the Wonderful Kintore Ox, given in Mr. Youatt's excellent work on the breeds, management, and diseases of cattle, we find 'he had a lump of rock salt in his manger, of which he was particularly fond. A basket of earth also stood by him, of which he occasionally ate a considerable quantity, and which operated as a gentle purgative. The uneasiness caused by commencing decomposition caused him to have recourse to the mould, and the acid being met by the alkali was rendered harmless.' I may observe that, for the sake of allowing the corrective of the earth, I object to washing turnips; the small quantity of mould adhering to them being more advantageous than the contrary.

The practice of placing stones in the dewlap I consider an excellent one, and the more the animal is forced or pampered the more necessary it is. I have never had a case of quarter-ill or black-leg, and am disposed to think the exemption from that disease may be chiefly owing to the use of setons. In January or February I usually have them inserted, passing them through the loose skin of the chest, taking care not to place them too low down, which would cause the animal much inconvenience when lying, as great soreness is felt for some days. The hair of a cow's tail twisted to the thickness of the finger, with a wooden button at one end, and a knot at the other, answers the purpose. The seton should be smeared with Venice turpentine, to cause it to act quickly, and drawn from knot to button, or the reverse, daily. Black hellebore is sometimes used as a seton, and it may not be out of place to quote Mr. Youatt's valuable opinions when writing on this subject:—"The use of setons in practice on the diseases of cattle is in a manner limited to the passing of a piece of hair, rope, or of black hellebore root through the dewlap; and as exciting inflammation in the neighbourhood of the diseased part, and thus lessening the original one, and causing a determination of blood to a greater or less extent to this new seat of irritation, they are useful both in acute and chronic inflammation of the respiratory organs. In young cattle rapidly

thriving, and placed in pasture perhaps a little too luxuriant, permanent setons are highly beneficial; they act as a salutary drain, and prevent that accumulation of the circulating fluid which is the usual cause of inflammatory fever and other fatal complaints."

In conclusion, a few hints may be given for the treatment of fever-ill, diarrhoea, hoose or catarrh, and black-quarter, in their incipient changes, although all serious cases involving the necessity of operations or real scientific treatment call for the presence of the veterinary surgeon.

The examination of the navel-string of the newly dropped calf demands the first attention of the herdsman, who should not be satisfied if it present too raw an appearance, or blood be dropping from it. Mr. Youatt advises "a ligature should be passed close round it, but, if it can be avoided, not close to the belly. Possibly the spot at which the division of the cord took place may be more than usually sore. A pledget of tow, well wetted with friar's balsam, should be placed over it, confined with a bandage, and changed morning and night; but *caustic applications that are so frequently resorted to should be avoided.* Fomentation in the part, in order to disperse the tumour, the opening of it with a lancet if it evidently points, and the administration of two or three ounce doses of castor oil, made into an emulsion by means of an egg, will constitute the first treatment; but if, when the inflammation abates, extreme weakness should come on, as is too often the case, gentian and laudanum, with, perhaps, a small quantity of port wine, should be administered."

Next, *Scouring*.—So long as we observe the calf to be lively and playful, taking its milk freely, we need not be alarmed by thin evacuations. Most practitioners recommend a mild purgative in the first instance to remove the acidity and irritation of the bowels, after which the simple doses of from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of tincture of rhubarb with an equal quantity of water.

Calves well housed until at least two months old, and not put to grass at too early an age, are seldom liable to scour which can cause any uneasiness. My custom, on an appearance of laxness, is to reduce the allowance of milk and keep the calf warm and quiet. An astringent drink of starch 2 ozs, 1 drachm of laudanum, $1\frac{1}{2}$ drachm of ginger, is also recommended.—Should it assume a threatening appearance, or the evacuations be white and tinged with blood, 5 grains of sulphate of copper and two of opium, given four times a day, will be found an excellent remedy.

Mr. Francis Clater treats this disease very simply, and his valuable book, "Every Man his own Cattle Doctor," is much prized, and should be in the hands of all stock-masters, as it is written in a style quite free from pedantry and professional technicalities.

I have found the acrid nature of the fæces to