mash. If griping occurs give ounce doses of laudanum. (2) Hog's lard and coal oil, half and half, mixed warm, and applied thoroughly, especially behind ears, around neck, and inside of legs, will destroy lice.]

### Worms in Lambs.

C. F. C., Prince Co., P. E. I.:—"My lambs are a poor lot this fall and I cannot tell what is the trouble with them. They had the same trouble last fall. They commence to fail when they are about three months old—that is, before they are weaned—and after I wean them they seem to go down still faster, although they have the best of fresh feed. Last fall I fed them grain, but they got poorer every day. This fall I am not feeding any grain. The symptoms are running at the eyes and mouth, holding their head down to the ground, and twitching their head and ears. They are not scoured this fall, but were last. I have noticed small white worms in their droppings, and it is also mixed with slime. Please give me a cure and also state cause, and if they are contagious or hereditary?"

[The lambs are infested with worms and require to be changed to other quarters and the place thoroughly disinfected. If this does not succeed in removing the trouble you had better discard sheep from that farm for a year, but persevere and you will soon bring about a change. A good disinfectant is a preparation known as West's Fluid, obtained from the West Chemical Co., Toronto. Get a gallon can of that and follow out their disinfecting instructions, and give each lamb half a teaspoonful of the medicine internally in half a pint of water every other day for six doses, after which put the following tonic in their feed every day in the proportion of a heaping teaspoonful to each four lambs: Powd. sulphate of iron, 4 ounces; powd. gentian and powd. ginger, each 6 ounces; nux vomica, 2 ounces; capsicum, half ounce.]

## Miscellaneous.

### Prickly Lettuce.

F. H. ORRIS, Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"Kindly give me the name of the enclosed weed, which I have noticed on my farm the last two years. No one around here can tell what it is."

[The specinen of weed received is the prickly lettuce (*Lactuca scariola*), also known as milk thistle. This is a European weed. of which the first American record was dated at Cambridge, Mass., in 1868. In 1878 it was reported from Toledo, Ohio; in 1892 the Ohio Experiment Station issued a bulletin to the farmers, warning them against it as likely


Prickly Lettuce.—*a*, Branch in flower; *b*, part of stem and two leaves; *c*, brown seed, showing white plume, much enlarged.

to prove one of the worst weed pests of the State. In July, 1891, Mr. J. Dearness collected it along the G. W. R. at Walkerville, Ont., and in 1894 Prof. Macoun reported it on the railways at Smith's Falls and Chatham. It has since doubtless been pretty generally introduced along the railway lines; it is now in conspicuous evidence at London and Strathroy. The weed is an annual and winter annual. Every part abounds in a milky juice. The stem, nearly smooth, but bearing a few scattered prickles, grows from 2 to 5 feet high: when not crowded it may throw out a few branches. The upper quarter or third of the plant consists of a loose, much branched panicle of flowers, more conspicuous when ripe than at any other time. The flowers are small, ¼ to ½ inch in diameter, pale yellow in color, and blossom, a few daily, from early in July until late in September. The diagram will show the shape of the leaves, which are prickly along the edges and on the back of the midrib. The seeds bear a white plume like the dandelion, and readily take root in pastures and meadow lands, as well as in tilled ground. Miss Detmers, of the Ohio Station, counted 688 flowers on a single plant; these would produce on an average 12 seeds, making a total of 8,256 seeds from one plant, a fact that indicates the rapidity with which the weed is capable of multiplying. It is especially liable to be found along fence-rows, and should be cut, wherever found, with a scythe or hoe before it begins blossoming. From the description and diagrams the weed can be easily identified.]

### Spavined Horse.

W. H. B., York Co., Ont.:—"Kindly advise me through your paper what is best to do with a mare eight years old which has a bone spavin. Our vet. says fire it. That seems to be cruel. Is there any other treatment which will cure it?"

[Firing and repeated blistering is as yet the surest and most successful treatment for spavin lameness; yet, many cases of obstinate spavin lameness have been overcome by the continued use of common kerosene oil (coal oil), by applying a little to the entire joint once daily for a month, washing about once a week. If you try it, kindly report results in six weeks.]

