

time its recurrence
in different degrees

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one country to other countries far distant, neither rivers
nor oceans appearing to interfere in the slightest degree with
its progress.

During its prevalence it attacks vast numbers of horses
of all ages and both sexes, entailing incalculable loss to
owners of stock, and causing great annoyance and serious
detriment to commercial interests in every branch, as it not
unfrequently happens that seventy-five per cent. or more of
the horses of an infected locality are prostrated, and, as a
consequence, business seriously interfered with and in some
cases almost wholly suspended. Particularly well was
this exemplified during the epizootic of 1872, during which
it was almost an impossibility to procure horses for even
the lightest description of work; very little hauling was
done, and that little was accomplished with the aid of oxen;
and while it was no uncommon sight to see an ox doing
duty between the shafts of a dray or a couple of oxen draw-
ing a waggon, it was very rarely indeed that a horse was
seen working, even on the streets of some of our largest
cities.

Some animals appear to be much less susceptible to the
morbid influence than others, and some seem to be alto-
gether insusceptible, though such cases are extremely rare,
and we have absolutely no means by which we can account
for this discrepancy. Generally speaking, all breeds are
liable to an attack, but on close observation I think it will
be found that the coarse, heavy breeds of horses, as well as
suffering more when attacked, are slightly more susceptible
to the influence of this disease—as, indeed, they are to most
other diseases—than the lighter and more finely bred horses,
and young horses are noticed to be more prone to an attack
than older horses. Horses of a medium age, from seven to
ten years old, enjoy a greater immunity from this affection
than the young or very old, and especially so if they are