

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Legal.

WILL PROPERTY DISPOSED OF BEFORE DEATH.

A father made his will and devised a certain property to his daughter, but subsequently to making the will he conveyed the property by deed to another person and bought another property. The father then died without making another will. Has the daughter any claim on the property which was devised and subsequently sold, or will she be entitled to the property the father purchased afterwards?

[The daughter has no claim whatever on the property sold by the father in his lifetime because the will only speaks from the father's death, and at that time the father did not own that property. As to the property the father afterwards purchased, unless the daughter can show that it was purchased to replace the other property and was intended for her in place of the property sold, neither will she be entitled to it, but will only be entitled to her share thereof with the other heirs in case the will does not by its terms otherwise dispose of this property.]

RAILWAY CATTLE GUARDS.

SUBSCRIBER.—A railway company have filled up their open cattle guards and replaced them with bush surface guards and these bush guards are not effective, cattle and horses walk over them. My horses got out on the road and walked over the guard, got on the track, and two of them were killed. Are these guards sufficient in law, and can I compel the company to make good my loss?

[The Railway Act requires the company to maintain "suitable and sufficient cattle guards to prevent cattle and other animals from getting on the railway." We do not know what the "bush surface guards" are, but from your statement they would appear not to be such cattle guards as is contemplated by the statute, which, as stated, must be "sufficient and effective," and this being so, we think you have a good claim against the company for the value of the horses killed, which you can enforce.]

MASTER AND SERVANT.

"If my hired man (who hired by the year) becomes ill, what are his and my legal rights and liabilities?"

[If it is only a temporary illness, unless caused by his own gross carelessness or misconduct, you cannot discharge him, and he is entitled to his wages even though he did not work at all during his illness. If, however, the illness is more than temporary, or a permanent disability to perform his work, you may rescind the agreement, and if you intend to do so you should notify him of your intention promptly, for unless you do so he legally remains your servant and is strictly (in law) entitled to recover his wages for the time he is ill until the agreement is cancelled by you. He cannot be required to make up his off time after the completion of the time contracted for unless he has agreed to do so. It will thus follow, that when your servant is hired for a year or more, and is temporarily ill even a large number of times during the year, and is allowed to return to work even though unable to do his work fully, and you allow the matter to go on without a new arrangement, or without cancelling the old agreement, then you may be called upon to pay his full wages at the end of the term. As to your question about holidays, see the other answer in this department.]

PUBLIC SCHOOL SITE.

A parcel of my land 10 x 16 rods was selected for a school site and the school trustees and myself failed to agree upon the price I asked—\$130—and the value of the growing wheat, and our differences were referred to arbitration under the provisions of the Public School Act, and an award was made fixing the price to be paid to me at \$130, but no mention is made as to the wheat. 1. Can I compel the trustees to pay for the wheat as well? 2. Must I pay for the deed of the land?

[1. Providing the arbitrators were properly appointed, their award is binding on you, and the price fixed by them is all you can compel the trustees to pay, and it would be assumed the arbitrators valued the land as it is; that is, with the wheat on, and have allowed you for it in the amount awarded. 2. No, you have not to pay for the deed, and, in fact, no deed is necessary, as under the provisions of the statute the trustees obtain the necessary title to the land by registration of the award, and upon tender of payment of the amount fixed by the award to be paid to you, the trustees are entitled to take and use the land for the school purposes.]

MASTER AND SERVANT—SUNDAY WORK.

1. Can a servant engaged for a term of six months absent himself on Sunday without his master's permission? 2. Is the master justified in withholding the wages for Sundays the servant is away?

[1. This question of holidays and Sundays is simply one of contract, and of what is usual and customary, having regard to the kind of work the servant is hired to do. Of course, if the servant hires to work in an office or shop where Sunday work is not contemplated, then the servant is free on that day, and if the servant hires to work a team on a farm, expressly binding himself to teaming

work, then he could only be required to look after his horses on Sunday in a reasonable manner; but if he hires to do general work on a farm, including the necessary chores, milking, etc., then he must perform the usual work on Sundays which is necessary to be done. 2. The master may discharge the servant who refuses to obey his lawful commands, and may then refuse to pay him any wages, and the courts will not assist the servant to get his wages already earned if he has refused to obey the reasonable orders of the master. So of course, in this case the master may withhold the wages for the Sundays on which the servant declined to do his work.]

MASTER AND SERVANT.

