

Veterinary.

SIR,—What is the cause of many horses dying here; is it the hay or water; do you know of a preventative?
P. D. S., Neepawa, Man.

[If you will describe the symptoms our veterinary perhaps could prescribe. When in Manitoba we noticed the heavy death rate among horses, and attributed it to the sloughs and the absence of the comfortable treatment horses have received in the older parts of the Dominion. The water they drink is also inferior, and the mosquitos and black flies are extremely annoying. When driving out near Emerson, the neck of the horse we were driving (a gray) was so covered with flies that its color was not discernable. Native horses, from the fact that they are hardier, stand the climate much better.]

SIR,—If you can through your valuable paper, give me some idea how the Pink-eye commences on a horse, and the best way to treat them?
Wm. B., Ossian, Ont.

[You will find a full description of Pink-eye and its treatment in the November number, 1881, of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, page 281.]

SIR,—Has it been ascertained whether a horse once affected with "pink-eye" is liable to take it again?
F. S. B.

[Yes, a horse is liable to "pink-eye" whenever it takes cold.]

SIR,—I wish to learn something of cause and cure, and also the name of the disease which one of my horses has had, and is not yet well. In February last my horse got kicked on the cap of the hook, and has not laid down but once and never got up of his own accord since. Stoppage of the urine set in, and afterwards swelling of the sheath. In the interior hard lumps appeared about the size of pigeon eggs, and though the animal has come all right in other respects, or nearly so, those hard lumps are still there, and have no sign of going away. They are painful to the touch. I resorted to the ordinary means for fowl sheath, but it did not reduce the lump. If you can favor me with the necessary information you will much oblige a careful reader of your valuable ADVOCATE.
S. S. R., Elma.

[From the symptoms given, it is impossible to say what is wrong with your animal. Would advise you to call in a Veterinary Surgeon.]

SIR,—I have a horse that rubs his tail very much, and is very hard to keep in good condition. Can you tell me, through the ADVOCATE, what is wrong with him, and what is best to do?
W. L., Coldwater.

[Your horse is troubled with worms. Give him a pint of raw linseed oil and one ounce and a half of turpentine in a drench in the morning while the stomach is empty, once every week. You might give him a dram of Sulphate of Iron every night in some boiled barley, or what is better, a little malt. If the worms are situated in the rectum it would be well to give enemas of Quassia tea.]

SIR,—One of my neighbors had a cow that took some disease in the eye last fall. It continued to run matter all winter. Her tongue became paralyzed about the middle of March, and she was unable to chew her food. She was fed bran mash during the paralysis of the tongue, which lasted about two weeks, after which time she was able to chew her food again; but there being no hope, the owner thought, of recovery, he killed her. Do you know what the disease was?
C. C., Brighton, N. B.

[Your description of the case is not sufficient to say what was really wrong with the cow.]

SIR,—What will remove warts from the teats of cows without injury?
D. Ex., Esquimaux.

[A good authority gives the following remedy: If the growth is of the fixed kind or seed wart, move by means of scissors or knife when standing singly; but if the stem or base is large pick off or otherwise chafe the rough outer surface so as to make it bleed. Then with a brush rub in yellow orpiment, wetted with a little water and in a few days they will go away, or may be rubbed off and leave a healthy sore which soon heals.]

The Apiary.

Home-Made Beehive.

BY A. J. COOK.

If we except the smoker, there is no other implement that the beekeeper of to-day needs that is patented. The Given press may prove to be an other exception. I would especially caution all readers against patented hives and the vendors of the same. Any mechanic can readily make a pattern hive from the following description. The hive should be a movable frame, or Langstroth, made as simple as possible, made of good pine or white wood lumber, and well painted. The form of the frame is not material, though I prefer the Gallup form, which is 11½ inches square, outside measure. This frame is easy to handle, therefore adapted to lady apiculturists; it holds the combs securely; is preferable for wintering, and serves equally well for nuclei in queen rearing or for full colonies. I will describe what, after a full trial of the various styles, appears to me to be best. The bottom should consist of one board 2½ feet long by 15 inches wide. Four inches from each end nail this to a cross-piece of 2 by 4 scantling one foot long, so that when nailed the bottom board will stand four inches from the ground. The alighting board should be separate from the bottom board, and should slant from the entrance of the hive to the ground. To make it, saw diagonally across from the opposite extremes of a piece of 2 by 4 scantling nine inches long. On top of the diagonal edge of these two pieces thus formed nail a board which shall be 9 by 12 inches. We thus have a convenient inclined alighting board.

The body of the hive should be a simple rectangular box 2 feet long, 1 foot wide, and 1 foot high inside measure, without top or bottom. This should be made perfectly true, as should all parts of the hive, and should be firmly nailed. The end boards should be 14 inches long, the side boards just 2 feet. From the upper inner edge of the side boards three-quarters of an inch from the top, cut out a three-quarter inch rabbet. We thus remove from the upper inner edge of each side board a piece two feet long and three-quarters inch square. Of course this should be cut out before the parts are nailed together. Just below this rabbet on each side tack a strip of thick heaviest tin one inch wide so that it shall project one-quarter of an inch above the rabbet. This tin will support the frames, and they will not adhere as they do when they rest directly on the wood. From the lower edge of one end, cut out a piece 10 inches long and one quarter inch wide. This makes an opening 10 inches long and one-quarter inch high. This opening will need to be contracted on cold days, in case of weak colonies, when the hive is used for a nucleus, or to prevent robbing. To make this possible, prepare two triangular blocks, each a right angle triangle. To make these saw a rectangular piece of inch board 3 by 4 inches diagonally across from its opposite angles. One edge of each block will be 3 inches, one 4, the other 5. By a proper arrangement of these blocks we may modify the size of the opening to our liking.

