

ble resource under pecuniary misfortune, must be no less apparent. Such schools would do more—they would improve the moral condition of society by rendering labour more honourable and more inviting, and by winning from the paths of idleness and dissipation, where their examples contaminate and corrupt, multitudes of the children of wealth, and transforming them into men of industry, and usefulness.

LAMENESS OF A HORSE—SPLINTS.

Mr. James M. Tower, of Waterville, asks for information relative to what are called splints in horses. We handed his letter to Dr. Wright, veterinary surgeon of this city, who has favored us with the following:

MR. TUCKER—In answer to your correspondent, Mr. Tower, I would request him to examine the bones of the fore leg of a horse. He will there find, placed immediately behind the large metacarpal or shank bone, two smaller ones, which adhere to the shank bone by a cartilago-ligamentous substance. These two bones form a part of the knee joint, and give firmness, support and elasticity to the limb. This adhesive substance is liable to take inflammation from concussion or straining the part; it then becomes absorbed, and bony matter is thrown out between the bones, which will sometimes grow to the size of half a hen's egg. These osseous tumours are called splints. In slight cases the treatment is simple—slight blisters, repeated, or the iodine ointment, mixed equal parts with Ung. Hydr.; or Ung. Hydrage, 2 oz with one drachm Hydriodate of Potass, rubbed on the part. The last operation, for this disease is called subcutaneous periostiotomy, but is seldom necessary.

GEO. WRIGHT, M. R. V. C.

We add the following from Youatt's Treatise on the Horse:

"When the splint is forming, the horse is frequently lame. The periosteum or membrane covering the bone is painfully stretched; but when this membrane has accommodated itself to the tumor that extended it, the lameness subsides and altogether disappears, unless the splint be in a situation in which it interferes with the action of some tendon or ligament, or in the immediate neighborhood of a joint. Pressing upon a ligament or tendon, it may cause inflammation of those substances; or, being close to a joint, it may interfere with its action. Splints, then, do not necessarily cause unsoundness, and may not lessen in the slightest degree the action or value of the horse. All depends on their situation."

"The treatment of splints, if it be worth while to meddle with them, is exceedingly simple. The hair should be closely shaved off round the tumor; a little strong mercurial ointment rubbed in for two days; and this should be followed by an active blister. If the splint be

of recent formation, it will usually yield to this, or to a second blister. Should it resist these applications, it can rarely be advisable to cauterize the part, unless the tumor interferes materially with the action of the suspensory ligament; for it not unfrequently happens, that, although the splint may have apparently resisted this treatment, it will afterwards, and at no great distance of time, begin rapidly to lessen, and quite disappear."—*Alb. Cult.*

INDIVIDUAL EFFORT.

Every thing is accomplished by it—no great reform or plan for the improvement of mankind was ever originated and carried forward, save by individual effort. The masses never start up in a body and adopt this or that mode of reform, moral or political—there must be a pioneer, a leader, one to start the thing; and after him many more to put their shoulders to the work *individually*. When impressed with the truth of a thing, we should not wait for our neighbour or neighbours to think as we do, before putting our thoughts in practice—we should go right about it, do as we think is just and right, regardless of the opposition and sneers of those whose habits and prejudices run counter to it, remembering that "example is better than precept," and that "actions speak louder than words."

Many people, however deeply the necessity of reform or improvement may be felt by them, have not the courage to encounter difficulties by acting up to their sense of right, especially if the sense of right be opposed to the habits and prejudices of those around them. What can I do they say, (or think,) with so many opposed to me? But in this they make a great mistake—millions are counted by beginning with an unit, and by individual effort the most stupendous undertakings are carried forward to successful issue. In political matters, we are frequently told of how much has been accomplished by a single vote, and the fact has been over and over again proved that the most simple and apparently unimportant act of our lives has exerted the greatest influence, not only over them, but on the destinies of others. We cannot calculate the amount of good or evil that flows from the neglect or use of individual effort.