

severe or prolonged attacks, the above remedies may be advantageously combined with a pint of raw linseed oil in place of water. Blood-letting is often resorted to, and although occasionally beneficial in cases of inflammation of the bowels, in flatulent colic it is highly objectionable, and many a valuable animal is lost through this mode of treatment.

Many other remedies may be used, such as chloroform, sweet spirits of nitre, and the preparations of ammonia, but we have just recommended those that are easily obtained and have proved highly efficacious.

### Mange in Horses.

This disease is produced by an insect, *Acarus equi*, of the same family as the itch insect in man. Mange is highly contagious. Every other animal in the stable should be removed and closely watched. The slightest contact, or the use of the same cloths, brushes or curry-combs will carry the disease. This *acarus*, when viewed under a microscope, has eight legs, curling cup-form, which enables it to adhere. They burrow under the epidermis or scarf-skin. The cure is seldom effected without recourse to medicine. The horse must be fed with cooling food, bran mashes, and sound hay and oats.

If the animal is in good flesh, give twelve ounces of Epsom or Glauber salts, dissolved in a pint and a half of warm water to be given when cool. Then take of powdered mandrake, sulphur, cream of tartar and saffras, each two ounces; rub them thoroughly together; divide into twelve parts, and give one night and morning in the feed.

Wash the animal thoroughly with strong soap suds; or, better, with a suds made of chrysolite soap; then sponge the surface with lime water and, when dry, anoint by means of a sponge, with the following:

Four ounces of pyroligneous acid; three ounces of linseed or lard oil; one ounce spirits of turpentine; and one ounce flowers of sulphur. Put all into a bottle and shake thoroughly before using, rubbing it in thoroughly. Apply once a day, for three days; then wash as before directed, and again apply, and so until a cure is effected, keeping the animal warmly clothed all the while.

Every portion of the stable, manger, rack, etc., must be washed with strong soap suds in which an ounce of carbolic acid crystals to each gallon has been dissolved; after which every portion should be washed with a lime wash in which carbolic crystals, in the proportion of one in a hundred, have been dissolved. All the clothing, curry-combs, etc., must be thoroughly cleaned in boiling soap suds, in which an ounce of carbolic acid to each gallon has been dissolved. The harness, halters, etc., must be taken apart and washed with the same preparation as hot as the hand can bear, and thereafter thoroughly fumigated by hanging in a close place, over the fumes of burning sulphur.

It would be well to keep, for a considerable time, a mixture of half a pound of sulphur in a pint of oil of tar, and rub thoroughly in any parts that may be suspected, washing it off every third or fourth day with warm soap suds.

Horses affected will give this itch to cattle, and dogs will give it to horses. Therefore, we have been thus explicit in directions for cure; for once in the stable, it will never be eradicated without the most thorough means to this end.—*Western Rural*.

### Will Blood-Letting Again Become Popular?

Sir James Paget, at the Norwich meeting of the British Medical Association, gave an account of his early experience of blood-letting; and he related how he was wont to bleed a score of people on a market day for various aches and pains, for imaginary evils, for securing better health; and he further declared that he did not know that any bad effects resulted from the practice. Dr. B. W. Richardson, following up the subject, has since presented various communications to the *Medical Times and Gazette*, and cites interesting cases illustrating the power of blood-letting to overcome apparently fatal congestion and save life in various desperate cases. From the spasm and unconsciousness of sunstroke occurring in the reaping field Dr. Richardson records the case of a man promptly brought round by the drawing of a quart of blood. A woman stunned by a fall was similarly restored. Very striking are the Doctor's observations on blood-letting in antagonising insensibility, caused by lightning shocks. Sheep subjected to the full force of the great induction coil at the Polytechnic are instantaneously struck down motionless and unconscious. Indeed, unless some means of

resuscitation are promptly had recourse to, life speedily is gone. But when the unconscious experimentally lightning-stricken sheep are assigned to the butcher to be made the best of, the blood at first trickles away very slowly from the opened vessels. By and by the current runs more freely, and soon consciousness and abundant evidences of vitality appear. Hence it is fairly inferred that bleeding is the fitting remedy in all animals for lightning shocks. Another typical case: A gentleman suffering from influenza was exposed to cold, and extreme pneumonic congestion followed; breathing was labored, difficult and occasionally convulsive, the face bronzed, the pulse hard, the mind wavering. Free bleeding at once immediately brought the patient out of danger. A young strong man suffering from inflammation of the lungs, brought on by sitting for hours in wet clothes, was similarly relieved. Dr. Richardson recounts several cases of severe pleuritic pain effectually and permanently put to flight by venesection. Coma and pleuritic cases are also reported cured by the same potent old remedy.

In veterinary practice, blood-letting, once much too generally and rashly used, has, we suspect, been also unreasonably superseded. So seriously has fashion tabooed the lancet that few legitimate practitioners now think of using it. And yet there are certain cases in which it is more prompt and certain than any other remedy. In many bad cases of laminitis, an early abstraction of blood saves much pain and risk of chronic mischief. The same may be said of the more acute cases of weed or lymphangitis, when the pulse is fierce and strong, the temperature high, the groin so intensely tender that the poor brute limps as if with a broken leg. For such cases Professor Dick was apt to order the fleams and the blood cure; half a gallon of blood drawn from the jugular vein twenty years ago never seemed to do harm; prompt relief certainly rapidly followed, and permanent thickening of the limb probably was prevented partially or even entirely. Acute congestion of the lungs, brought on in strong young horses by sudden exposure to cold, or even by over-exertion, often yields to a moderate bleeding. In these and other such cases immediate effects are secured—such as can severally be attained by any medicals. In the case of so potent a remedy, the practitioner, however, requires to exert great discrimination.—*N. B. Agriculturist*.