SUBSCRIBER, York Co., Ont.:—"1. A man hires for a year to do general work on a farm, he has lost time, 29 days; the majority of the lost time was in a busy season; can he by law compel his master to let him put this time in in winter or any time? 2. A man is hired for a year, and no mention is made of Sundays, has he a right to do a share of the general chores every Sunday by law?"

[1. No. 2. Yes.]

Veterinary.

LOUSINESS.

C. E. P., Hyde, N.-W. T.:—"Could you give me a good recipe for lice on cattle, or a preventive?"

[All kinds of animals and birds, domesticated and wild, are preyed upon by parasites called lice. Cattle are infested by four distinct kinds of the "ugly creepin' blastit wurmins." The cow and other adult cattle suffer in their hind parts from a species of louse known as *hamatopinus ani et vulvae*. The fore parts, neck and shoulders, are the special territories and feeding grounds of another variety named *hamatopinus eurysternus*. Another genus called *trichodectes scalaris* appear to possess full freedom to wander over, and to subsist upon, any part of the skin's surface. There is also another kind termed *hamatopinus vituli*, found upon calves. Anything that tends to debilitate and impoverish the system favors the multiplication and development of lice—such as insufficient and innutritious food; filthy, dark, badly-ventilated stables; cattle too closely huddled together, affording insufficient air space, which should be at least 450 cubic feet per head for adult cattle. A careful observation of the reverse of the conditions mentioned above will very materially prevent lousiness among all kinds of farm stock. A safe and generally effectual application for lousiness, either in horses or cattle, is the following: Powdered stavesacre seed, four ounces; English soft soap, eight ounces; put in six quarts of boiling water, boil down to four quarts and add creolin, two ounces; mix well and apply, when sufficiently cold, with smart friction, to the lousy parts. Take crude carbolic acid, four ounces to each gallon of water, and swab all the woodwork in the interior of the stable. Repeat the treatment once, and twice if deemed necessary. W. A. DUNBAR, V. S., Winnipeg.

NOTE.—We have found a dilution in water of good sheep dip a very effectual and easily applied remedy.—ED.]

LUXATION OF THE PATELLA OR STIFLE JOINT.

J. P. M., Glengarry Co., Ont.:—"I have a colt about nine months old. It got hurt somehow in the pasture. The stifle cap slips off to the outside, but is very easy to replace, and they seem to go back with a click, but when moved around they slip out again. When he lies down it is sometimes hard for him to get up. We keep him in an open loose box, and let him run out on fine days. I notice that when he trots he is lame. Please let me know how to treat him, and oblige."

[This form of dislocation of the stifle joint is fortunately rare amongst our patients. It generally occurs in young horses, more particularly those that are grazed on very hilly pastures, from the malposition in which the limbs have to be constantly kept owing to the inequality of the ground. The patella is forced outwards, the internal lateral ligament becomes stretched across the internal prominence of the femur and is thus torn or chafed. At first the luxation is only partial: the patella slips in and out of its position with a clicking noise at every step. Very often both patellae are in the same condition. Dislocation of the patella is likely to occur under many other conditions. Sometimes these cases are referred to falls in a slippery stall, or on pavement, concrete, asphalt, etc. When the luxation is complete the internal lateral ligament must be ruptured through its whole thickness, and the patella slips outward. If the dislocation has been existent for any time the articular surfaces of the trochlea and patella become worn and an abscess may form in the true joint. A restoration of the animal to usefulness will be now a matter beyond possibility, and if complete rupture of the ligament take place is never restored and cannot be cured. Treatment.—The leg must be kept in a forward position under the body by means of a cord attached to the shoe and fastened to a collar. Get the blacksmith to make a patten shoe, and to the front of the toe a piece projecting outward and upward two inches long welded to it. This will prevent the animal from flexing the leg backwards and cause him to stand firmly on the limb until the ligaments regain some strength. Repeated blisters on the surface of the skin will serve to keep the animal quiet. Do not allow any exercise until quite well, and confine the animal in a narrow stall well secured to the manger to prevent lying down. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S., Toronto.]

SCOURS OR INDIGESTION IN HORSE.

READER:—"I have a driving horse five years old. When on the road he is always loose in the bowels. I clipped him. Since then his hair has grown very fast, but with a very dry appearance. As he physics very badly at times, I always water before feeding. For medicine gave two doses of linseed oil and condition powders, equal parts of sulphur, saltpetre and gentian root; but now he seems no better. What is the trouble, and what is the remedy?"

