

Colic in Horses.

Spasmodic contractions and inflammation of the intestines. Colic may be divided with reference to its causes into a number of classes; the ordinary causes are cold, indigestion, over-heating, worms and inflammation. The following symptoms commonly announce the disease; the horse becomes uneasy and distressed—he keeps moving from place to place—paws or beats the ground with his hoofs—nips his flanks—kicks his hind feet against his belly—falls into a sweat, at first warm and then cold—lies down and rises constantly—rolls on the ground, and is sometimes attacked by convulsions. If in addition to the above symptoms, the discharges are black and fetid, it indicates gangrene, and nothing can be done to save him. In the treatment we should endeavor in the first place to remove the cause of irritation, and to calm the system, or in other words, repair the mischief already done by the disease, we should give demulcent drinks and lavements, and by these means empty the intestines; this will be a surer and safer method than to give heating and stimulating medicines, which, administered in a careless manner, will commonly render the disease more intractable. Remedies of this class can only be used with advantage in the latter stages of the disease. When the complaint is caused by cold, the horse should be covered with a blanket—he should be given four ounces of the tincture No. 40 or a pint of brandy and water, and if he is not immediately relieved, he should be bled, and afterwards decoction of flax-seed given him, from four to eight ounces of linseed or some other oil in each injection. If it is caused by inflammation, he should be made to swallow a large quantity of warm water, and copious lavements of soap-suds given, till the bowels are freely opened. Bleeding may be practiced if the case is severe, and great care should be taken in nursing the horse for some time afterwards. The disease caused by constipation commonly requires a strict diet—warm water in abundance, and lavements of soap-suds, as mentioned above, which some purgative medicine may be put; this will be necessary, in the first place, to wash out thoroughly the intestine. The colic produced by indigestion, has indigestion for its first cause, and requires nearly the same treatment, as indicated in the cure of the colic of indigestion. The horse should be made to walk about, and should be given an ounce of either or alcohol—he should

be carefully fed for some time afterwards to avoid a relapse. The inflammatory colic is caused by violent purgatives—by poison—by heating food—by eating too much again, especially when it is not very dry; and the form of disease is easily recognized by the extreme violence of the symptom. It will be proper to bleed once or twice according to the urgency of the case; if the stomach is not too full, give the horse large quantities of flax-seed tea or warm water, and give him emollient lavements into which should be put a little vinegar. If these means fail, try the decoction No. 48 and the lavement No. 49. But the use of these and all other anodyne remedies, although very useful in relieving the spasm and irritation, which in colic are sometimes very obstinate, will become hurtful if too long persisted in, paralyzing the action of the intestines. The inflammatory colic is liable to terminate in gangrene if it is not soon relieved by judicious treatment. Colic caused by worms requires the same treatment as the principal disease.

No 41. Gum benzoin, six ounces; aloes and balsam of tolu, each three ounces, storax and myrrh, each two ounces; alcohol, two quarts; pulverize the resins, digest the whole in a bottle covered with parchment, in a warm place near the fire, for a week, and then filter. Dose for a horse, from two to four ounces.

No. 48. Oil of almonds, eight ounces, —syrup, four ounces; tincture of opium, (laudanum) half an ounce. Mix.

No. 49. Triturate two drams of camphor with the yolk of an egg; add half an ounce of laudanum, and a sufficient quantity of decoction of flax-seed, for a sedative lavement.

Constipation.—When it is not a symptom of some other disease, it will commonly cure it to reduce the quantity of feed—make him drink warm water—give a lavement (injection,) and make him take exercise.

[*Note.*—We have often relieved horses of constipation by giving them occasionally a pound of hogs' lard, melted and mingled with their provender. *Ed.—Manual of Veterinary Medicine.*

Remedy for Sprains.—Accidents of this sort are not unfrequent, and perhaps none are more liable to them than the laboring class of people. They happen most generally in the joints of either the upper or lower limbs, accompanied with much pain and swelling, and inability to use the limb. The remedy is simple, and within the reach of