

cial Merchant for the use of the lecture-room and lantern.

THURSDAY'S SESSIONS.

The whole day was taken up with the reading of reports from the council and officers of the Society, the Branches at Montreal, Quebec, and Toronto, the Sections in Botany, Geology, Ornithology and Microscopy, and accounts of the insects of the year by the Directors in their several localities. A large number of papers were read and discussed, many of them of a highly technical and scientific character, but others of a practical nature. The members from a distance brought a variety of interesting specimens illustrating the papers that were read, or showing the notable captures of the year. The following is a list of the officers elected:

President—Rev. T. W. Fyles, D. C. L., South Quebec.

Vice-President—Prof. W. Lochhead, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

Secretary—W. E. Saunders, London.

Treasurer—J. H. Bowman, London.

Directors—Division No. 1, C. H. Young, Ottawa; Division No. 2, J. D. Evans, Trenton; Division No. 3, E. M. Walker, Toronto; Division No. 4, G. E. Fisher, Freeman; Division No. 5, J. A. Balkwill, London.

(The ex-presidents of the Society are ex-officio Directors, viz.: Dr. Wm. Saunders, Ottawa; Rev. Dr. Bethune, London; Dr. J. Fletcher, Ottawa; Mr. W. H. Harrington, Ottawa; Mr. J. Dearness, London; Mr. H. H. Lyman, Montreal.)

Librarian and Curator—J. A. Moffat, London.

Auditors—J. A. Balkwill and J. H. Hamilton, London.

Editor Canadian Entomologist—Rev. Dr. Bethune, London.

Delegates to the Western Fair—W. E. Saunders and J. A. Balkwill, London.

Delegate to the Royal Society—Rev. Dr. Bethune.

Library and Rooms Committee—Messrs. Balkwill, Bethune, Bowman, Dearness, Moffat and Saunders.

VETERINARY.

Dystokia.

Soapsuds, Lobelia Tea, Attention to the Position of the Dam, and Persistence, with Gumption, Will Save Many a Seemingly Hopeless Case.

Few stock-breeders, and especially horse-breeders, but have lost animals from wrong presentation of foetus at the time at which birth should take place. Many who have not been so unfortunate as to lose females personally in this way have been called to assist in the delivery of a mare or a cow that may have been in the maternal throes for hours without apparent success. Frequently animals are lost at such times through lack of understanding or determination to persist until the last resources have been exhausted or found useless. The writer has seen valuable mares led out beside their graves and felled with an axe, that might have been saved had the attending surgeons possessed more knowledge of their profession. J. C. Metchener, V. S., contributes a valuable paper on this subject in the Journal of Veterinary Archives, which we summarize as follows:

First of all, an anatomical and physiological knowledge is of chief importance. Unless one knows the location, texture, and functions of the reproductive organs and their relations, and is perfectly acquainted with the act of normal parturition at all of its stages, by both sight and touch, he is ill prepared to correct the manifold deviations, abnormal conditions, malformations, and misrepresentations we meet. Indeed, the abnormal conditions are so various that a great many different procedures are necessary to successfully meet the individual cases. Careful examination and cool deliberation are the first requisites. First correct everything that is wrong, then our work is done, unless the animal is worn out by futile efforts, or the actual conformations of parts will not admit of delivery, when we have to reduce the foetus with the knife before it can be delivered. There are two points in this connection to be emphasized. The first is that the uteri of quadrupeds is a suspended bag, supported by broad ligaments, and as it becomes filled can swing to and fro like a hammock, and whirl completely over in violent movements of the body, and dip forward or backward as the weight of the foetus is thrown in these directions and the position of the maternal body favors the inclination. In some cases where causes operate for long periods the uterus is displaced; contractions and corresponding elongations in the suspending ligaments until the organ has a permanent deflection, or twist, or may have sunk so far below the pelvic passage that the young creature can never mount the precipice without help. Uneven floors, holes, and gutters under the hind feet and those low both front and back, throwing the weight of body upon the soft parts, are potent causes.

The next point is that we go at it like rational beings. In nearly all cases where the foetus does

not present properly, the uterus is somewhat distorted, putting the cervix and os uteri more or less of a twist, with a partial fold of mucous membrane formed in the vagina. The wedge-shaped head or thighs have not entered the passage to dilate it, and when we are called, after several hours of labor and rough treatment, and just plunge in to correct the displacement and extract the young one, by the rules of the books, we have a mighty dry, tough time of it.

Now I mean to give you the key. All deflections of the womb, from the lateral to the vertical, from partial to complete torsion, can be remedied by changing the position of the mother. After this is effected, the dry, tumefied parts can be relaxed and mollified by copious injections of warm lobelia tea, soapsuds and glycerin, and you can then accomplish a heretofore almost impossible task with an ease that will make you laugh. I use the old-fashioned English casting straps, rope and pulleys, a lot of bags filled with bran or other light material, warm water by the bucketful, Castile soap, glycerin, a large funnel with neck bent at an acute angle inserted into two feet of gum tubing, and plenty of help. Better take the obstetrical tools along for the sake of scientific appearances; some might come handy.

