

limb with the body, when he discovered that fracture of the first rib is the cause of the elbow being dropped, and that with suitable treatment such cases are far from hopeless.

The reader who has done me the honor to wade through this somewhat dry and technical matter will, I hope, have arrived at the conclusion that a lameness, whose cause is not visible or palpable, should not be treated at random by some nostrum with a reputation of curing any and every thing. The expert veterinarian will be sent for where the least doubt exists as to the correctness of the owner's diagnosis, and before the limb has been treated to some vesicating agent, as it takes a very clever man to say what is under a blister, and we have known incompetent quacks who purposely spread blisters wide in order to cover their ignorance, as well as in the hope of including the lameness in their therapeutical net.—*The Stockbreeder's Magazine.*

How to Deal with Greasy Heels.

An excellent lotion for dressing greasy heels in horses consists of an ounce each of acetate of lead and sulphate of zinc, along with four ounces of glycerine thoroughly incorporated with two quarts of cold water. The affected portions should be dressed twice daily with this lotion, taking care that before every dressing the part is thoroughly washed out and then dried. Under treatment of this kind we have known some very bad cases of greasy heel to "yield" in a comparatively short time. The administration of a mild physic ball once a week will also be found conducive to beneficial results in dealing with this disease. Cleanliness is another important factor; every precaution should be taken to keep the affected part as free from dirt of all kinds as possible.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquiries must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.)

Veterinary.

CHRONIC COUGH.

FARMER, Norfolk Co., Ont.:—"I have a valuable horse, eleven years old, that has had a cough occasionally for perhaps a year; lately it has been more frequent, and just now is quite bad. I have started wetting his hay, do you think it a good plan?"

"Can you tell me what is the cause and give me a remedy? I have always been careful about feeding musty hay, etc."

"I am feeding hay and chopped oats and corn, mixed about equal parts; he is in good condition and has never been sick."

[Your horse has chronic cough, resulting, in all probability, from an attack of influenza, which possibly may have been so slight that you did not think treatment necessary. The present condition is hard to treat successfully, but in many cases the following treatment will effect a cure; at all events, it will relieve the symptoms: As in mostly all cases of this kind there is a tendency to heaves (the lungs becoming involved through sympathy), you should be very careful to feed well-cured hay and grain of good quality; dampen the hay slightly with lime-water, and also dampen his grain if you are feeding it dry. Give one of the following powders every night in damp or boiled food: Pulverized liquorice root, 4 ozs.; do. digitalis, 12 drs.; tartar emetic, 3 ozs.; calomel, 2 ozs.; mix, and make into 24 powders. If necessary, keep up giving the powders until 4 doz. have been given. J. H. REED.]

CALF WITH A COUGH.

SUBSCRIBER, Huron Co., Ont.:—"I have a valuable calf four months old, in good thrifty condition, eats and drinks well, and seems all right every way except for a dry sort of cough, which it took when it was about ten days old. Has no discharge at nostrils or eyes. Cough continues about the same. Do you think tuberculosis is what ails him? Will a calf take the disease at that age? What would you advise me to do with him?"

[From symptoms given, I suspect your calf is tubercular. Calves contract and develop symptoms of the disease at a very early age under favorable circumstances. The absence of any discharge from nostrils, and also of any symptoms of disease except the cough, strongly indicate that the calf is affected as stated. Still, it is impossible to say with any considerable degree of certainty, and even though a personal examination were made, it would still be impossible to state definitely whether or not he is tubercular. The disease cannot be diagnosed positively until the advanced stages in any way except by the tuberculin test. If you are thinking of keeping the calf for breeding purposes, it would be well to have him tested. Your veterinarian will doubtless understand how it is done. If not, by writing to the Bacteriological Dept., O. A. C., Guelph, he can have the tuberculin sent him along with instructions. If the calf be diseased to such an extent as to show suspicious symptoms at the age of yours, he must be considered undesirable for breeding purposes and unsafe to have with healthy cattle. It is very doubtful if tubercular parents will produce young that have congenital tuberculosis. This may occur, but very rarely. At the same time, diseased animals are unsafe to have in a herd on account of the danger of infection. I would certainly advise you to have this calf tested with tuberculin. J. H. REED.]

SWEENEY—ITCHY HEELS IN HORSE.

