

lactic acid such milk has to be considered as the source of the abnormal acidity of the gastric juice in the stomach of the sucklings, and consequently as the cause of dysentery.

As soon, however, as we know the cause of a disease, and if at the same time we are able to avoid those conditions which constitute the same, the prevention is quite easy.

First, we have to feed no more grain, or such food in general, which is very nourishing or rich in nitrogenous substances, to our brood animals, than can be easily digested and assimilated, and agrees with their condition. Secondly, we must never give our brood animals any too severe or too long continued muscular exercise. Thirdly, we have to give the young ones a frequent opportunity - during the first month at least every two or three hours - to suck their dams, in order to prevent too great an accumulation of milk in the bag of the latter. When this cannot be done, or where the dam produces more milk than the young is able to consume, we have to milk out a sufficient quantity before the latter is permitted to suck. Last, but not least, we have to prevent as much as possible our brood animals from becoming unnecessarily excited and irritated, or exposed to such noxious influences, which might cause fever and disease; and we must never allow the young to suck its dam when she is suffering from fever or disease nor must we feed it with the milk from a feverish or diseased animal. If we comply with the above, we scarcely shall have cause to complain about diarrhoea in our colts, calves, and lambs.

Treatment.—The object of a rational treatment must be, first, to remove the immediate cause, the morbid acidity of the gastric juice, and secondly, to mitigate the pain and the morbid irritation in the mucous membrane of the digestive canal.

The following compound answers the above demands; at least, it has been found to be very useful and reliable, where the disease had not already advanced so far as to make a recovery impossible:—Five grains of powdered opium, two drams of powdered rhubarb (best quality), two scruples of carbonate of magnesia, and two drams of powdered marsh-mallow root, made with a little water into ten small round pills, five of which to be given in the morning and five in the evening. The above is intended for a colt, ten to fourteen days old. For a younger one, the doses, of course, would be a little less, and for an older one a little larger. For a calf of about the same age the prescription would be as follows:—Five grains of powdered opium, two drams of powdered rhubarb, two scruples of carbonate of magnesia, mixed with and suspended in five or six ounces of chamomile tea, to given as a drench half of it in the morning and half in the evening. To lambs and other young animals the same medicine may be given in proportionate doses. — *Western Rural.*

FEEDING SHEEP.

As to my reasons for keeping sheep in so small lots:—In the first place, in small lots each sheep will get his proper share of grain, etc., and in the second place, you can keep them more quite. All the room they should have, in my opinion, is so that they can lie down comfortably and not crowd each other. One quart of corn per head a day is

heavy feed, I admit, but if they are large, strong wethers, that will weigh 100 or 110 pounds on an average in the Fall, they will eat it if the weather is steady cold. But if it is hot and cold every few days, they will not eat quite so much. My theory of feeding sheep is this, that after you get them well on to their feed, and up to what we term full feed, the more you can get them to eat, the faster they will lay on fat. My experience is that if you want to fatten sheep fast, give them all they can eat and digest and keep them quiet, and they will not disappoint you. I claim that you can crowd a sheep as well as you can a hog, if you know how to do it. We calculate to make sheep gain from twenty up to twenty-five pounds per head, live weight, in about 100 or 110 days from the time we put them in the yard. — *P. L. Potter, in Country Gentleman.*

WHAT MIGHT BE DONE.—What is generally known as the North-western States have never had to exceed one sheep to each twenty acres of their territory, though the capacity to maintain twenty times that number without seriously conflicting with or supplanting any other industry, except, perhaps, lighting and fighting prairie fires. These Autumnal pyrotechnics, is estimated yearly "scatter to the winds" an amount of grass equal to the production of over two hundred million pounds of mutton, and as many pounds of wool. And all this while our farmers are shipping cheap corn, and cheaper wheat, to both old and New England, to pay for a large portion of the clothing to shelter themselves and their families.

A PROLIFIC FLOCK.—A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman*, writing from Chattanooga, Tenn., writes:

I have seventy-two breeding ewes, a cross from the "Improved Kentucky," impregnated last Fall by a Cotswold buck. Thus far, fifty of the ewes have brought me eighty-six lambs, seventy-two of which are living and doing well. Thirteen came dead, and one was killed by falling from a straw pile while playing. With the exception of about one week in January, when the grass was covered with sleet, they have had no feed, keeping fat on the meadow, timothy and clover, which has afforded fine grazing all Winter.

DYING WOOL.—M. P. Haverz, Professor Industrial Chemistry at Verviers, says, in *Revue Hebdomadaire de Chimie*, of July, 1870, that the complete drying of wool for manufacture is difficult, useless and injurious to the fiber; difficult, because wool and woolen fabrics attract and retain readily up to 10 per cent. of moisture, which should be left in it; useless, because the wool cannot be carded unless moistened and oiled; and injurious, because too strongly dried wool, as well as woolen fabrics, though in a less degree, becomes rough and loses suppleness.

A BIT OF EXPERIENCE.—A correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer*, who has been a wool grower since 1860, says he finds nothing that pays better, since raising grain has got to be so uncertain. His opinion is that sheep that will average four to five pounds per head annually, are a paying investment at present prices, and wool at fifty cents per pound. There is another advantage, the money comes all in a lump which is better than to get it in dribbles.