Around the outside of the box one inch from the top, nail strips of inch board 2½ inches wide. This forms a ledge on which the upper story may rest. The second story should be a similar box two inches longer each way and eight inches high. This is a simple box, without top or bottom. For top or cover, a similar box two inches larger than the last each way, and similarly supported, but only 2 inches high, is made. This, however, has a top. This top should be of one piece, and may be covered with zinc. I make it of two pieces, roof-like, so that there are gables. An inch board 2 inches wide, nailed horizontally along the ridge, prevents leaking. This cover looks well, and the water passes off rapidly. The frame, as already remarked, is 11½ inches square, outside measure. It is 1 inch deep. The top bar is heavy, and projects three-quarters of an inch at each end. These ends rest on the tin rabbets already described. The pieces of the frame may be top bar 12½ by 1 by 5-16 inches. The side pieces 11½ by 1 by 3-16 inches. The bottom piece 11½ by 1 by ¼ inches. These so nailed as to make a frame 11½ inches square, outside measure. Some prefer the pieces even heavier.

The frames should be accurate to a hair, and so should be made about a block or guide. The angles should be perfect right angles, the size exact. When hanging in the hive these frames are one-half inch apart, though a slight variation either way is immaterial. A hive then would hold 16 frames. Unless we work for extracted honey (the practice

of most beekeepers at present), we do not need more than 10 or at most 12 of these brood frames. In that case the remainder is filled with frames containing sections, to get comb honey. Each hive should have a division board. This is a solid board, the form of a frame, that just fills the body of the hive. In autumn, spring and winter this contracts the space occupied by the bees, so that they do not have to keep the whole hive warm. It is also needed in forming a nucleus hive. For a crate to hold sections, which shall rest just above the frames, that invented by Mr. Dean, of Kentucky, is the most convenient.—[Tribune.]

It is very important that farm horses be trained to be good walkers. A very fast gait can be obtained if the proper means are taken. Next to strength, speed is wanted in a draught horse. There is no need that teams should crawl along the road and in the furrow at the snail's pace which is so common. Fast or slow walking is a matter of habit.

The more exertion an animal undergoes the greater is the wear and tear of the system. Exercise increases the respiration or breathing, more oxygen is consequently taken into the system, and the tissues of the body are burned up in proportion. Unless this extra waste is met by an additional supply of food, emaciation and illness follow.

A bad practice is the one of allowing sheep and calves, and oftentimes heavy cattle, to graze on young grass lands; and this, too, sometimes in addition to the treatment they had already undergone in the process of rearing. No sort of stock should be allowed to graze on such land until the summer following the time of sowing; it is of very little benefit to the stock, and results in great damage to the after growth of the crop, no matter whether it is intended for meadow or pasture. Therefore, do not follow such a practice, for although it is very old, it is better observed in the "breach than the observance." If the necessity should exist to eat down such young grass, the calves should be the only stock admitted; if sheep are let on, they should be hurried over it as quick as possible, so that they may not get time to eat out the hearts of the grass plants, which they will do if allowed to eat it down bare; in any case of feeding down grass seeds, a top-dressing of bone dust should be applied after taking off the stock.

The agricultural editor of the St. Paul Pioneer Press has obtained some wheat from New Zealand for seed, and proposes to find out whether the story of its yielding a hundred bushels to the acre, is true or not, believing that if good soil is to be found anywhere it is in Minnesota. He says: After hearing a great deal about these big yields, we last spring wrote to parties in both countries, asking for samples of the grain. The letters brought responses in each case. From South Australia came three ten-pound packages of the most magnificent wheat one ever set eyes on. On taking them to the mills, one variety, the Tuscan, was found to weigh sixty-four pounds to the bushel, and the others sixty-three pounds. The berry was three times the size of our Scotch Fife, at least, but unfortunately the grain was soft. "It will never do for our roller mills," said one of the millers, and undoubtedly the decision was correct. By recent mails came four packages from New Zealand, of very much the same class of wheat—large, white, plump berries, looking actually "good enough to eat." They are evidently winter wheats, and in the days of millstones and old-fashioned processes would have sent a miller almost wild with joy. But they do yield fabulously. From a gentleman who visited New Zealand two or three years since, we learn that the average yields there are three times those in this country, while the prices obtained are even in excess of those here. Verily one-half of the world knows very little about how the other half lives.

STIRRING THE SOIL.—Henry Ives, of Penn., says: "That one test of good farming brought out by last year's exceptionally severe drouth, was the superior crops of those who kept right on stirring the soil, even when all weeds had been killed, and there seemed to be no more to conquer, and they were stirring the soil that was already open and loose. In one field of corn of 8 acres only one acre was hoed, as it was thought it could do no good in such extreme drouth. That acre returned about as much as all the other 7. Potatoes that were tilled well gave 125 to 175 bushels per acre, where those neglected yielded but 30 to 60."