

No doubt it was a case of horse-pox. He was a groom to a gentleman whose horses had been afflicted with the disease this winter. Moreover, the subsequent history and development of the case confirmed the diagnosis of horse-pox.

The other case was seen some time after the foregoing, and, with the benefit of this experience as a guide, a diagnosis was more readily made. His was a sore thumb, and, although the history is not so reliable as in the first case, still he (Dr. Bell) was practically sure it was a case of horse-pox.

Now, if it can be inoculated on the groom it can be inoculated on the cow, and this is another link in the evidence going to prove the identity of small-pox in the different species of animals, only modified by the special organism in each case. He asked for some information as to a differential diagnosis between "grease" and "horse-pox" in horses. It seems rather suspicious that horse-pox should be so prevalent in horses at a time of the year when they are exposed to wet and damp weather, which is known to be the cause of "grease" in these animals; or, in other words, that a good many cases of "grease" are diagnosed as horse-pox.

Dr. D. J. EVANS said that a case of this kind came under his observation some three weeks ago. A groom who was attending to three horses, all of whom were afflicted with the pox, happened to get a slight scratch on his hand. At the seat of the scratch a little inflammation was noted, with some slight constitutional febrile disturbances; a vesicle formed, which in a few days became pustular, when it broke, and a marked little ulcer remained. The ulcer finally healed up, and left a distinct cicatrix behind.

Dr. KIRKPATRICK asked if horse-pox protects against small-pox in the same way as when the vaccine has passed through the calf.

Dr. GURD referred to a case he had seen about eight years ago. A groom, while attending to some horses suffering from this disease, was accidentally inoculated in the cheek. An inflammation followed and a typical vesicle was developed. The cheek began to swell considerably, and, being so close to the eye, he began to fear an injury to his sight, and went to Dr. Buller, who, no doubt, can corroborate these statements.

Dr. SMITH, referring to the differential diagnosis between horse-pox and "grease," thought that the course and termination was sufficient to distinguish them. Horse-pox does not last two or three months, as "grease" often does. Like all the acute fevers, it is a self-limited disease. "Grease" is looked upon as a neglect on the part of the groom to properly dry the horse's feet.

Dr. ELDER thought that there were still one or two links wanting to complete a valuable

piece of evidence. He understood that the groom did not have the pox at all, and it seemed that the connection between the sickness of the cow and that of the horses is not clearly established. There is nothing more common than for cows to have cow-pox, and that this cow should have it at the time that the horses had horse-pox may at the most be only a coincidence. If the pox had been taken from the horse and put into the calf, then it would have been a direct piece of evidence. As it is, the calf was inoculated from the cow, and the resemblance of the calf's disease to cow-pox may, after all, be due to that, and not horse-pox, being the true malady of the cow.

Dr. ADAMI stated that this was purely a preliminary communication, and the experiments reported are only the beginning of a series of experiments. He had already taken material from the horses, also a scab from one of the grooms that has had horse-pox, and intended inoculating them in cows. With regard to the matter of "grease," one important point is the duration of the disease. "Grease" is a long disease; it does not have the stages of horse-pox. Horse-pox is a papular eruption, followed by the coalescence of the papules, the formation of vesicles and the development of the vesicles into pustules. Finally, you have the rupture of these pustules, the formation of little ulcers and the healing of those ulcers, leaving behind a permanent cicatrix. "Grease," on the other hand, is not characterized by pustules, but rather by pus. It is simply a superficial inflammation of the skin, which goes on to suppuration. This refers to typical cases. Of course, there are atypical cases where it is not so easy to separate them. He had seen a case of horse-pox in Montreal where regular suppuration took place, with great swelling and tenderness, but this is exceptional. He was not properly acquainted with all the manifestations which "grease" may undergo, nor could he give what he felt to be an adequate history of its course and termination, although he can detect it readily enough when he sees it. "Grease" is a subcutaneous as well as a cutaneous affection, and he doubted whether it has any counterpart in the human being. With regard to horse-pox granting protection against small-pox, this is as yet an unsettled point. In the last few years a good many experiments have been made in this direction, and many of them seemed to declare that it did protect; others have doubted it. Among grooms, twenty or thirty years ago, when horse-pox was more prevalent in the Old Country, it was believed that it did protect, but this is also a matter which requires to be thoroughly investigated, and a complete series of experiments is urgently required.

*Epithelioma of the Soft Palate, etc.*—Dr.