

one part corn meal, and two parts shorts, scalded. Now, if you can tell me the cause and how to cure, you will greatly oblige."

[References were made to the treatment for piles in pigs in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE 1897 Christmas number, page 556, and in Jan. 1st (1898) issue, page 13. Piles are dilations of the veins on the inner and outer sides of the anus, with exudations and fibrous thickening of the surrounding connective tissue to form rounded swellings. They are generally connected with torpid, inactive liver, and an aggravated costiveness, straining, and the presence of irritants in the large intestines. Treat by giving by mouth mild laxatives (sulphate of soda and common salt, two ounces daily). Give moderately of laxative, easily digested food, and maintain tone by tonics (nux vomica, ten to twenty grains daily in food). Locally bathe with tepid solution of opium and astringents, as sugar of lead and alum, a teaspoonful of each in a pint of water. It is sometimes necessary to remove with the ligature or clamp and hot iron.]

#### Tapeworms in Dog.

R. O. DONOGHUE, Wellington Co., Ont.:—"I have a fox terrier that is badly troubled with tapeworms. Will you kindly let me know the treatment for such a case?"

[The bowels of the dog are the frequent abode of parasites commonly known as round and tape worms. Depraved appetite and unthriftiness of the animal are the general symptoms. There is also a certain amount of irritation of the anus, which renders the animal fond of licking the part or dragging it along the ground. Treatment: Fast the animal for one day and night, and the following morning give two grains per pound of dog of the drug known as kamala, a preparation used in India (is an orange-red, granular powder); should be given mixed with a little honey or placed in five-grain gelatine capsules; to be repeated in one week if not effectual.]

#### Too Little Exercise of Brood Mare.

A. J. J. M., Victoria Co., Ont.:—"We have a mare that we expect is now in foal. She has only raised one foal out of four, and we would like to preserve this one if possible. The first one never got up on its legs; the second became a good strong, healthy horse. The two last seemed weak, although in real good condition; unable to get up or stand when lifted to suck. We would like to know what might be the cause?"

[We judge the limp and flabby condition of the last two foals was due to too close confinement of the mare during the last few months of pregnancy. She should be given a liberal amount of daily exercise, preferably light work, and be moderately well fed on hay and oats, and half a pint of wheat three times a week.]

#### Prolapsus of the Uterus.

SHEPHERD, Brome Co., Que.:—"We have lost three ewes lately and wish to know what was the cause and how to prevent losing more. They were all three heavy in lamb and quite fat. The vulva protruded and could not be put back to stay. It came out larger than one's two fists. The sheep gradually failed, and died in three or four days. The lambs were full-grown, and would probably have been dropped in two weeks."

[The ewes have probably been too liberally fed with roots or other bulky roots. It is not often that this trouble proves fatal. We have known many cases where ewes affected in this way produced living lambs and had no after-trouble. We would advise feeding lightly and substituting bran and a little oats for roots till after lambing. A good plan is to tie several locks of wool across the passage if it is long-wool sheep. If a short-wool sheep twine may be tied to the locks of wool on each side and these tied together in the center. A more effective contrivance is a miniature gate, six inches long and four inches wide, made of hardwood slats about one inch in width and one inch apart. Strings of strong twine attached to each corner of this, two to go over the back and two under the belly, and to be tied to a strap around the ewe's neck; this to be removed when signs of parturition are observed.]

#### Miscellaneous.

##### Who First Shall Have the "Advocate?"

J. WILLS, Ontario Co., Ont.:—"After reading the ADVOCATE for twelve years, I should be lost without it. I consider it worth many times its cost. I have taken off two lumps from two cattle's jaws—one a cow and the other a steer—with spirits of ammonia, a receipt I saw in one of the issues of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, of, I think, 1896. It would have cost \$4.00 to have it cut out, not considering the inconvenience afterwards. The ADVOCATE is so prized in my home by one and all, that whenever it arrives, whether morning, noon or evening late, it's who first shall have the ADVOCATE?"

##### A Log Silo.

B. G., British Columbia:—"Will a silo built of logs and the cracks well plastered answer the purpose; and how can clover be put in when no cutting machine is available?"

