

It is stated that pleura-pneumonia, that much dreaded cattle disease, can be cured by causing an affected beast to inhale paraffine oil. This remedy has been tried on several occasions with much success during the past eighteen years by Mr. W. Dawson, farm manager to the Duke of Richmond, and many others who have followed his example testify to the efficacy of the treatment. The difficulty is in getting the oil on to the lungs, and if it is really a remedy for pleura-pneumonia some means of spraying the oil down the windpipe of the animal should be devised. The plan pursued by Mr. Dawson is to place a sponge saturated with oil in one nostril, keeping the other closed with the hand, to compel the animal to inhale the oil. Fortunately no cases of the disease are known to exist in Canada at the present time.

The official bulletin from the laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, with regard to the milk supply of towns, shows a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. In all 165 samples of milk were taken in 24 cities, all but one of which are in Ontario and Quebec. Of these 165 samples only 97 were adjudged genuine by the analyst, leaving 68 either of inferior quality, skimmed or watered. Toronto appears to be very unfortunate, having out of 12 samples only 2 genuine. The city of Hull, P. Q. out of 15 had 10 genuine, Harrison out of 10 had 8, and Stratford out of 10 had 7 genuine. This is better than Toronto. As many samples as possible were obtained in the different towns. In several of the larger cities, such as Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and London, the examination of milk is now carried on either by a special food inspector appointed by the municipality and working under the Adulteration Act, or by medical health officers. It is unfortunate that a food of such value, especially to children and infants, should be of poor quality or adulterated. It is of the greatest importance that the milk supply of cities should be of a high standard, and to reach this desirable end it is necessary that good cows should be kept. Scrub cattle will never be paying investments, they eat just as much and produce less than a good breed. Our farmers are recognizing this fact, and are raising a great many fine looking young animals, as any one may observe when driving out into the country. This progressive movement is largely owing to the agricultural societies all over the country, nearly all of which own bulls of some fine breed. It is to be hoped that the milk supply of Halifax will stand the test better than some of the Ontario cities have done.

Some very sensible remarks about shooting accidents appeared in the *Field* recently, and all sportsmen would do well to lay them to heart. "We incline," it says, "to the idea that the use of the breech-loader tends to some extent to derogate from due caution, unless the sportsman keeps a careful watch over himself. The days of muzzle loading kept him more on the alert. He was reminded every other minute of the necessity of caution when he had to load; the operation kept him in notice that his weapon might be a source of danger to others if he had to be so careful on his own account while loading. Then, again, he could not unload at a fence; and so, on the whole, he was more impressed with the risk of handling even a half-cocked piece over a fence than is the modern possessor of a breech-loader. This sense of risk attached to the weapon he was carrying, being repeatedly presented to the muzzle loading mind by circumstances which breech-loaders obviate, was more likely to associate itself in that mind throughout the day in all other details of the sport than in the case of the modern shooter, whose gun offers risks to others, but little to himself. Herein we think we trace historically a cause for greater instinctive caution in one who was brought up to muzzle-loading, than in one educated only to breech-loading; the temperaments, characteristics and surrounding of the two subjects being in all other respects conceived to be similar. Another detail of the old school tended to diminish cause of accident, and also to instil an element of order, and so of caution into the field; this was the 'down charge' and halt of the line at each shot, which is now practically obsolete so far as loading is concerned, though the halt may take place for the purpose of retrieving. Our conclusion is, that accidents in the field have by no means reduced in the proportion that should have been expected from the disuse of muzzle-loaders and the evils which specially attended them; and the reasons for this failure to profit by the greater immunity which breech loading offers are, in the first place, sheer and wilful negligence—failure to half-cock, or remove cartridges at obstacles; and, secondly, the tendency of the breech-loader itself to cause a man to forget its danger to his neighbors, because it is less of a menace to himself than was the muzzle-loader."

The late revolution in Ticino (an Italian canton of Switzerland,) appears to have been an outcome of the long-standing struggle between the Ultramontanes and the Radicals. Ticino lies on the Italian slope of the Alps, and was only finally incorporated in the Swiss Federation in 1803. The inhabitants speak the Italian language. The population of the canton numbers about 130,000, of which all but a few hundreds are Roman Catholics. But these again are divided into Ultramontanes, who wish Ticino to be under the control of the clericals, and other Roman Catholics, who place their Radicalism before their devotion to the Church. In the deposed assembly the Ultramontanes, who have been in power for the last 15 years, more than doubled their adversaries. In February of last year they did not scruple to use their preponderance to vote the removal of 1,200 Liberal German-Swiss electors from the list. They are also charged with gross malversation in the management of the canton's financial affairs. Last August 10,000 Liberals demanded a revision of the Constitution and a re-distribution of seats. According to the law of the canton such a demand made by 7,000 citizens should be followed by an election within the month. The Government took no notice of the appeal. On the morning of the 17th or 18th of September the Liberal leaders assembled at Bellinzona, the seat of

Government, dressed as commercial travellers. At noon about a dozen of them, armed with revolvers, mounted to the chateau where the arsenal is situated. Finding the door open they entered and demanded the keys from the officer in charge. The officer seeing that resistance would be useless gave them up. A signal was then given to set the church bells ringing. A crowd rushed to the arsenal as arranged and took possession of all the guns and stores. The insurgents then joined by their friends took possession of the Government offices, made prisoners of three out of the five Ministers, shot a fourth who resisted them, dissolved the Assembly and formed a Provisional Government. The Swiss Federal Council at once intervened, and next morning sent over from Berne two Battalions of Infantry. Fortunately, however, owing to the skilful management of the Federal Commissioner, Colonel Künzli, what promised to be a very serious affair has been quieted and order restored.