F. C., Durham Co., Ont.:—"I have a fine heavy mare, three years old, which got kicked on the shoulder by her mate, which was not shod. I worked her some after, for it did not seem very bad, as it was not cut nor very sore. But with working the shoulder swelled very badly down towards the front and down the breast a little, and she got very lame. I bathed the shoulder well with hot water and rubbed on "Thomas' Electric Oil," and the soreness, swelling and lameness is pretty well gone, but I think she is going to be sweeney, for the muscle behind the shoulder blade is beginning to fall away considerably. Please tell me if you can, from information given, if I did right or wrong in first case, and what to do for to cure her of the sweeney if you think that is what the matter?"

"2. I have also another heavy young mare, four years old, which has like an itch in her heels, and it bothers her quite a bit by biting them, and more especially by a constant kicking against the floor while standing in the stable, which I am afraid may start a spavin or something else on her. The itch seems to be less or more all over her body. I am working her all the time, feeding good timothy hay and about a gallon of oats, mixed with a little bran, three times a day. Please tell me what to do for her?"

[The treatment you adopted for mare's shoulder was fairly good, especially the bathing with warm water. It is possible a condition simulating sweeney may follow the inflammation. The treatment for such is long rest and repeated blistering of the wasted muscles. A good blister is composed of one dram powdered cantharides mixed with an ounce of lard. Clip the hairs off and rub blister well in, in 24 hours rub well again, and in 24 hours longer wash off and apply a little lard every day until the scale comes off. Blister every three weeks, and rest the mare until the muscles regain their normal condition.

2. The itchiness mentioned in legs of heavy mare is often noticed in horses with coarse, wiry hair on legs inclined to be fleshy, and is very hard to cure. Prepare her for a purgative by fasting for ten hours, then give 9 drams aloes and 2 drams ginger; feed only bran for 24 hours after giving. After purgative ceases to act feed every night and morning on her grain or chop 2 ounces Fowler's solution of arsenic. Wash heels off once weekly with strong soft-soap suds, and be sure to rub until thoroughly dry. Dress the parts twice daily with a solution of corrosive sublimate, 1 part to 1,000 of water (better get druggist to prepare solution). J. H. REED, V. S.]

NAVICULAR DISEASE IN HORSE.

SUBSCRIBER, Wentworth Co., Ont.:—"I have an aged horse that has been lame a long time in right fore foot. He likes to keep it out in front of the other (about a foot) when in the stable. When turning out of the stall saves it all he can, and when stepping out of stable door (about 6 in.) prefers putting it first, with a slight heave, to the ground. The foot is good and hoof apparently sound, but I noticed lately that above the outside quarter of foot above the frog he is tender when pressed. Can't feel any particular heat in it. Perhaps you might suggest what causes this lameness?"

[From symptoms given, I am afraid your horse is suffering from a well-developed case of navicular disease, which is incurable, but the symptoms may be relieved considerably by keeping the foot soft by poulticing or standing in water for a few hours every day. A long rest and repeated blistering around the coronet (the soft tissues just above the hoof) would be better treatment. Anything that will encourage the growth of horn will benefit the patient. It is not probable he will ever be of much use on the road, but for slow work on the farm he may be tolerably serviceable. If he become practically useless you might get a veterinarian to perform neurolomy (removal of the nerves). This does not cure the disease, but cures the lameness by removing sensation, and as a horse may suddenly become useless at any time after the operation, it should not be performed if the horse be fairly serviceable. In some cases a horse lasts for years after operating, and sometimes fails very quickly. J. H. REED, V. S.]

ENLARGEMENT FOLLOWING WOUND.

ENQUIRER, B. C.:—"Yearling colt gashed on side by jumping picket fence three months ago; some flow of matter, but healed quickly; bathed with bluestone solution. A hard lump, however, nearly the size of a walnut, has remained under skin; slightly tender to touch. What should be done with it?"

[It may be that some foreign body became enclosed in the tissues when wound was healing, and is causing the formation of an abscess. The tenderness to touch mentioned indicates this. Bathe with warm water frequently, or, if possible, apply a hot poultice for a few days to hasten the formation of pus. If the lump becomes soft in center, lance and allow escape of pus, and then, in all probability, the lump will disappear. After lancing, wash off and syringe cavity out well twice a day with carbolic acid one part, water seventy parts. If matter does not form, the growth is a fibrous tumor and will have to be dissected out, or it may not become sufficiently large to interfere, and may be left alone. J. H. REED, V. S.]

SEEDY TOE IN HORSE.

