

Veterinary Department.

Injuries Incident to Frosty Weather.

FRACTURED BONES IN HORSES.

DURING the winter months we find that horses are very liable to injuries from slipping or falling upon the hard frozen ground. Some of these injuries prove of a serious nature, in many cases rendering an animal useless. The first we shall notice are fractures. The bones of the legs and quarters are very liable to fracture in the horse. When the bone is simply broken without being displaced, it is known as a simple fracture; when the bone is broken and the surrounding parts lacerated it is called a compound fracture, and when the bone is splintered it is pronounced a comminuted fracture.

A general opinion amongst horse owners is that broken bones in horses will not reunite; however, this is a mistake, for reunion will take place in them as readily even if not more so than in the human being, but the great difficulty arises from the fact that we are unable to keep our patients in that state of quietude necessary for the complete reunion of fractured bones. Also another very important subject must be taken into consideration and that is the value of the injured animal, whether it is more profitable to place it under treatment or to destroy it. In compound fractures of the limbs we generally recommend the destruction of the animal (without it is a very valuable stallion or mare), as it is invariably found to be the most profitable, and at the same time, perhaps, the most humane treatment we can have recourse to.

In simple fractures and especially in certain regions they can be treated with good chances of success. The haunch bones are exceedingly liable to fractures, from horses falling on ice, or even from slipping, and from being deeply covered with muscles it is often difficult to detect. There is sudden lameness, he drags his leg and is unable to bring it forward. In some cases he is almost unable to move, in others it is surprising how he can move along considering the nature of the injury. We have known horses to walk three miles after the fracture occurred and yet recovery took place. Last winter we were called to a case of fracture of the haunch bone, the accident occurred at Richmond Hill, and the poor animal had been forced to travel as far as Yorkville before he gave completely up. Another symptom of fracture in that region is the crepetus heard when the horse is made to move.

The treatment of fractures of the haunch bones can generally be undertaken with success. The horse should at once be placed in slings, and if there is swelling of the muscles, fomentations of hot water should be diligently applied. The horse should be fed on nutritious but not bulky food. It will be necessary to keep him in slings from seven to ten weeks, when he may be taken out and placed in a roomy, loose box, and for sometime he may require assistance to rise. The muscles of the haunch waste a great deal during the time he is in slings, and the reproduction of the muscular fibre is materially assisted by the application of repeated mild blisters. On no account should the horse be removed entirely from his slings in less than seven or eight weeks. After recovery takes place, for ordinary work, the horse is little the worse, with the exception that he is always a little lower in the injured hip. The prominence on the haunch, known technically as the anterior spinous process of the ilium is often fractured from the same causes as above alluded to, when not displaced, it is not necessary to place the horse in slings, a few weeks rest will generally suffice, reunion will take place. In some cases it happens that a small piece of bone becomes detached and burrows into the muscle, it then acts as a source of irritation, setting up inflammation in the parts, causing swelling and soreness, which will open out and run matter for sometime. The treatment must be such as to get rid of the irritant, an incision must be made into the muscles and the offending agent removed when the parts will soon heal up.



Flowers in the Cemetery.

A CEMETERY is most certainly the right place for profusion of flowers. Of all out door monumental decoration these are by far most beautiful and appropriate. Those who have money to spend upon the last habitation of their friends and relations, and who piously desire to shew their love and sorrow by some sort of outward sign, will act more wisely in paying some annual fee to the cemetery gardener to keep churchyard flower-beds trim and pretty, than in laying out a vast amount of money among stone-masons, resulting in ill-executed angels, or trophies of cannon-balls and swords and cocked-hats, and other such insignia, hinting at the professional career of the deceased. The sums of money spent on these great ponderous symbolical monuments are often very large. But who that groaned in presence of some hideous specimen of sepulchral bad taste, some terrible combination of cherubs and skeletons, of scythes and hour-glasses, of broken columns and ponderous marble clouds, and who has felt the beauty of one of these flower-begirt graves, will not testify to the superiority of the gardener's work over that of the stone-mason? There is, too, a symbolism in the introduction of flowers here which makes them specially fit. These plants have come up from a root which itself was buried in the earth in order that the flower which we admire might bloom. They were put into the ground in the form of seed or bulb, with no beauty about them to win our admiration, but they come up in due time arrayed in such splendour of decoration as cannot fail to fill us with admiration first, and then, as we think longer, with hope. They are grasses of the field whose perishable nature has been made before now to typify the insecurity of human life. Moreover they suggest, at least, a certain continued supervision a daily tending and care, which favour the idea that those to whose memory they are sacred are still held in recollection by their friends.—*All the Year Round.*

Six cabbages have been on exhibition in Woodstock, Conn. In circumference they measure 110 inches, and the weight of the half dozen is nearly two hundred pounds.

