

Veterinary Department.

Successful Surgical Operation

BY A LATE PUPIL IN THE TORONTO VETERINARY SCHOOL.

We have much pleasure in drawing attention to the following account of the skillful and successful practice of a gentleman educated in the Toronto Veterinary School, as evidence of the high standard of the instruction furnished by this important institution, and the efficient services it is rendering the community by sending forth thoroughly qualified surgeons to take the place of ignorant and unskilful farriers. The account is furnished by the *Canadian Post*, published in Lindsay, and is as follows:—A few days ago Mr. L. M. Cather, Veterinary Surgeon of this town, successfully performed a very critical operation upon the left orbit of a mare belonging to Mr. John Dorey, of Downeyville. The mare, which is an aged one, lost, it appears, one of her eyes when two years old, and immediately thereafter an ugly-looking fungous tumour began to show itself within the orbit, and gradually increased, notwithstanding every effort by various horse farriers to arrest its progress and effect its removal by means of caustics and such like applications, till when brought to Mr. Cather it had attained an enormous size. Mr. Cather at once determined on extirpation by the knife, as affording the only reasonable prospect of cure. The operation was a delicate and hazardous one, but the owner of the mare having consented to it, Mr. Cather set to work and successively dissected away the unseemly mass, which filled the entire cavity and involved the upper and lower eye-lids, as well as the orbital extremity of the optic nerve. For a day or two after the operation threatened inflammation of the brain had to be combated, but under the use of appropriate remedies all danger on that score speedily vanished, and the animal's condition and prospects are now most favourable.

Severe Sprain in a Horse.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER.

SIR,—Permit me, for my information, and that of the numerous farmers who annually send their teams to lumbering shanties, to make the following enquiry:

Last March I had a valuable horse in a saw-log shanty, who, when starting his load, sprained himself in the back or hip; however, with difficulty, he was got to the stable, where, as he was unable to rise, I had him slung up. When on his feet he could stand, but whenever attempting to place any weight upon the injured leg (the off hind one), he so badly knuckled on the fetlock that in many instances he has fallen in the effort. Although his appetite was good he lost flesh rapidly, particularly about the hip affected, so much so that little or none remained thereon. The hip is now, I fancy, slowly filling in, and he rises without assistance, but when he walks he moves sideways, and his hind legs seem to twist in every possible direction; he is recovering his lost flesh, and is in every other respect convalescent. When the accident happened I bled him freely, and so soon as I could procure the material blistered him all over the upper portion of the hip up to the spine. This I repeated frequently, and gave him some laxative medicine, keeping him upon boiled barley diet chiefly. What I want to know is, whether the tendons of the hip, or the back, or both, have been injured? Has my treatment so far, been correct? Or what should I have done, and what should I now do to effect a cure, if cured perfectly he ever can be? Should exercise be given (he is at pasture during the day), or would light drawing be detrimental to recovery?

More horses have been hurt during the past winter than any remembered previous one, and a knowledge of the proper treatment in such cases will confer a very general benefit.

H. Y. R.

Hopedfield, July 15th, 1867.

ANS.—Judging from your description of the above case, we are of opinion that the muscles in the region of the haunch have been severely sprained, and also

the ligaments of the hip joint injured. Muscles, after being sprained, generally waste (atrophy) a great deal, and even supposing lameness ceases, it takes a long time before the muscular fibres are reproduced. Regarding the treatment of this case, we think you did right in placing the animal in slings, and also in giving a dose of purgative medicine, and allowing a laxative diet; but we are of opinion you committed a mistake in immediately applying a blister over the injured part. The poor animal was suffering quite enough pain without the irritation produced by a large blister. The treatment should have been more of a soothing nature, such as the application of hot water, warm clothes, &c., and rubbing the parts with some anodyne liniment. This soothing treatment should have been persevered in until the acute inflammatory action had abated, and then stimulants and blisters would have been attended with more satisfactory results. We would now recommend a loose box for the horse, in preference to running him out to pasture; he should have a liberal allowance of nutritious food, and the region of the hip might be blistered with the common cantharidine blistering ointment.

BOTS IN HORSES.—Col. J. Hamilton writes from Raleigh, N. C., stating that he has a receipt from Dr. Geo. of Florida, which he had not tested, but would do so on necessity showing itself. He says:

"You are aware that it is hard sometimes to distinguish between an attack of the bots and one of the colic; the following remedy, however, is equally efficient for either. The reason that a bot can resist the action of the agents administered is his power of drawing his head into the walls of the stomach by his tentacles. But he cannot resist chloroform. A tablespoonful of chloroform, screened by a couple of spoonfuls of any good mucilage, will make him let go his hold on the stomach even after having bored nearly through."

TREATMENT OF FLESH WOUNDS.—"E.B." writes from Arthur as follows:—"A colt of mine was kicked by one of my working horses, and received an angular wound on the fleshy part of the thigh. The skin was peeled off at one side of the wound. I immediately stitched the cut, and put some tar on it to keep the flies away. Would you be so kind as to give the proper mode of treatment in your next issue of the CANADA FARMER?"

ANS.—As a general rule the proper method in such cases is to bring the parts together, and allow nature to heal the wound with as little interference from irritating applications as possible. The dirt or extraneous matters should be removed with tepid water, and the parts kept clean. Where there is much inflammation and swelling, relief will be afforded by bathing and fomenting occasionally with warm water. We would recommend our correspondent to wash off all the tar, and to apply daily with a feather a little tincture of benzoin, repeating the use of tepid water before each application of the tincture.

