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THE DISEASES OF SWINE

Are not very numerous.—*Colic* is not very common. The symptoms are those of sudden and extreme pain; and the remedy a dose of tincture of opium and spirit of nitrous ether, from one drachm to eight of the former, and double this quantity of the latter (according to the size of the animal), with a few ounces of warm water. Bleeding may also be adopted if relief is not at once afforded by the medicine.

Inflammation of the Bowels is more frequent. There is great fever and loss of appetite. The treatment should consist of copious bleeding, in the first instance—the most convenient place for the operation being the vein on the inside of the fore-arm. From two ounces up to two pounds may be taken, according to the size of the pig. If the vein inside of the arm cannot be opened, the tail may be cut, but it is quite useless merely to take away a few drops of blood. The bowels should also be relaxed by oily purgatives, such as linseed oil; and if costiveness exists, injections should be thrown up; in addition to this, warm baths will be found exceedingly useful, and for small pigs very convenient. In sub-acute inflammation, calomel and opium combined will be found a very excellent medicine, the dose being from two grains to five of each.

In constipation of the bowels, without active inflammation, there are various medicines that are very suitable. Jalap, in doses of from one scruple to a drachm, with six to twelve grains of scammony, will be found useful. Epsom salts, Glauber salts, and infusion of senna, are all desirable medicines, requiring, however, to be given in the form of a drench. Linseed oil is a useful purgative, and which the animal will often take voluntarily, and its activity may be increased by a few drops of croton oil, in cases of obstinate constipation.

Diarrhæa is not very uncommon in the pig. The following medicine will be suitable:—

Powdered opium.....	15 grains.
Prepared chalk.....	4 drachms.
Powdered ginger.....	1 drachm.
Peppermint water.....	4 ounces.

This will be sufficient for eight or ten doses, one of which may be given twice a-day whilst the symptoms continue. If the faeces are slimy, a dose of salts should also be given.

Protrusion of the Rectum.—This disease, as it may be called, is rather frequent with young pigs. The animal should be kept clean and quiet, and all food denied, with the exception of a little milk, so that the bowels may be tolerably empty before the gut is returned. The pig being carefully secured, the parts should be washed, and the rectum carefully returned, and pushed up some little distance. Some strong thread, doubled several times, should then be passed through the anus, and tied with a knot, and no solid should be given for some days, the animal being kept mostly on milk.

Inflammation of the Chest and the Lungs is by no means an uncommon disease in the pig, attended with quick breathing, fever, and diminished appetite. In addition to blood-letting, the bowels should be moderately opened (not purged), and the following medicine administered once a-day:—

Calomel.....	1 to 3 grains.
Tartarized antimony.....	1 to 3 “
Nitre.....	5 to 20 “

After one or two doses the calomel may be omitted. When the disease is well defined, and the animal valuable, blisters may be applied to the chest.

Catarrh, or Cold.—A cough and discharge from the nostrils are the principal symptoms, and, with care and housing, the animal will often soon get well. In severe cases, it is well to give medicine, such as the following:—

Antimonial powder.....	2 to 6 grains.
Nitre.....	10 to 30 “
Digitalis.....	1 to 2 “

To be given daily for several days. Sometimes this disease extends to the lungs, and