### Mr. Rennie's System of Autumn Cultivation.

A reader of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE writes as follows:—"Does Mr. Rennie, of the O. A. C., plow the land deep previous to ridging it up in drills? Would it be a good plan where there is much grass or weeds to drill it up? Would such treatment not give the grass and weeds more of a chance to grow?"

[In reply to yours of yesterday, I beg to state that immediately after grain is harvested the land should be gang-plowed (shallow), then harrowed and cultivated at intervals (with wide points on cultivator) until end of October, when all grass and weeds are destroyed, then put the land up in narrow drills (22 inches) for the winter. WM. RENNIE.]

### Boar's Bite.

SUBSCRIBER, Grenfell, Assa.:—"I have a four-year-old mare that was bitten by a boar in the hind part of the brisket—a gash of three inches long. Bled very much. Stopped bleeding. Called in a vet. Applied lotion three times a day after washing clean. I now wash it out with syringe, soap and water, and afterwards syringe with carbolic acid and water (25 to 1) twice a day. The wound now is very small, but still discharges bloody matter. It is now two months since it was done. I keep the mare at work, but after violent exercise discharges more. I applied poultices, when the swelling was very bad, daily, and caused it to make a discharge."

[Wounds in horses often heal up to a certain point and then stubbornly remain open, having formed what is termed a fistula. This condition is either the result of some deep-seated irritant or the formation on the surface of the wound of a certain smooth, pus-secreting membrane. If caused by an irritant, such as a foreign body, it would necessarily have to be removed before healing action could be expected. I would advise you to inject to the bottom of the wound, once a day for two or three days, the following lotion: Hydrar perchlor., one dram; acid mur., two drams; spts. meth., two ounces, water, six ounces. After this use, twice daily: Creolin, one ounce; water, one quart.]

### New Trotting and Pacing Standards.

T. J. BLACK, Carleton Co., Ont.:—"A subscriber from Hazeldean wishes to know what constitutes a Standard-bred horse."

[At the last annual meeting of the American Trotting Register Association, the following rules, governing admission to standard rank, were adopted, to take effect Nov. 1st, 1898:

THE TROTTING STANDARD.—When an animal meets these requirements and is duly registered it shall be accepted as a standard-bred trotter:

1. The progeny of a registered standard trotting horse and a registered standard trotting mare.

2. A stallion sired by a registered standard trotting horse, provided his dam and grandam were sired by registered standard trotting horses, and he himself has a trotting record of 2.30, and is the sire of three trotters with records of 2.30 from different mares.

3. A mare whose sire is a registered standard trotting horse, whose dam and grandam were sired by registered standard trotting horses, provided she herself has a trotting record of 2.30 or is the dam of one trotter with a record of 2.30.

4. A mare sired by a registered standard trotting horse, provided she is the dam of two trotters with records of 2.30.

5. A mare sired by a registered standard trotting horse, provided her first, second and third dams are each sired by a registered standard trotting horse.

THE PACING STANDARD.—When an animal meets these requirements and is duly registered, it shall be accepted as a standard-bred pacer:

1. The progeny of a registered standard pacing horse and a registered standard pacing mare.

2. A stallion sired by a registered standard pacing horse, provided his dam and grandam were sired by registered standard pacing horses, and he himself has a pacing record of 2.25, and is the sire of three pacers with records of 2.25, from different mares.

3. A mare whose sire is a registered standard pacing horse and whose dam and grandam were sired by registered standard pacing horses, provided she herself has a pacing record of 2.25, or is the dam of one pacer with a record of 2.25.

4. A mare sired by a registered standard pacing horse, provided she is the dam of two pacers with records of 2.25.

5. A mare sired by a registered standard pacing horse, provided her first, second and third dams are each sired by a registered standard pacing horse.

6. The progeny of a registered standard trotting horse out of a registered standard pacing mare, or of a registered standard pacing horse out of a registered standard trotting mare.

Any animal that cannot be registered as standard under the above rules, can be registered in the non-standard department.]

