

Space will not allow of our entering into the details of the various abnormal presentations to which the equine foetus is liable, and of the modes of manipulating them to effect delivery, and such is not the object of this article. We will suppose that the foal is dropped safely and lying breathing and sneezing behind his dam, who has just had the gruel with which she ought always to be rewarded after the termination of her labor. The mare will generally, on rising, turn round and begin fondly to nose and lick her progeny, a process, by the way, of great importance and value to the latter; but young and nervous mares, especially if delivery has been protracted and painful, will often act in an entirely different manner, snorting, pawing and evincing fear and irritation at sight of their offspring. Under such circumstances it is well to protect the foal for a time by a small hurdle or gate placed across one corner of the roomy, airy, dry and warm loose-box, in which it is presumed, he has first seen the light, to rub him smartly but gently with soft rough towels and to endeavor to induce the mare to begin the licking process by sprinkling the youngster with a little dry bran or meal and salt. Such measures are not, however, often necessary, kind considerate treatment and judicious letting alone generally proving effectual in bringing about a reconciliation in the family.

Plenty dry, clean bedding should be furnished, the shorter the better, for the foal will soon begin to tumble about in repeated attempts to get his long and shaky legs under him. If he does not succeed after a reasonable time in getting on his pins, a little assistance may be given, and his dam proving friendly, he will soon, if let alone, find his way to the maternal font; but if he is unable to stand, or the mare is touchy and restive, she ought to be held while he is guided to the teat and allowed to obtain nourishment. If the foal is weak and quite incapable of supporting himself, the mare may be milked and the fluid thus obtained given to him slowly and very carefully, it being a matter of great importance that the little chap obtain if possible some of the very first milk secreted by the mare. When once friendly and confidential relations have been established between mare and foal, they should be left alone for some time, care however being taken to remove the placental membranes from the stall as soon as they are dropped.

If the mare has gone much over her time and especially if she has lost much milk, it will be necessary to watch the foal closely for symptoms of constipation, which will be manifested in the first place by continued elevation of the tail accompanied by straining without the passage of faeces. This will be succeeded by dulness and then by evidence of pain, the abdomen will become bloated, the little animal will show great uneasiness and begin to perspire and the pulse and respiration will be accelerated. In the early stages a few ounces of soapy warm water or a little raw linseed oil introduced by a syringe into the rectum will generally afford relief, but should acute pain and distress make their appearance, the administration of two or three ounces of castor or linseed oil with twenty or thirty drops of laudanum and half a teaspoonful of turpentine well shaken up, will be in order; a small enema should also be given from time to time, and the abdomen covered with a woollen cloth wrung out of hot water. These measures if adopted in time will usually be sufficient and it must not be forgotten that the administration of medicine to newly born foals is fraught with great danger so that the mechanical remedies, viz: the injections and the stupes to the abdomen are much preferable to large or repeated doses of physic.

Diarrhoea may set in, either spontaneously from septic causes or as a result of the too free use of medicinal agents, the mortality among young foals from this affection being very great. The treatment will depend on the origin of the