[If the logs were flattened on the inside, and the plastering made even with the inside surface of the logs so that the silage would settle evenly, it might answer the purpose, though we should fear the pressure of the mass inside would displace the logs

unless they were well bound at the corners. We would much rather advise sawing the logs into planks six to eight inches wide and two inches thick, and building a round stave silo with iron hoops. There is no need of bevelling or dressing the planks, nor even of roofing the silo. It may be built outside of the barn, and two lengths of planks may be used one on top of the other, the joints being broken. There are many of these in use in Ontario, giving entire satisfaction. Clover for ensilage should be put in the silo when quite green, immediately after being cut. A derrick should be erected with poles over the silo, from which a horse fork could be operated to facilitate the filling. We know no place where the practice of storing green clover as ensilage has had a better trial than in British Columbia, and we believe with good success. If you write Mr. A. C. Wells, Okilliwack, he can probably give you helpful information on this point.]

#### Free-Martins.

J. H. F., Peel Co., Ont.:—"Will twin calves of opposite sexes prove to be breeders? I have raised twin heifers which proved to be valuable cows, but have had no experience with opposite sexes."

[The male will usually prove a breeder, but the female, called a "free-martin," is generally barren, but not always so, as we have known of exceptions.]

#### Cow Hard to Milk.

J. B. E., Perth Co., Ont.:—"I have a cow which is very hard to milk. She has calved about one month (her first calf). At first she milked quite freely for about ten days, then began to get hard. First, can you give any reason for her doing so? Second, please advise me what is best to do with her?"

[If she milked easily at first we should judge she has had inflammation in her udder, which has affected the glands, and the trouble may pass away when they return to their normal condition. We would keep the udder well greased with lard and wait patiently for an improvement. If she continues to be very hard to milk, she might be used to raise calves for a season, and might be improved in that way.]

#### Unthrifty Pigs.

H. M. D., Huron Co., Ont.:—"I have a sow that had a litter of pigs, and weaned them when six weeks old, and in about two weeks after that there seemed to be something come across them, and four died in two days; the only symptoms being their ears got droopy and they got dizzy, and died in a short time. The remainder took to coughing and sneezing, and seemed stopped up in their nose, and could drink but very little for about a week. I have only one that has got over it yet, the rest are very weak and eat very little. I fed the sow on a slop of equal parts barley, peas and oats. And the young pigs after weaning were fed milk with shorts and a little oil cake, in a warm, dry place. Can you tell me through your valuable paper the trouble, and how to remedy it?"

[This is a common complaint with late fall pigs, and is generally due to close confinement, lack of exercise, and want of earth or grit to regulate the stomach, also to feeding sloppy food cold, causing indigestion and general derangement. In the first place it is not well to have pigs come later than Oct. 1, when they can have two or three months to run out and get exercise, and gather strength before winter sets in. Then they should have their milk or swill warmed, or at least the chill taken off it by adding hot water. Some successful feeders practice feeding their pigs their meal dry in one trough and their drink in a separate trough. By this means the pigs get their food slowly, masticate it properly, mix it with saliva, and thus prepare it best for digestion. Some have adopted self-feeders for the dry meal—a two-sided box sloping to the bottom, and open at the bottom about one inch in width, through which the pigs get their meal slowly. The only remedy we can suggest for those afflicted is to give them warm milk and greasy swill to drink, with a little sulphur in it. Throw some earth from the root cellar into their pen. Let them out in the barnyard on fine days on the sunny side of a building or stack, place wood ashes, charcoal and salt in a flat box in their pen. Warm weather and early grass will bring them around to a healthy state if anything will.]

#### Bluestone for Smut.

J. A., Peel Co., Ont.:—"Kindly give instructions as to the best method of treating seed oats with bluestone pickle to destroy or prevent smut?"

[The practice of men who have had satisfactory experience in the use of bluestone for prevention of smut in oats is to immerse the seed in a solution of bluestone in the proportion of one-third of a pound to each pailful of water. First dissolve the bluestone in hot water and then add cold water. The following process has been recommended by a successful farmer who has used it: "Provide two coal oil barrels, bore a half-inch or three-quarter-inch hole near the edge of the bottom of each; make a plug to suit. Set these barrels on a platform sufficiently high to admit of a pail below the edge of the barrels. Have the hole project over the edge of the platform. Pour in a bag of oats, then enough of liquid to just cover the oats. Stir, and then with one pail below the hole and another in reserve, pull out the plug and drain off the liquid, pouring it into the other barrel. When the liquid is drained off empty the contents of the

barrel into a wagon box or on the barn floor to dry, and repeat the same with the other barrel." Use the liquid of the strength described, having a supply on hand to replenish as required.]

