

tents, and the whole mouth presents an ulcerated condition, giving the animal great pain, and rendering it unable to masticate its food. In some cases there is a peculiar smacking of the lips. In milk cows these vesicles also appear on the udder and teats, and are usually well raised, and soon burst and discharge a clear fluid.

In this disease the period of incubation varies from two to four days, and in most cases the fever subsides in about four to six days after the prominent symptoms are developed; and in ten to twenty days the animal will be convalescent.

Animals when so affected soon lose condition, and when the disease occurs in dairy cows the milk is unfit for use, but otherwise it is not a severe disorder, and is anything but a fatal complaint. The other day we noticed an account of cases in an English paper, and out of 7,429 cases, only eleven had proved fatal, a very small percentage of deaths.

In the treatment of epizootic aphtha good nursing and cleanliness are the essential remedies.

The laws regarding contagious disease in Britain are very rigid. Wherever an outbreak occurs, it must be reported to the Inspector of the District, and no animals are allowed to be removed from that part until all signs of disease have disappeared.

It is to be hoped that the disease will not be introduced into this country. If it extends to the States, we are also in danger; and even in the importation of stock from England, great care should be taken in the transportation of such animals.

Rheumatism in a Colt

To the Editor.

SIR,—We have a colt which was foaled last June. It was very smart until a week old, and then began to show a slight stiffness in the loins as it moved. Thinking it a cold, we stalled it at nights and during rain storms for some time, but finding no relief we turned it out. The stiffness increased a little until December, and remains about the same. When stepping up or down a foot high or so, it throws itself sideways. It gallops with the other colts, but cannot kick. It is apparently in good health, and has a good appetite. The dam and sire are both sound.

A SUBSCRIBER.

REPLY.—Judging from the symptoms mentioned, the case is probably one of rheumatic inflammation of the joints, and very likely the stifle joint. We would advise you to keep the colt in a comfortable box, and allow plenty of clean straw, and at the same time give him a generous diet. The stifle joint may be stimulated once a week with a mild tincture of cantharides.

COLLAR GALLS.—N. R. asks what is the best treatment for sore shoulder on a horse. Collar galls are frequently very difficult to remove. We would recommend rest, or, at all events, keep pressure off the injured

parts, and dress daily with carbolic lotion, one part of carbolic acid to ten parts of water. In some cases it is necessary to cut out the diseased part, before the healing process is established. Some fault in the fitting of the collar is usually the cause of this troublesome ailment.

LARVA OF GADFLY.—The grubs referred to by a correspondent as "appearing on the backs of cattle in the spring" are the product of the gadfly (*Strus bore*). The ova or eggs are deposited on the back or other parts of the body during the months of autumn. It is rare that they are productive of any great harm.

SKIN DISEASE.—The specimens of scales sent us by a correspondent are apparently merely the peeling off of the cuticle, or scarf skin, which may occur from various causes, as exposure, a debilitated state of the system from mange, or ringworm. Therefore, from the description of the symptoms only, we are unable to distinguish the precise disease in the cases referred to. However, in removing any such irritation, good feeding, cleanliness, and dressing the parts every second day with carbolic acid lotion, will be found beneficial. The lotion may be applied in the proportion of one part of the acid to thirty parts of water.

"BLOOT OR TYMPANITIS IN CATTLE.—A correspondent wishes to know the proper treatment for cattle that are "blown." The preparations of ammonia are the most effectual remedies in severe cases of tympanitis, and the preparation known as *aqua ammonia*, or hartshorn, can generally be easily procured. The dose is from three to four drachms, and must be given largely diluted with cold water, or combined with cold gruel or maulage. After an acute attack of tympanitis it is often advisable to give a small dose of purgative medicine, as four ounces of epsom salts dissolved in a pint of water, and the diet should be restricted to easily digested food for a few days.

LARD AS A REMEDY.—"A constant reader" sends the following statement and query: "During the past summer I was called to see a ewe, which I found in a field almost dead. The disease, to all appearance, was staggers. I opened a vein, but found that it would not bleed. I then melted lard, and gave it a cupful, and it died. About a month ago a valuable ewe of my own became sick, and after watching it closely for several hours, I concluded the trouble was staggers, and on referring to my book, found melted lard given as a remedy, and I administered about half a pint and the ewe died immediately. Query, is melted lard a proper remedy for staggers, and if so, are sheep subject to any other disease that could be mistaken? It is possible that in the comatose or insensible state of the animal the lard might have passed into the wind-pipe, otherwise it alone would not be likely to produce any serious injury.

The Dairy.

Dairy Farming.

MANAGEMENT.—Cleanliness in the cow-house, in the dairy and in the dairy manager, is the *summa bona* of successful cheese and butter making.

The cow-house should be warm, dry and well ventilated. The proper temperature at which to keep a cow-house should be 60° in summer, and as near to 40° in our winter as possible. It is not advisable to keep our cow-stables too warm, for the contrast to the cold in the outer air of this climate would be too great, and would be injurious to our cattle. Our bank barn stables are excellent institutions, but I have often found them much too warm for cattle, and there is a most utter disregard of proper ventilation in the majority of such byres. Instructions have been so often given in the CANADA FARMER for the construction of suitable byres, that it would be superfluous to enter into that part of the subject at more length.

In Holland, where dairy farming forms a very prominent object in the husbandry of the farm, many of the wealthy farmers have their common parlours entering by a glass-door into the cow-house, which is regularly swept and sanded to a state of the most extreme tidiness, and the animals are not only wiped and curried as we would a horse, but thier tails, after being nicked, are sometimes tied up in pulleys to prevent their soiling themselves.

The feeding of milch cows is a most important subject, upon which immense differences of opinion exist. In Canada, owing to grasses being confined to two kinds, we have little choice of food in summer, unless we adopt the soiling system. In winter, milch cows will do well upon sweet oat or barley straw, if accompanied by a liberal supply of succulent roots.

Of course, if we would keep the full supply of milk, hay is far preferable to straw.

The relative value of mangold wurzels and swedes is of little consequence in winter feeding, the advantages derived from their use are chiefly due to the benefits of a change of food.

Milch cows require a certain amount of exercise at all seasons. From the fact that the formation and secretion of milk has been shown to take place chiefly while the animal is at rest and chewing her cud, it has been argued that it were better to keep our cows tied up during the whole of the winter season. But as we have to consider, not only the actual secretion of milk, but also the general healthiness of the animal, it is absolutely necessary that we allow them exercise, although in the winter such may be confined to a liberty of two hours each mild day in a well sheltered barn-yard. Towards the spring, animals exhibit that same desire to enjoy the bright change of season that we