

3rd. It will be a fixed and invariable rule, as much so as the "laws of the Medes and Persians," to give credit to no society that neglects to remit us the whole amount due for papers and advertisements, free of postage, by the *first day of October* in each and every year.

4th. We wish it to be understood, that the *British American Cultivator* is afforded to Associations for the small sum of **TWO SHILLINGS AND SIX PENCE** per annum, when the number ordered equals twenty copies, and that subsequent orders may be made at the reduced price without any regard to the smallness of the order.

#### MERCURIAL OINTMENT.

I saw in your paper of the 25th ult., a recommendation to one of your agricultural correspondents, relating to the use of strong mercurial ointment for the eradication of lice from cattle. I do not deny that in the hands of a skilful and intelligent operator the mercurial ointment is a valuable remedial agent for the above purpose, but if placed in the hands of an ignorant and careless cowherd, or farm servant, it is a very dangerous one; for, in the course of my practice I have seen very dangerous symptoms of salivation brought on by its careless and immoderate use. Of late I have been called upon professionally to attend upon many very bad cases of vermin on the skin of cattle, and I have invariably found the following ointment or liniment effectual in their destruction, without the dangerous results that are sometimes seen from the use of mercurial ointment. Take of the prepared fat of geese, 4 oz.; train oil, 4 oz.; sulphur vivum, 2 oz.; mix well. The affected animal must be taken into the house, if out, be well cleaned with a strong brush, and a little of the ointment applied, and well rubbed in wherever the lice can be found on the skin; cleanliness must be rigorously attended to, along with good keep and pure water. I have occasionally used the following decoction of Tobacco:—Take of fine-cut Tobacco, 8 ounces; boiling

water, 8 quarts. Let the decoction stand until cold; then strain for use. I will relate a case in point, to show my mode of using it. About two months ago I was professionally called upon to attend a young heifer, the property of one of the most extensive dairy-farming firms in the vicinity of Manchester. She was of the improved short-horn breed, about two years old, in calf, and very fat. She always had been in a good and well-sheltered pasture, and I could not discover by what means she had caught the infection. Upon examination of the beast, I found her to be literally swarming with lice, which I believe to be the *Pediculus capitis*, but, not being a professed naturalist, I cannot say if I am right.

I ordered the beast to be brought out the field, and placed in a comfortable and clean loose box. She was then well brushed all over with a whalebone brush, after which she was sponged lightly over with the before-mentioned tobacco water—plenty of clean straw was then thrown under her, she was supplied with food and left for the night. The next day there were myriads of dead lice lying on the hide of the beast—indeed, the hair was completely covered with them. I ordered the brush to be applied again, and to be lightly sponged over as before, and in about two days after she was completely cleared of them, and is now as clean as ever. In using the decoction of tobacco great care is requisite; for, like the mercurial ointment, I have seen often evil consequences to be the result of its immoderate use, and it ought never to be used, unless under the immediate superintendence of the veterinary surgeon or owner. Proper care is requisite in keeping the beast well sheltered and clean, after using it, and being supplied with good food, pure water, &c. But, as an innocent remedial agent for the destruction of these parasitical animalcules, an agent that is safe in the hands of the commonest and most ignorant farm-servant or labourer, and one that I never knew to fail if properly applied, I would recommend the use of the first named remedy.—*James H. Shenton, V. S., Pen-  
dleton.*