Investigations and experiments, conducted for the purpose of ascertaining the cause and prevention of the disease which since the year 1845 has destroyed a large proportion of one of the world's most important agricultural products, have resulted in demonstrating that the blight which kills the potato tops, and the rot which destroys the tubers, is occasioned by a microscopic fungus that attacks the leaves and stem, matures spores or seed at an extremely rapid rate, which spores are carried by the winds to continue the work of destruction elsewhere, or drop to the ground and are carried by rain to the tubers. In the course of these investigations it was found that 80 per cent. of the potatoes nearest the stem of the root and the surface of the ground were affected by rot; that of the layer of potatoes immediately below these 30 per cent. were similarly affected; and that of the lowest layer only 3 per cent. were rotten. These facts suggested a very simple remedy, which extensive experiments has proved to be as effectual as it is simple, and which is nothing more nor less than moulding or hilling up the earth around the stem sufficiently to prevent the spores from reaching the tubers. When the remedy was suggested a large number of farmers undertook experiments to test its value. These experimental plots were visited by qualified persons, who after careful investigation arrived at and published the following results:—In order to prevent the fungus spores from reaching the tubers it is necessary: 1st, To plant the seed and cuttings about 12 inches apart, and in rows about 30 inches apart; 2nd, To mould or hill up the earth after the first weeding into a ridge 3 or 4 inches high, and 10 to 12 inches wide; 3rd, To mould up again as high as possible, when the disease first appears in the top, and while hilling up to bend the top over to one side, so that the fungus spores would fall between instead of upon the rows. There should be at least 3 inches of soil on top of the upper layer of potatoes. It is important to remember that the growth of the tubers will be retarded by too much hilling up, and that therefore this operation should not be performed until the disease actually appears in the tops. Beating the earth compactly after hilling up affords additional protection from the access of the spores, and in fact almost entire immunity from disease. In order to prevent disease from contact with spores after the crops have been dug, it is only necessary to allow at least a fortnight after the complete withering of the top for the spores to die from lack of nourishment.

Everything in this world has its use, and bad eggs are no exception to the rule. It is not generally known that they are made use of in any way except to occasionally bombard (or shall we say shell?) an unpopular speaker, but the fact is they are largely used in the process of tanning fine leather and kid for gloves. A man who is engaged in this unsavory business plies his trade in Chicago. He says he goes to 49 commission houses in that city every day and takes all the spoiled eggs they have, after which he conveys them to Cumminsville and manufactures them into a solution which is shipped to New York in barrels. The solution is said to be quite deodorized and inoffensive, which is probably true, otherwise kid gloves would be very unpleasant to wear. The process of making the solution is as follows:—The eggs are collected in the morning and then taken to the place of manufacture and broken into barrels. The white of a bad egg turns to water, while the yellow will coagulate and settle in the bottom. The water is skimmed off as much as possible, and then the yellow is poured into a sieve, when what remains of the water runs through, leaving only the yellow. This is then mixed with chemicals, and the result is the mixture used in tanning fine leather. The manufacturer states that it might be used as a palatable and harmless sauce for the table, but most people would draw the line at that. It sells for eight cents a pound in New York. The bad egg man tried to start the business in Cincinnati, but found that it did not pay. Chicago, he said, is the greatest egg market in the United States. He keeps three double teams that collect three loads a day. Each load has sixty tubs of thirty dozens each. That makes 16,200 dozens. Two single waggons collect four loads of 38 tubs, or 140 tubs, making 280 tubs for both or 8,400 dozens in all, one day's collections amounting to 14,600 dozens. About 30 men and girls are employed breaking these eggs in Chicago. They have suits that will protect them from the explosive ones, and in a day or two they get so accustomed to the odor that it is not noticed. The trade is naturally more brisk in hot weather, when from six to eight barrels of fluid per day is manufactured. At other times from six to eight barrels per week is the output. A waggon is kept employed all the time carrying shells to the dumps. This information, which is gleaned from the Cincinnati *Times Star*, is interesting in connection with the present state of the egg trade—the fresh egg trade. How is it that so many eggs are allowed to spoil, and why would dealers continue to keep so much more stock than could be disposed of at profitable prices? It is scarcely probable that bad eggs would bring so high a price as good ones.