[The symptoms of frequent evacuations of liquid or semi-liquid stools after and during a ten-mile drive is peculiar to a certain class of horse known as "washy," long-legged, narrow, flat-sided animals, for which little can be done. In that peculiar build of nervous horse, only by strict attention to feeding and a most rigid attention to the animal's water is there any comfort in owning such an animal. They should be watered and fed as long as possible before going on a drive. The evening feed should be the heaviest, and only clear oats fed from a slow-feed manger, water chilled and given before eating, afterwards to be racked up with a small quantity of hay; this, with an occasional feed of peas, dry, uncracked, and mixed with the oats, should constitute the method of feeding. Well clothe the body, and try the following powders: Powdered opium, 1 ounce; subnitrate of bismuth, 2 ounces; bicarbonate of soda, 4 ounces; powdered chincona bark, 1 ounce; charcoal, 2 ounces. If there is much flatulency accompanying the diarrhoea, or the discharges have a very disagreeable odor, alkaline medicines are indicated in this case. Try the following: Sulphate of soda, ½ ounce, alternate with liquor arsenicatis, 2 drams, in the animal's drinking water daily. DR. W. MOLE.]

PARALYSIS.

A. B., Locheil, Ont.:—"I have a cow seven years old, due to calve in March. She is now milking ten months. For the last two winters I have noticed that she has failed in her hind legs, but this winter much worse. The appetite is good. Her feed consisted of bran, roots, and clover hay, and I am now feeding half a gallon of oats morning and night. I have rubbed her legs with some liniment, but to no effect. What is the trouble, and what can be done for her?"

[Paralysis, or loss of power and sensibility, in the hind quarters in the cow is far from uncommon, for it must be remembered that consideration of the animal must be made subservient to profit. The dairy cow must breed every year, and at the same time must furnish a generous flow of milk for at least ten months, and when nature breaks down reasons are sought. If her health is lowered or her life shortened, the question of profit must still hold sway, and she must yield her place to another when disqualified. From your description we are inclined to the opinion that she must have been exposed to some injury—either a blow or fall, strain of the back during a journey over slippery roads, jumping ditches or fences, beasts romping each other, as is often seen in the fields. This disease makes its appearance when the cow gets low in condition and heavy in calf. This will cause mechanical pressure on the spinal cord and paraplegia, as it is termed, when the hind quarters lose their motive power. The symptoms are well described, proving the owner to be a good observer of his animals. The animal should be removed to a loose box and the bowels opened with a brisk purgative. Should the legs swell, as they often do, caused by the pressure of the womb on the blood vessels and lymphatics, this will disappear after calving. Dry her milk as rapidly as possible without risk. Feed on good nutritious food. Pulped roots are to be recommended, so as to keep the bowels free. Keep on with the liniment on loins and back, with daily friction and warm clothing are indicated. Medicines are not of much service, only as aids to digestion. The following may be given: Gentian, powdered, 4 ozs.; ginger, powdered, 4 ozs.; nux vomica, 4 drams. Mix and divide into twelve powders. One night and morning in food. W. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S.]

ROUP IN FOWLS.

J. L., Ontario Co., Ont.:—"I have a flock of hens, some eighty in number, among which there is some kind of disease. Some of them are affected in the eyes. The eyes will swell up and in a short time become closed; a scab will come right over the eye. Some of them are totally blind, others have scabs all over the comb and nose, and even down to the mouth. There are seven of them that have a coating on their tongue and roof of mouth, from which there is a very bad odor. Will you please let me know through your valuable paper what the disease is, its cause and a cure for same, and you will greatly oblige me?"

[The description of the disease corresponds in most particulars to the disease known as "roup," a form of catarrh similar to diphtheria in the human subject, and produced by exposure to damp or drafts of wind while at roost, as described in the letter. There is no doubt it is contagious, and were it possible to me to have access to them I would certainly try the method of anti-toxin inoculation, which has been lately advocated in France and various parts of the continent of Europe. The treatment was fully dealt with in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE of May 2nd, 1898, issue, page 213. I have met with some success with the following medicine, which is worthy of a trial: Aloes Barbadoes, 1 dram; nitrate of potass., 2 drams; quinine powder, 2 drams; gentian, 2 drams; ginger, black pepper and capsice, 1 dram, to be placed in three-grain capsules and given twice a day. DR. W. MOLE.]