

MANUAL OF VETERINARY
MEDICINE.

Translated for the Maine Farmer, from the
French of M. Lebeaud.

FURFURULIS.

This disease very often attacks horses that have but imperfectly recovered from the horse distemper or strangles—those which have been kept in rich pastures, are fleshy and heavy-limbed, and those which are driven on muddy roads, and are not well cleaned. This disease first appears at the pastern-joint, and spreads upwards upon the leg—there is a painful swelling, and a discharge of an acrimonious and offensive humour. The swelling, pain and discharge increase—the skin cracks and ulcerates—the leg is covered with warts and scabs, and frequently the horse loses his hoof. There are two objects to be aimed at in the treatment of this disease—to remove the inflammation from the diseased part, and purify the mass of the humour by a course of internal treatment. After having prepared the patient by clearing out the bowels with lavement, he should be bled, and be given a mercurial purgative, No. 16, and this should be repeated from time to time during the treatment. The diseased legs should be kept perfectly clean—the hair should be trimmed off, if necessary—they should be washed several times a day, with the lead water No. 13; with the solution, No. 5—or with one of the preparations, Nos. 1 and 2; and towards the close of the disease we should apply warm spirit or spirit of camphor, in which soap has been dissolved to saturation. The composition, No. 17, can also be rubbed upon the diseased parts with advantage. Rowels will be very useful in this disease—and blistering and the cautery may be tried in obstinate cases.

Internally, we should give bitter infusions, antimony, and whatever may be necessary to promote digestion and the general health of the animal.

No. 10. Aloes, two drams; senna in powder, an ounce; calomel, a dram; mix and make into pills.

No. 13. Sugar of lead, two ounces; camphorated spirit, four ounces; water, half a pint; mix.

No. 5. Take any quantity of spring water—put in as much sal ammoniac or common salt as will dissolve.

No. 1. Take gall nuts in coarse powder, alum, and green vitrol, each two ounces; boil them in a quart of water.

No. 2. Alum, four ounces; blue vitrol and white vitrol, each two ounces; Armenian bole in powder, an ounce; dissolve them in a pint of water.

No. 17. Alum and green vitrol, each eight ounces; gall nuts, four ounces; corrosive sublimate, an ounce; reduce them to a fine powder, and mix with two pounds of honey. The corrosive sublimate makes this composition very poisonous. It may be omitted without great injury to the prescription.

EXOSTOSIS.

A swelling which comes upon the cannon bone. Blistering will sometimes effect a cure, but the actual cautery is more to be relied on. The splint differs from this only in the form it assumes.

FARCY.

A disease of the lymphatic system, caused by the thickening or bad quality of the lymph, and which appears under a variety of forms. Sometimes a great number of round and hard tumours appear upon the neck, the shoulders, the sides, or the hips—sometimes in the form of warts upon the breast or legs—sometimes upon several parts of the body, in the form of tetter—upon the back, the inside of the leg, and the gambrel; sometimes it is seated upon the glands of the joints, and then becomes very difficult of cure. The farcy is not difficult of cure when the warts are scattered over the body, constituting what has been called the "flying fury;" but it is a very serious disease when the insides of the legs are ulcerated and studded with inflamed warts; and when a green fluid runs from the nostrils, it is a very bad symptom; and if it is neglected it will degenerate into the glanders or a disease of the lungs, probably beyond the reach of medicine. Among the known causes of farcy, the most common are: a state of absolute idleness succeeded immediately by very active labour; a very stimulating diet, without exercise; or during a state of weakness from previous disease—green forage, or grain, or feed of bad quality—a filthy and damp stable—neglect in cleaning and rubbing, &c. The treatment of farcy requires great care and attention; the horse should be bled, put on spare diet, and have a purgative, such as No. 16. (see above.) He should be given the next and each succeeding day a handful of the powder, No. 20, or of No. 21, mixed in some warm water or gruel; every few days the purgative should be repeated, according to the force of the disease and the necessity

of the case. The warty swellings should be rubbed once or twice a day with mercurial ointment, and as soon as they appear to contain matter they should be opened, and treated by dress with one of the preparations, No. 15 or 17, (17 above,) until they are healed, or still better they may be cauterized with the hot iron. Antimonial preparations should be given inwardly; and the horse should have regular exercise.

If the horse appears to suffer from the mercurial treatment, let him rest from it for a few days, during which he should take demulcents, such as flaxseed tea, freely; and lavements should be given so as to keep the bowels free. The food should be coarse hay and beans, fine hay or oats should not be given during the continuance of the disease. This being a contagious disease, all precautions should be observed to prevent its spreading.

No. 20. Cummin, coriander and ginger, each an ounce; reduce to a fine powder, and mix and divide into two doses.

No. 21. Sarsaparilla, three ounces; liver of antimony, an ounce; pulverize, mix, and divide into two doses.

No. 15. Gunpowder, ground fine, two ounces; common salt, one pound; yellow snuff and white vitrol, each four ounces; pepper and sal ammoniac, each an ounce, mix the whole with lard enough to form an ointment, or dissolve in three pints of brandy.