#### Testing Cows—Butting Rams.

W. H. W., Huron Co., Ont.:—"Can you or some of your readers tell me of some simpler way than by the Babcock tester for testing milk to determine the percentage of butter-fat? I have a small herd of cows, but would like to know just what they are doing. (2) Is there any way to keep rams from butting each other when running together?"

[(1) When one has had any experience in using the Babcock tester it becomes a very simple matter, and a small machine can be bought very cheaply. Besides the centrifugal machine and test bottles one requires a pipette, an acid cylinder, and a quantity of commercial sulphuric acid. A sample of milk is taken after thorough mixing of the milk, and 17.6 cubic centimeters, as indicated by the pipette, is placed in each test bottle. To this is added 17.6 cubic centimeters of sulphuric acid, as indicated by the acid cylinder. The test bottles are then given sufficient shaking to thoroughly mix the milk and acid, and then placed in the tester and whirled for four to five minutes at a speed of 600 to 1,200 revolutions per minute. Hot water is now added by means of a pipette until the bottles are filled up to the beginning of the neck. The bottles are whirled again at full speed for one minute, and hot water added a second time until the lower part of the column of fat comes within the scale on the neck of the test bottle, preferably to the one or two per cent. mark, so as to allow for the sinking of the column of fat, owing to the gradual cooling of the contents of the bottle. A final whirling for one minute completes the separation of the fat. The per cent. of fat in the milk tested is indicated in the graduations on the neck and are easily counted. After a little practice the testing becomes a simple matter. Each cow's milk should be tested once a week, and her milk weighed at every milking throughout the year. Another means of testing each cow is to set her milk separate and churn each cow's cream by itself. This would have to be done several times and would involve much extra labor. The question is open for discussion. (2) We will have to leave this question with our readers, except to recommend blindfolding the pugilistic sheep. Rams separated and again brought together will almost invariably fight.]

#### Rye for Horse Feed.

A. J. J. W., Victoria Co., Ont.:—"Is rye grain good to feed horses instead of oats, and whether is it better whole or chopped? A man told me yesterday rye grain will cause a mare to 'pick colt.' Will it do so? I never fed it before, but I have some now to feed, and would like to know."

[Rye resembles barley more closely than any of the other grains, and should be fed sparingly to horses. We would advise having it crushed coarsely and fed with oats or bran. Rye frequently bears ergot, which has a peculiar action on the womb, causing it to contract and thus expel the young of a pregnant animal. It is therefore unsafe to feed rye to a mare in foal, which should be given plenty of exercise, preferably light regular work, and be fed oats and bran.]

#### Points in Seeding Down.

J. W. DOHERTY, Frontenac Co., Ont.:—"Re Prof. Wm. Saunders' excellent contribution to the ADVOCATE of the 15th inst., I would like a little more light on one or two subjects, viz.: (1) In sowing a field to oats, barley and peas, if seeded to Mammoth clover would the clover not be likely to get smothered? (2) In seeding grass and clover seed to spring grain, can the 'Breed weeder' be used to keep down weeds without injuring the young grass seeds?"

[(1) Of course the clover would be liable to be smothered if the crop should prove a heavy one, but if the mixture of grain was sown somewhat thinly a fair catch of clover might be secured. (2) The use of the weeder would no doubt destroy some of the clover plants, and we think it likely it is not intended to be used where clover has been sown, but it would be worth trying on a limited scale to see how it works.]

#### Wire Fencing.

RUSTICUS, Durham Co., Ont.:—"Can any of your numerous readers or correspondents who have a practical knowledge of barbed wire fencing inform me what is the proper distance for setting the posts apart so that the wires may not sag or become loose; so far as I can find out the distances seem to vary from 6 ft. to 12 ft.; also, is any bracing required in order to steady the panels, and, if so, at what distances apart? What should be the cost of a good barbed wire fence of seven wires, per rod; and is there any other kind of wire fence cheaper and as efficient?"

[See article on "Farm Fencing" in this issue, and replies to same in later numbers.]

#### Select Clydesdale Register in Scotland.

SUBSCRIBER, Prince Edward Island:—"Is the Select Clydesdale Register in Scotland still kept up; if so, who is the secretary or editor? What are its qualification requirements for registration? Is it true it admits cross-breeding with the Shire horse?"

[Subscriber should write Mr. Archibald McNeillage, 61 Hope St., Glasgow, Scotland.]