J. J., Jr., Simcoe Co., Ont.:—"I have a valuable horse, 12 years, that has a hole in his toe about 3 in. long and about 3 in. deep; it was very small 2 years ago, but is getting larger. When the shoe is on you would not know there was anything wrong with him. He gets very lame when shoes are left on too long. When you hit the foot with hammer it sounds hollow, and the hole looks very punky. I got the smith to fill it full of tow and tar. He goes well at present. What would you advise me to do with it?"

[Your horse is affected with what is called seedy toe, which consists of a perverted secretion of horn at the lower margin of the bone of the foot. Although called seedy toe, it is not always confined to the toe, but may extend and involve the quarters. It is often the result of laminitis, and often caused by pressure from toe clips on the shoe, and sometimes it originates from some inherent cause not well understood. From whatever cause, it consists in perverted secretion of horn by the sensitive laminae. The horn is secreted in abnormal quantities, and of poor quality; it is of a cheesy or mealy character and incapable of maintaining the connection between the sensitive parts of the foot and the wall. A separation of the crust from the laminae results, also of the sole from the lower margin of the bone; the imperfect horn dries rapidly, shrinks in bulk, causing a vacant space, which emits a hollow sound when the wall is tapped with a hammer. In extreme cases there is a bulging of the wall over the affected parts. Lameness is not always present, but may occur at any time, especially if sand or dirt become insinuated. Treatment is slow, and not always followed by success. It consists in the removal, with the knife, of all diseased parts, and the promotion of a fresh growth of healthy horn by moisture applied to the foot, and repeated blisters to the coronet. It would require an expert to operate, and a long rest—probably 8 to 10 months—to allow fresh horn to grow. As already stated, even this is not always successful, particularly if the condition be due to some congenital predisposition. Probably your best plan is careful shoeing, and not in any case allowing the shoe to remain on more than 4 weeks without removing and re-setting. If necessary, have the shoe removed every 3 weeks. Shoe with bar shoe, giving good sole and frog pressure, and do not allow toe clips on shoe. J. H. REED, V. S.]

BLEMISH ON COLT'S LEG—MARE FAVORS HER KNEES.

F. J. E., Grey Co., Ont.:—"1. I have a colt a year old; some time last fall, while running with larger ones, got kicked on the stifle, not on the front, but on the side of the stifle bone, causing it to swell up; there has been nothing done for it; the lump is not large, but noticeable, and he walks quite stiff. Can there be anything done to remove the lump and cure the lameness?"

"2. I have a mare three years old, general purpose; has worked some this spring. When she stands she leans forward slightly on her knees. It does not hurt her any in work, but does in looks, as she is very handsome in other respects. Can I do anything in the way of improvement by shoeing, and how should she be shod?"

[1. Clip hair off the lump and apply the following blister, which should be rubbed in well for twenty minutes (oil on the third day with sweet oil): biniodide of mercury and iodine crystals, of each one dram; lard, one ounce; well mixed.

2. Your mare may be helped by applying a shoe with heel calks five-eighths of an inch high and no toe calks. See that she has no corns or tenderness about the heels upon which the shoes are pressing. Keep her toes well pared and see that the floor in her stall is level. Blister the back tendons with caustic balsam once every three weeks for three applications.]

CONGESTED QUARTER IN COW'S UDDER.

C. W. E., Hastings Co., Ont.:—"We have a cow that we bought this spring when she had been milking about two weeks. From the very first, one teat seemed very hard to milk, but she gave a fairly good mess until lately, when a sort of caking appeared in the udder above the teat, and it became very hard to get much milk from the teat. It soon became impossible to get any milk from the quarter, and we got a milking tube, and only by the use of that could we get the milk. The caking, however, remains in the udder. In what way would you recommend her to be treated?"

[Apply the following ointment once a day to the teat and quarter: biniodide of mercury, 10 grains; lard, one ounce. Be very careful in using the tube. Remove as soon as the milk ceases to flow, so as to avoid the introduction of air into the udder. It is also very important to keep the tube very clean by boiling before using.]

STERILITY IN MARE.

O. M., Russell Co., Ont.:—"We have a mare, 12 years old this spring. For the past four years we bred her to the same stallion, and she never got in foal. We would like to raise a colt from her. Please advise me how to get her to breed?"

[All that I can suggest is to get an expert to make a manual examination to ascertain if the neck of the womb be closed, and if so, force an opening, and then breed the mare. There are many causes of sterility in mares, but the one mentioned is about the only removable one. J. H. REED, V. S.]