LIME AS A MANURE.

There are considerable portions of our country where the application of lime for agricultural purposes has not yet been introduced. When it can be had at reasonable rates, we are satisfied it is in almost all cases a profitable application as a manure. The result of so many and well-weighed, careful experiments would seem to have put its manifest utility beyond any question. In advertising to lime at this present moment, our main design is merely to suggest some of the most obvious occasions for its use.

In almost all soils where lime does not naturally exist, either as pulverized rock, shells, or marl, its application is attended with decided advantage. It may be used at the rate of 50 to 150 bushels per acre the first year, and from 20 to 30 bushels per acre every three to five years, according to the circumstances of the land, the kind of crops, and rotation. We are aware that some will differ with us in recommending the use of so small a quantity; they contending, that where oyster-shell, or stone lime free from magnesia is used, from 200 to 500 bushels may be safely put on the acre, and then the land will want no further application for ten to fifty years. The objection to such large quantities is, that the lime rapidly exhausts the organic matter in the soil, and it requires a great quantity of manure, and a long time of rest to restore it. If the soil be a stiff clay, and full of inert vegetable matter, such as fibrous roots, undecayed vegetation, or peat, much larger quantities should be used than on lighter soils, and those more free of the above organic matter.

Lime should be applied by dumping it in small heaps, and allowing it to slack to a fine powder by the air, or by throwing water upon it, if convenient, and then, as soon as this is accomplished, spread it broad-cast upon the land. Sea-water is much better than fresh for slacking lime, as it adds to its fertilizing qualities. Some contend that thus slacked, it will have double the effect upon the land; but we consider so great a difference as this a matter of doubt. The reason of allowing lime to slack before ploughing it into the soil is, that it absorbs from the air the carbonic acid which has been expelled by heat. It is an unnecessary waste to apply it as quick-lime to the soil, and allow it to seize on the carbon it there finds. It is very greedy of carbonic acid, and it will soon absorb from the atmosphere all that is required for its saturation.

After being well slacked and spread, the lime should be ploughed in, not too deep, and as thoroughly incorporated with the soil by harrowing as possible. The effect it now has upon the soil is, to decompose the vegetable matter, and render it at once food for plants. Lime is almost equally advantageous to all crops, fruit-trees, and whatever constitutes the object of the farmer's attention. Good crops may, in numerous instances, be grown without the use of lime; but in almost all would they be greater or more enduring with the same quantity of manure. It gives increased efficacy and lastingness to the manure.

On grass-fields, lime may be scattered broad-cast, and its beneficial influence is soon witnessed in the improved health and increased quantity of the grass. Fields thus dressed will resist drought much better than they otherwise would, lime having a greater

affinity for moisture, and drawing largely at all times from the atmosphere.

Besides its effect on manures, lime produces a most beneficial influence on many soils. Some of these contain deleterious substances, such as vegetable acids, the salts of iron and manganese, &c.; the lime, when brought into contact with these, at once combines with the acids, and converts what was positively injurious to vegetation into what is positively beneficial to it. The same effect is produced in peat soils which are saturated with tannin and gallic acid. These it combines with, and not only renders innocuous, but converts into a substance highly favorable to vegetation. On sandy soils it is very useful, by rendering them more compact, retaining the manures, and attracting moisture; while on clay soils it partially breaks up their adhesiveness, by insulating its particles between the alumina, and there undergoing various chemical combinations, it tends to make it more porous.

Winter is the most appropriate time for burning lime, and it may be applied to the land as soon as the snow has melted off in the Spring.—[Agriculturist.]

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. C. Garden Island. By turning to the letter of the S. of the M. D. A. S. we find your address given "Wolf Island." We sent a copy of each number to you thus directed. If you have not received them, this must be the reason. Upon receipt of your note, however, we again sent a copy of each Number (except the 2nd, which you say has been received), addressed "Garden Island." We shall send the future numbers to the same address, and if this be incorrect please inform us by note. We are very anxious that our subscribers should get their papers regularly, and any who do not so receive them, we hope will immediately let us know it.

With regard to the other part of A. C.'s note, we must, in the first place, thank him for his friendly hints and kind wishes. The simile of the "new broom," we trust, shall never be applicable to us. The "buying out" he speaks of is, we fear, impracticable. Another party, who has no interest in agriculture—who knows nothing about it, but who saw a chance for speculation, has already purchased half, and is not the sort of character to ply with any argument that does not bear upon the pocket. Had it been as A. C. seems to suppose, we should have tried to make the arrangement he suggests, or kept out of the field.

J. K. Oxbridge, and J. M. P., Stonffrille. We are informed, by one of our agents, that you have not got your papers. We sent them. We have been very particular, not trusting to any but ourselves to direct our papers, and if they are not received the fault must be somewhere else. We have mailed them a second time, and hope they will reach you.

CANADA FARMER.

March 26, 1847.

HINTS FOR THE SEASON.