Suppose we have an anterior presentation, feet appearing out of vulva, head turned back to the flank, nose upward, been in labor until parts are dry, uterus contracted, holding the foetus in vise-like grip. Order your warm soapsuds got ready, pulleys up over hind quarters, front legs bent at the knees and fastened thus by quiller straps around arms and pasterns, buckle your straps around hind canons, well wrapped, hook your pulley into the rings of both straps, turn up the back opposite way to which foetal head is turned, moderate traction upon pulley rope, men lifting with blanket under hind quarters, slip under the stuffed bags, when high as prudent

but could not make her get up. I took her by the horns, whirled her completely around, and she got up with ease. Having her held in that position until the legs were brought into the passage, I delivered a living calf in about five minutes, reminding him of an axiom that it is hard to push a load up hill, but that it will move downward of itself. By altering the position of the patient's body, we can alter the presentations of the offspring, or so change its inclination that it may be readily adjusted.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd.—Our purpose is to give help in real difficulties; therefore, we reserve the right to discard enquiries not of general interest, or which appear to be asked out of mere curiosity.

3rd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith, though the name is not necessarily for publication.

4th.—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

Veterinary.

COLT INJURED BY BARB WIRE.

One month ago one of my yearling colts got tangled in a barb-wire fence, and got badly cut on the inside of the hock joint. I have kept the wound washed with clean warm water and castile soap, with a little carbolic acid. The leg has swollen badly from the hock down to the fetlock. The cut is not a deep one, but much torn and ragged. It appears to be doing all right, but the edges can't come together because of the swelling. What can I do to reduce the swelling, as I am afraid it will stay that way if it is not attended to?

Muskoka, Ont.

H. D. F.



J. T. GORDON, THE CATTLE KING, AT WORK IN THE SADDLE, WINNIPEG STOCK-YARDS.

steady and support her there, pour in your soapsuds and glycerin (at intervals for several minutes). Now you will find it easy to push the front legs (already corded back into the uterus), with knee or knees grasped, push the shoulders opposite to the way neck is turned; if the head does not come around, try for it, bearing in mind that the nose must go downward and from the body. If you do not succeed, roll her more to either side as seems to loosen the womb's grip. Do not give up. Make two gallons of lobelia tea from two ounces of the dried herb, strain and pour in warm. Wait a few minutes, and the relaxation will be marvellous, giving an easy chance to adjust ready for the reaction, when away she comes if you have pluck and gumption. If there be torsion, right it by rolling patient's body the contrary way. This, I think, illustrates the principle, to be varied, of course, to suit the case. Should the abdomen be very pendulous and foetus wedged hard in front of the bones, put under the sling well back, buckling breeching tight, front feet bent back. Make her stand behind and kneel in front, and pray until things come right (with your help). According to the best authors, breech presentations with the feet away forward/under the body or the anterior with all of the feet engaged in the passage are hard to overcome. I find such cases very simple and easy by merely standing the animal on a sharp decline. I will relate a case to illustrate, not to brag. An esteemed colleague (the holder of three veterinary diplomas) called, saying he wished my assistance, that he had worn himself completely out trying to deliver a calf, breech presentation, legs forward under the body. Found her lying head sharply up-hill in the meadow. Asked if it were possible that he had been trying in that position. Yes, he knew that she ought to be on her feet,

Ans.—The leg should be well bathed with hot water, to which add half a cup of vinegar to every pail of water. Bathe well three times a day, and keep the leg well bandaged from the foot up to the hock, which include in the bandage, and only remove when bathing the leg. For the wound, which, no doubt, by this time has become chronic, use hydrarg bichloride (corrosive sublimate) 40 grains, dissolved in 8 ounces of water. Apply with a feather three times a day.

PECULIAR TROUBLE IN MARE'S MOUTH.

A mare eleven years old has been sick ten days, and has not ate a bite; does not seem to be able to swallow or work its lower jaw; ate its oats at nine at night as well as ever, but at five in the morning could not eat a bite; examined its mouth, and found that its lip was swollen badly on the inside at the corner of the mouth at the right side; stayed so three or four days and went away. Next day came a kind of blister or ulcer on the left side of tongue, about three inches long and half as wide; lower part of jaw is swollen a little and tongue somewhat inflamed.

Hastings Co., Ont.

Ans.—The soreness and swelling of tongue and lips indicate irregular teeth or aphtha; the inability to swallow indicates either sore throat or paralysis of the muscles of deglutition (swallowing), called by veterinarians "cerebro-spinal meningitis." It is impossible for me to diagnose the disease from symptoms given, and it is probable she will be either dead or better before this reaches you. If she still lives and is not better, I would advise you to leave her in the hands of your local veterinarian. Definite symptoms will doubtless be shown before this.

J. H. REED, V. S.