BLACK KNOT ON THE PLEM.—A correspondent of the *Boston Cultivator* states that he has been very successful in removing or preventing the black knot, by burying iron turnings in the earth, and then promptly cutting off whatever of the black knot may appear. He thinks that driving nails in the ground beneath the tree will answer the same purpose as the iron turnings. This is probably a remedy.

TRANSPLANTING THE RASPBERRY.—The *Gardeners' Monthly* states that the frequent want of success in transplanting the raspberry, complained of by the cultivators of this plant, is attributable to the fact that the planting is done too deep. A raspberry plant shoots up from the crown or from the roots, hence deep planting retards this operation or prevents the suckers from reaching the surface. To facilitate the growth of these, in their efforts to emerge from the soil, a light covering of earth only should be used. A depth of two inches will be found sufficient for the purpose and much better than a greater quantity.

A VINE NEAR THE DOOR.—The *Massachusetts Ploughman* well says that a traveller over a country road would instinctively have his eye caught and his thoughts somewhat tangled up by a fine vine growing vigorously near the door of a home. It does not matter how small or humble that home may be, it is raised in the esteem of any observing passer-by holding up the suggestive shelter of a vine. It expresses love in the house, thoughtfulness for what is at once graceful and appropriate, pure and healthy domestic sentiment, and a spirit of contented happiness which many an one goes the world over to find, and looks for in vain. Such a simple home ornament as this is a token for all men to see, that the dwellers beneath the roof it adds expression to, are persons of feeling for what is true and lovely, for native refinement and quiet happiness. There should not be a farmhouse in the land without a vine somewhere contiguous.

Miscellaneous.

A Story, with a Moral.

A gentleman of middle age, who had always been a farmer.—had cleared up and improved one of the best farms in Maine, erected new and convenient buildings, reared a family, and was enjoying the blessings with which he was surrounded,—became possessed with an idea that he would sell his farm. Friends told him he could live so much easier to go into the village where he could have a nice house, a garden, keep a cow, and if he chose, a horse, and live like a gentleman on the interest of his money; that he advertised his farm for sale. He found no want of purchasers; and the farm was soon disposed of for a handsome sum. Then the stock, farming tools, &c., were sold, and the place that he had wrought with his own hands, the buildings he had built for his own convenience and according to his own notions, the spot where he had raised his family and around which clustered so many dear associations passed into the hands of strangers. For a time the gentleman did not locate, as he desired to look round, find a place to suit him, and see where he could be happy the remainder of his days. At last he found a place that suited him, purchased it, and settled down to life again. But things did not go right. He missed his old farm and house, the silent but delightful company of his cattle, sheep, and other domestic animals, the scenes where he had passed so many happy years, and the society of his old neighbors, tried and true; he grew discontented and was well nigh sick. His wife and daughters also, were not pleased with their new home (it was half a mile from town, with a little land, and was what many would call a very desirable place). Having remained long enough in his new place (he could not be said to have lived at all) to become satisfied he should never be contented, he resolved to have the old farm back again. He went to the man who owned it, paid him five hundred dollars more than what he got, took possession again of his familiar fields and groves, and having learned a wholesome lesson from his transaction, is now at work again upon his old farm a happier, wiser, and better contented if not a richer man. Its moral to farmers and others is, that when they get discontented and sell out, they should be sure they are able to buy back their old homes and business, when they find that they have not bettered themselves by the change.—*Maine Farmer.*

Rabbits are prolific breeders. Ten couples introduced into Geelong, Australia, in 1859, have yielded 50,000 head for consumption. This is exclusive of the number preserved for the perpetuation of the breed. Why should not the breeding of rabbits prove profitable as a business?

CHEAP PAINT FOR BUILDINGS AND FENCES.—Prof. Tillman, at a late meeting of the New-York Farmers' Club, said some questions having been asked about the best out-door paint, I would recommend as the cheapest and neatest covering for fences and rough work a mixture of lime paste and skimmed milk. The best preparation would be made by mixing lime with curd and using milk or whey for diluting the mixture. The reason why this compound will make a more permanent wash than ordinary whitewash is, that the coagulated casein in curd is dissolved in a solution of any alkaline earth, and the compound is not soluble in water. Glue can be mixed with a lime solution, but it will not resist the action of water, and it should not be used on surfaces exposed to rain.

WANTED: A DUMB, DEAF, AND BLIND WIFE.—Our friend Wetherell, of the *Boston Cultivator*, a grey-haired old bachelor, has taken to poetizing. His latest effusion is decidedly anacreontic in more senses than one. It contains among others the following stanzas:

"Oh, I would dwell where mortal voice
Would never reach my ear,
Where none could listen to each sigh
And note the falling tear.

And I would want but one kind friend
To cheer me in my home,
But one to nestle by my side,
And never from me roam."

Of course the "one kind friend" must needs be dumb, deaf, and blind. Well there's no accounting for tastes, and we can only wish our worthy contemporary "married and happy," according to his wishes as above expressed.