The farmer's labours will soon be upon him in all their variety and pressing haste, each demanding his attention at the proper time, and if neglected, occasioning loss that during this year cannot be recovered. There is nothing like system and forethought, if a man wishes to succeed in any business, whether it be the management of the farm, or of any thing else. He should take care to know beforehand what is to be done, and how to do it, and when the proper time arrives he should go to work and do it. An immense amount of trouble, vexation, self-reproach, and loss may be saved by timely action. This habit of putting off until tomorrow what should be done to-day, is a most pernicious one, and should be vigorously resisted. All men are more or less under its influence, and therefore our remarks will be more or less applicable to all. We can speak from experience on both sides of this subject. To help our readers to recollect, and to assist them with such information as we can, how to practice the several operations they ought, as good farmers, to attend to during this and the next month, we have collected and strung together the following hints. Some are from others, and some by ourselves, but they must not be regarded as positive directions: they are intended to suggest only, what we think and believe, and the reader must decide for himself:—

Farming Tools.—Look to your plough, and harrows, your roller, if you have one, and if not, get one. If they have been left in the field, as is often done, or drawn up in battle-array in front of the house, taking up half the road, and when covered with snow, forming a most capital trap

for breaking horses legs, &c. &c., upon examination it will probably be found, that the mortices and joints have grown very accommodating and will come to pieces just as easily as you could wish. If you have not a few Carpenters'-tools of your own, which every farmer ought to have, take these ill-used implements to your wheel-right or blacksmith and let timely aid be administered. If they are too far gone, order new ones—and, a word in your ear: the very first idle day, drive off to the nearest saw-mill and bring home slabs enough to make a good shed; then see that your waggons, sleighs, ploughs, &c. &c., are kept under it when not in use. The thrifty farmer is known by his attention to the minor points: by his care to save as well as to acquire.

Manure.—Those who desire good crops, will not neglect this important matter. Notwithstanding what is said about specific manures, &c., let the farmer either cart the contents of his barn-yard into the field or throw it up into a heap where it lies. Rake and scrape all he can find, and mix it together. Lime sprinkled over it as it is thrown up will be an advantage. If he has swamp-muck or peat, or the sediment of ponds, let him put that in requisition also. Cover over the whole with earth one or two feet thick to prevent the escape of ammonia and other gases, and when it is wanted for the field, he will have what is better than gold.

Sowing Clover Seed.—As we are among those, says the American Farmer, who believe that no land can be preserved in a condition of fertility, without the system of culture observed embraces clover within its economy, as well for turning in, as for food for stock, we advise all who may have wheat fields, (if they have not done so already) to sow thereon, upon every acre, from 12 to 16 lbs. of good clean Clover seed.

Sowing Grass Seeds.—So soon as the frost is out of the earth, and the ground sufficiently dry to be ploughed without injury, all kinds of grass seeds may be sown—as Timothy, Herd's grass, Orchard-grass, Rye-grass and Lucerne. A practice prevails generally in this country of sowing Clover and Timothy seeds together. The same thing has been done by the farmers in the United States, but many think it a bad practice. Clover flowers and is fit to cut, several weeks before Timothy, and is therefore ill-suited to be grown with it on the same field. We would, as a general rule, sow Timothy seed alone. With regard to the quantity of seed we would remark, that less than a peck per acre should never be sown, and that a peck and a half per acre, could very advantageously be used.

Clover and Orchard Grass.—Though they do not flower at the same time, may be sown together with a decided improvement both for pasture and hay. When they are sown together, the Clover must direct the judgment as to the proper time of cutting for hay. So soon as the clover is in bloom, without looking to the state of the orchard grass, is the time to cut. When thus sown together, 12 lbs. of Clover seed and one bushel Orchard grass should be sown on each acre. Pastures thus sown are much better than when Clover is alone sown thereon, as the cattle are measurably exempt from contracting the disease called the "hoven." The quantity of hay which may be grown on an acre is greater, while the quality is better.

Clover Fields.—All clover fields which may not have been so treated already, should have, as soon as possible, a bushel of plaster sown on each acre. Such work is best performed in a moist, cloudy day. It may be observed that plaster has been found most serviceable on new and manured soils. Low, wet, or very poor lands, and natural meadows, cereals, and what are called umbelliferous plants, such as celery, parsnips, &c., are little benefited by its application.

Meadows.—Where they may be turf-bound, an improvement in product may be effected by harrowing the ground as soon as the frost is out of it, and sowing thereon a mixture composed of five bushels of ashes and one of plaster to each acre. If the stand of grass should be thin, it would do well to sow four or five pounds of Timothy seed per acre and harrow it in. Meadows may be restored to product, even by such an arrangement, without incurring too labor and expense of re-plowing.

Grain Fields.—It is common, a good practice to harrow and roll grain fields as soon as the ground is sufficiently hard to bear these operations without poaching; a term used to express the treading of cattle upon wet meadows or other lands, by which they leave their hoof-marks. We find it stated by Mr. Allan in the Agriculturist, that the roller affords a "perfect security to the wheat crop from the ravages of the [Hessian] fly." He says, whenever this insect is discovered, whether in the spring or fall, the roller should be