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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

OUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

STIFFNESS IN PIGS.

I have a number of young pigs a little over three months old, which have been fed on a moderate ration of shorts, with skim milk, and a few mangels chopped up with a shovel. They have been well cared-for, with dry bedding thrown in the nest every day, and pen cleaned every other day. They have also been given a few wood ashes, salt, and cinders from a coal stove, but have not been out of the pen all winter until the other day, when it was warm. They are beginning to go stiff one after another, and finally get so bad they can scarcely get to the trough. I hear of a great number of pigs in this locality affected the same way, many of them weighing over a hundred pounds. It seems like an epizootic. E. D.

Ans .- It is practically impossible to say what may be the cause of the stiffness in the pigs in question. The ration which has been fed, looks like an ideal one, and the treatment seems to have been all right as well. It is not stated, however, what kind of pen they are kept in. If this inquirer is absolutely certain that his pen is dry, and that the pigs get a reasonable amount of exercise, then I have no idea what may be the cause of the trouble. I am inclined to think, however, that there is probably some lack of ventilation in the building, and the damp weather which we have at this time of year very often causes stiffness in pigs unless they are kept in very dry quarters. If this inquirer has any other place where he could put the pigs, and where they could get considerable exercise, I would advise him to try changing their quarters. One thing is certain, however, those pigs which have become once badly crippled, will never make very satisfactory pigs, no matter how they are treat-His main efforts must be directed towards preventing the continuation or spread of the trouble.

G. E. DAY.

PIGS CRIPPLED. I have a litter of young pigs, which came in October. They were left with the mother until six weeks old, and thrived well. Then I fed them on skim milk and middlings. About the middle of January, I noticed they were getting stiff on their legs, and did not care to move about or eat. I gave them a drench of salts, ginger and soda, for several days in succession. Some of them seemed to improve a little, but after a few days got bad again Can you tell me what is wrong with them, and advise me what to do for them? W. S.

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Ans .- See reply by Prof. Day to similar questions in this issue.

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