

trespassed too much on your valuable time.—
Yours, &c., JAMES KINGSTON, *Lowertown Lodge,*
Skull, June 3, 1850.

WAGES, AND WORK IN THE TIME OF MILTON.
The wife of Milton hired a little boy that was glad to receive three pence a week. His employment was to fetch the milk, post the letters, get flour from the mill, and barn from the brew-house, carry pies to the oven, clean boots and shoes, bring in wood, sweep up the garden, roll the grass, turn the spit, draw the water, lift boxes and heavy weights, chase away beggars and infectious persons, and any little odd matters of the kind.—*Selected.*

DISEASE OF FEET IN CALVES.

“We lost a great number of calves for some years past by a disease they took about the feet; their hoofs grew so fast and so soft, that they could not walk with them, although I pared them now and then—and I have one this year, that has the same disease. I was advised to rub vitriol to the diseased part, which I did. I cannot say yet whether I can cure it or not, but I see that the disease is not making such rapid progress since I began to apply the vitriol to it. Perhaps when you are going your rounds, you will call at J. & R. Radmes, who sell medicine for sheep, and ask them if they sell what is applied to the disease called the ‘rotfoot in sheep.’ I think that the disease in the feet of the calves is something of the nature of the rotfoot in sheep.”—S.

“I am much indebted to you for the trouble you took in inquiring about the calf. There is nothing putrified or broken about the feet or hoofs, but the hoofs grow uncommonly fast, and are soft where they become attached to the skin, but quite hard towards the point, and if not pared would turn upwards; if any thing they are harder than usual, so that the calf does not lay his weight upon the point of the hoofs as other calves do that are not troubled with this disease. When he is going he stretches his feet forward, and lays his weight upon the back part of the hoofs as if a person were walking upon his heels. So far as I can judge from the experience I have gotten about the disease, it arises, or is caused, by the over-growth of the worm that lies between the hoofs, for I suppose that you, and particularly Professor Dick, are aware, that in every beast's foot, with divided hoofs, there lies a worm in the fore or upper part where the hoofs divide from the legs, which is always taken out by those who prepare the feet for human food. Although the said worm is naturally but the size of a small bean in a calf, yet it grows to such an enormous size that it goes back through the feet until the end of it lies close to the skin in the hollow part between the small hoofs at the back of the feet. In some of the calves that

had the disease, I saw the end of the worm, which moved to the touch, and appeared to come from the direction in, or through the foot where the above mentioned worm lies, and I took an awl, put it through the end of the worm, and drew it out as far as it would come, then burnt it off with a red hot iron, as close to the feet as I could, without coming in contact with the sinews, &c., and that without curing the disease. One of my neighbours told me that he cured two calves by an advice which he got, viz., first rubbing vitriol to the hoofs, then whale oil to keep the vitriol from burning the feet. I did that to one I had last year: it stopped the disease, but the vitriol destroyed the joints close to the hoofs, so that the calf died, but I am more cautious in using the vitriol to this one. It checks the disorder, so that it is not making such progress, but it does not appear to remove it. I am using the vitriol as advised by the Professor, and will do so till I hear from you again. There are various reasons given as the cause of bringing forward the disease; some say that it is caused by the calves lying on hot dung, but that cannot be, for no dung will heat while beasts are trampling upon it. Others say that it is caused by their lying on wet dung, but we generally keep them dry—at least as dry as we were wont to do before the disease was known in this quarter. A third party says that too much running will cause the disorder; now the calves all run a good deal when they get out first and the one I have diseased took the lead among the calves when they first got out, and certainly ran a good deal; and I never saw two calves that ran so much as the first two that took the disease with us about 20 years ago. They would run almost the whole day through the arable land, and it is shortly after they get out first that the disease makes its appearance. I may say in conclusion, that the diseased one this year is of the same cow as the one previously affected.”—S.

[Remarks.]—It appears to me that the disease in the feet of your brother's calf is very like what we call founder which is an inflammation of the sensitive laminae of the foot around the sides and toe. The softening may either be an effect of it, by causing a throwing out of a soft porous horn in great abundance, or the back parts of the feet are softened by the calf resting on the soft wet dung. I think the best thing that can be done is to have the toes or fore parts of the hoofs, pared down almost to the quick; indeed, even if the quick were exposed and bled a little when the disease first appeared it would do good, poultices of bran may be of much use; but, in the case you now mention, which has been going on for a length of time, they are not likely to be of much service; and after paring down the hoofs sufficiently, a solution of any mild caustic, to act as an astringent will be the most likely remedy. If the sulphuric