HYDATIDS IN SHEEP'S HEAD.—A correspondent from Sarnia consults us under circumstances of perplexity as follows:—"Can you or any of your correspondents inform me of any way by which I can destroy the grub worm in sheep's heads. I have lost ten sheep in the past six weeks, and three more will likely die before the present week is out, all from the same malady. I opened the heads of two; in one of them I found three grubs, one about one inch long, the other two were much smaller; in the other sheep I found one grub about an inch and half long. I was recommended to put snuff up their noses, which I did, to try and make them sneeze the grub down, but to no effect. I was also recommended to hold the sheep over a thick smoke; that also failed. and I am now left without any remedy or resource; but hope, however, that some kind reader of the CANADA FARMER will be able to relieve me.

ADAM CLARK.

SARNIA, (Box 135).

ANS.—In the treatment of hydatid in the brain of the sheep, producing what is known as sturdy or gid, the trochar and canula, instruments employed for tapping in dropsy, are used for its removal. The sheep should be firmly secured, and the head carefully examined, and generally a soft place can be felt in the bone immediately over the seat of the hydatid. A small piece of the skin should be dissected backwards, and a small trochar and canula inserted. When the trochar is withdrawing, the hydatid will in many instances escape; if, however, it does not come away a small syringe may be used to draw it to the surface. The wound should be dressed with cold water, and covered either with a piece of strong cloth or leather.

Poultry Yard.

Poultry at the Paris Exhibition.

A correspondent of the *Prarie Farmer* gives the following account of the poultry at the Paris Exhibition:

The show of poultry and farm-fowls generally, now taking place, is, however, the best by far that I have ever seen. The specimens, as I believe, with one exception, were from French poultry-yards. The superiority of French fowls is well known everywhere, and is the result of the love of this people for eggs and fowls for table use. A dinner without a fowl of some kind is considered incomplete, and at breakfast, eggs in some form, are considered almost indispensable. In the country, even more than in cities, the poultry yard is called upon to furnish its treasures for the table. The consequence is, as before stated, great perfection in the breeding and management of domestic poultry.

At the present exhibition there are in all 408 coops or cages of fowls. On an average these contain at least three specimens, giving a grand total of 1,224. Here we find all the best breeds known to the breeders of America, viz.: Brahmas, Dorkings, Black Spanish, Shanghai, Gold and Silver Spangled Hamburgs, Cochins Chinas, Dominiques, Malay, Bantams, etc., etc., all of the greatest purity and perfection, and of enormous size. The exhibition of geese is not large, but embraces some excellent specimens of the Toulouse, Danube, Egyptian, Bernacle, and Embden varieties.

The best turkeys are from an Irish exhibitor of Limerick. Generally these fowls are far inferior to those bred in the States.

The show of ducks is very good, embracing the Normandy, Aylesbury, Poland, Labrador, Siffers (Whistlers), and three or four inferior French breeds.

There is quite a variety of pigeons, but not better than are seen at many of the State fairs, at the East.

In rabbits, here almost always found in the poultry yard and an important animal in the Paris market, as well for its flesh as for its hair or fur, the exhibition surpasses any I have ever seen. Many of the fancy breeds, such as the Angora, bring fabulous prices, and are much sought after by amateur breeders in this line.

Besides the breeds of hens mentioned above, are four varieties, all of French origin so far as I can learn, that are not generally known to our breeders, that are certainly worthy of description and should be generally introduced into our country."

Of the breeds alluded to, La Fleche and Creve Cœur have been shown at our exhibitions and described in the CANADA FARMER, the Du Mans very closely resemble the first, but the Houdan has not hitherto, we believe, been introduced into Canada. The same writer thus speaks of this breed:—

"The Houdan breed of fowls is principally raised in the departments Seine et Oise, Eure and Eure-et-Loir. They supply a large part of the Paris demand, continually. The plumage is a unique mixture of black and white. The head is very large and strong, and surmounted by a tuft less dense than that of the Creve Cœur; "cravat and whiskers" prominent, crest and wattles small. The feet are of a grayish lead colour, and have five toes two above each other, projecting from the hind part of the leg, above the heel. Weight of mature pullet, five to six pounds. The cock has a mottled plumage of tan mixed with pale yellow, though generally black and white. The feathers of the tail and wings have a very marked green hue. Up to three months of age, the black predominates, after which time the white increases. The crest is divided into two parts, having the appearance of horns, like the Fleche breed. They are five-toed, like the females. Weight of mature cock, from six and a half to seven and a half pounds.

The flesh of the Houdan fowl is very fine and delicate. They take on fat readily, but the hens are smaller and less precocious than either of the first-described varieties."

The "American Poultry Club" was organized on the 10th inst. in New York City.

In Egypt, professional poulterers will take a hundred eggs, and return therefor, at the end of three weeks, sixty chickens, keeping the remaining chicks and added eggs for payment.

PREVENTING HENS SITTING.—The plan recommended by the Hon. Mrs. Arbuthnot for preventing hens sitting is endorsed by a correspondent of the *Journal of Horticulture*. It is as follows: Let the hen sit three or four days in the nest she chooses; then place her in a yard, or anywhere where there is no nest, and feed her well; in four or five days she may be returned to her own yard, and in about a fortnight will lay again.