

non-street, London, are admirable, and afford the most perfect ventilation without a cold current of air.

All the cavalry depots in Great Britain, Ireland, and India ought to be fitted with Roman stables capable of containing six horses. In India there are two indigenous complaints which destroy forty per cent. of our cavalry horses. The first is a cutaneous disorder called burnsattee, from the Hindostanee word burusaria, relating to this disease, peculiar to the rainy season: it usually attacks horses picketed out in wet ground. No doubt, the disease is propagated by an insect, and is contagious. This fearful complaint is of a tubercular nature; the skin swells, then ulcerates until regular sores are formed: no part of the body is exempt but it generally commences in the legs, and is considered incurable. The second, a cold night air called the wind-stroke, which paralyzes a horse's legs—and I have heard of every horse in a stable being disabled in one night: they rarely recover. It is very probable that the hot-air bath would cure both these terrible diseases, and at a very small expenditure millions of rupees may be saved.

To a hunting establishment a bath is a most valuable acquisition: during a long frost horses may be kept in the most perfect condition. After a hard day's work it is a most powerful restorative to man and horse; and nothing could surprise me less than to hear that the extreme lameness in hounds (which I presume is eczematism) can be cured by the same process. Finally, old-fashioned trainers will condemn a bath without condescending to investigate the results, for nothing is so intolerant or pre-emptious as the prejudice of an ignorant man. It reminds me that when steam was in its infancy a celebrated stage-coachman hoped to be hanged, for something worse, if they could ever travel so fast upon an iron rail for twenty miles as he could upon his old chestnuts. Of course, this heat, so potent in its effects, may be abused like every other valuable gift. I leave to clever and experienced men to define where its use ends and abuse begins. Grooms have much to learn; and more to forget. And as the farmers of Scotland ridicule the system of husbandry in 1827, will the trainers of 1877 amuse themselves with the errors of their predecessors in 1806.—*en. Admiral Rous, in Baile's Magazine.*

### Corns in Horses.

J HUGH FERGUSON, Her Majesty's Veterinary Surgeon in Ireland.

There is, perhaps, no defect constituting unsoundness in horses more frequent than that of corns, nor more dreaded by purchasers yet more misunderstood. It is an erroneous idea to imagine that a corn in the horse is the same as a corn

on the foot of a human being: they present no resemblance whatever, excepting occasionally in one of the effects they produce—namely, lameness. The corn of the human foot is a callous thickening of the skin, particularly of its outer layer, resulting from pressure, and causing by its presence, considerable tenderness on the cutis, or true and highly sensitive skin beneath. The corn of the horse's foot is quite different. What smiths and horsemen call a corn is a reddened state of that portion of the sole at the heel intervening between the bar and the crust. But this reddened state of the horny sole is merely an injury done to the sensitive part by which it is secreted; nor is the injury immediately vertically above the discolored horn, but rather posterior to it, or further backwards, the sole in that region growing downwards and forwards. Corns in horses do not produce lameness in one case out of twenty in which they are present. When they do so, it is in consequence of the sensitive part which secretes the discolored horn becoming inflamed and, consequently, tender. The inflammation in some instances, goes on to the formation of matter which, increasing in quantity, unless the horn beneath it is cut away, allowing its escape, gains the upper margin of the crust, and finds vent between hair and hoof at the coronet; until it escapes thus, or is let out by paring the horn away at the sole, the animal evinces symptoms of intense suffering, which is diminished immediately on the matter getting vent. In a little time the lameness disappears, fresh horn of a healthy character is secreted, and the parts assume a thoroughly normal state. In time the healthy growth of horn displaces the horn that had by the suppuration been separated from the secreting surface. This is the most favorable termination. Not unfrequently, however, the secreting surface of the sensitive sole and heel becomes so injured that its function becomes permanently impaired, to such an extent that it never afterwards secretes horn of a healthy character, or that is able to protect the internal sensitive parts from external injury. This generally occurs in flat-footed, weak heeled horses, particularly if the sole be what is called pumiced—sunken towards its centre.

The usual mode of treating corns is calculated rather to aggravate than diminish the evil. From fancying the corn in the horse to be similar to the corn on the foot of the human being, it has been the habit of farriers and veterinarians to keep the discolored horn, called the corn in horses, continually pared down and thinned, as nearly to the quick as possible. This practice is bad and calculated to make matters worse. It merely removes a portion of the discolored sole, which had far better be left for the protection of the part beneath it. The disease lies not in the reddened horn, but in the state of the secreting parts by which it is formed, and effusion of the blood which mingles with its structure, and thus gives that reddish tinge to the horn which