### White Crested Ducks—Sick Hens.

J. A. B. S., York Co., Ont.:—"1. Can you give me any information in regard to the White Poland duck, a large top-knotted bird? Do you know of any person who keeps this breed? 2. Our hens are dying. Sick from one to three days, get pale around the head, eat very little. Can you give a cure? They have plenty of pure water."

[1. The only duck I know of answering to the kind described is the White-crested duck of the Standard. We do not know at the moment who has them for sale. They are rather small, and little attention seems to be given to their breeding. Persons having them for sale should advertise in FARMER'S ADVOCATE columns. 2. From few particulars given it is hard to say just what is the trouble. If hens are old and are overfed the cause of death may be fatty degeneration of the liver. Again, they may have eaten some impure food or poisonous substance. If hens are young and wasted away or present an emaciated appearance the source of the trouble may be lice. Lice often make the fowls they infest so weak that the hens fall easy victims to the least ailment. Or the fowls may have roup and have died from one of its various forms. In the latter case there would be a mucous discharge from the nostrils of most offensive odor, or swelled head. Look and see. See if throat is cankered. Separate any fowls which look out of sorts and give them a liver pill for two nights or two mornings in succession. Lessen the quantity and kind of food. Give the well hens condition powders in soft food and do not overfeed them. If the hens have been overfed on soft food, it is probably the cause of the ailment. If roup is suspected give symptoms and write for particulars as to treatment. A. G. GILBERT,
Dom. Expl. Farm. Poultry Manager.

We might add to Mr. Gilbert's notes that good treatment for such cases of fowl sickness, after finding out by very careful inspection that the trouble is not lice, is to give the flock a physic after a partial fast. Mix a heaping tablespoonful of salts with a pail of soft food and allow them to take their fill. Then give a tonic known as "Pearce's Tonic Poultry Food," and sold by J. S. Pearce & Co., London, Ont. If the fowls have roup see FARMER'S ADVOCATE, May 2nd, 1898, page 213.—ED.]

### Encouraging Reports in the Northwest.

The Director of the Experimental Farms has very encouraging news from the Superintendents of the branch Experimental Farms in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, where, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather during harvest, the grain both in quantity and quality is turning out remarkably well.

Under date of September 26th, Mr. Angus MacKay, Superintendent of the Farm at Indian Head, says: "From all parts of this district wheat is turning out even better than expected, both in yield and quality. The lowest yet reported is twenty-eight bushels per acre on stubble land, while many have over thirty bushels with same sort of farming. The crops on summer-fallowed land are going from thirty to forty-five bushels, so that taking the whole district there will be an average of from thirty to thirty-five bushels per acre."

Mr. S. A. Bedford, Superintendent of the Brandon Farm, writes in a similar encouraging strain, stating that the wheat crop in the Brandon district is proving a much better one than was anticipated.

### Cement for Water Pipe.

W. A., Simcoe Co., Ont., asks if a water pipe could be constructed of cement to carry water 600 feet distant and with a fall of 15 feet, and to raise it 8 feet at the lower end (supposing a piece of iron pipe were used here)? If so, state best method of construction, thickness of cement, and proportion of cement and sand or gravel, if the pipe had a two-inch bore? Would it not be cheaper and more durable than iron piping?

[We have submitted the above question to the Estate of John Battle, manufacturers of hydraulic cement, to which they reply as below. Should any reader have had experience in constructing cement water pipe such as referred to, we would be pleased to publish what he desires to say regarding it. The Estate of John Battle writes as follows: "We would say that we have not the machinery to make the cement pipe, and to procure it would make the piping cost too much. Iron pipe would be cheaper; it can be bought for about nine cents per foot; and in our opinion will answer the purpose equally as well as pipe made of cement."]

### Intestinal Worms in Pigs.

W. W., Haldimand Co., Ont.:—"Will you in your next issue inform me what to do for pigs that cough when they first get up in the morning and sometimes during day. When they have been lying down they do not cough much. They are kept in shed with small yard. They are nearly five months old and are doing well, but have coughed since they were two months old?"

[The cough pigs have would indicate the presence of intestinal worms, for which give to each pig a teaspoonful of West's Fluid every other day until four doses have been given; thoroughly disinfect the premises with the same according to their printed instruction. Their address is the West Chemical Company, Toronto.]