"ARGUMENTUM AD HOMINEM!"—*Horse-Dealer*—"I know you don't like his 'ead, and I allow he ain't got a purty 'ead; but ler'—now look at Gladstone, the cleverest man in all England!—and look at 'is 'ead!"

THE TEXAS CATTLE FEVER is said to have made its appearance among stock at Springfield, Mass. A drove of Texas cattle caused a fever of excitement in the streets of New York City on Oct. 4. Ten bullocks were killed by the police before the fever abated, and sundry citizens and citizenesses were tossed about and injured.

ITCHING TAIL.—A "Blenheim subscriber" states that a colt belonging to him has contracted a habit of rubbing his tail against the sides of the stall to such an extent, that the appendage is almost entirely denuded of hair.—(If the itching arises from a mere affection of the skin, as is most likely the case, an application of kerosene, injected through the nozzle of an oil-can, will allay all irritation, and ultimately effect a cure. The application need only be used in one or two places, as, being of a spreading nature, it will speedily extend over all the parts affected.)

EFFECTS OF STARVATION.—In parts of Belgium (as in places nearer home) small farmers, when pinched for food, condemn their stock to a dietary during the winter season composed almost exclusively of straw. It is not surprising then to learn that the animals soon become feeble, experience a difficulty in raising themselves up, and finally the absolute inability to do so. At this stage the tail becomes flabby and nearly lifeless; some neighbor or quack arrives, pronounces the animal affected with the "wolf," and, to cure it, makes a longitudinal incision at the end of the tail, and extracts triumphantly some fibrous filaments. The real malady is an empty stomach, and not the spinal marrow softening at the end of the tail, which will soon extend to other parts of the body and destroy life. It is stimulating and nourishing food the beast only stands in need of. In the same districts, when cattle lose their appetite, the same quacks attribute the matter to loosened teeth—the incisors are naturally always more or less loose in their sockets—and proceed to cruelly hammer down the teeth as if they were nails; another horrible "cure" is to cut the little fringes that protect the openings of the salivary ducts, to induce appetite.

## The Apiary.

### House Early.

Our experience inclines us to advise all bee-keepers who practise in-door wintering, to put stocks into winter quarters early. Especially is it the part of wisdom to house them, when we are threatened by one of those unusually cold snaps to which we are liable in the month of November. We have repeatedly witnessed the destructive effects of a thorough chilling of a stock of bees by premature cold. When once a colony is thus chilled, it seems to feel the bad consequences all winter, and will come out weak and struggling next spring if it manages to survive so long.

Early housing is essential to the preservation of feeble colonies. A comparatively moderate amount of cold will prove fatal to them. We have often been surprised to find such stocks left stiff and stark by a short visitation of by no means severe weather late in the fall. It is best not to have your stocks feeble. Wise policy would dictate uniting two or more such stocks. But it is not always possible to avoid having weak stocks, and when you cannot help having them, the next thing to do is to take all possible care of them.

On the whole, we are convinced that bees will stand a little longer confinement in winter quarters far better than they will exposure to cold.

### The Bee Season in North Britain.

Mr. G. Campbell, New Pitalip, North Aberdeenshire, writes an interesting account of the bee season in the northern part of Aberdeenshire, to the *Bangor Journal*. He concludes, as will be seen from his communication, that the results on the whole are good; the end of August being nominally the conclusion of the honey harvest. He is in favor of the Alpine bees when sufficient space is allotted to them.

The season just closed has been to the bee-keepers remarkable for its variety, but, as the results will shew, has been good as a whole. May was cold and dry, with high winds; and June continued the same up to the 20th, when it may be said the bee season began. Favorable weather then set in, and honey was so abundant that hives then at the point of starvation were heavy by the 1st of July. Swarming commenced with the hives that had been regularly fed, as soon as the weather set in fine, but those that were left entirely to their own resources did not swarm till the first and second weeks of July, which may be said to have been the principal swarming weeks this year. The swarms progressed rapidly all the month of July, but the first of August brought wet weather, which continued for some time, and the white clover went clean off. From the first to the 17th of August, the hives lost weight rapidly, some of the stronger ones about 2 lb. a day. On the 18th they began to make weight again from the heather, and continued to increase till about the first of September, when the bee season terminated. The hives are heavier than last year by an average of about 20 lbs. I sold the queens of all my top swarms after they had been about a fortnight hived, except one of the 15th June, so that by stopping their breeding in the early part of the season, they were short of workers when the heather came in. I therefore send the weight of the hives of my neighbor, Mr. Duffus, as they have been entirely left to themselves. He kept four hives as stocks last year. All came through the winter well, save a little damage two of them sustained by being blown over in spring. However, he had eight swarms from the four. On 1st September the top swarms were weighed, and the result was 95 lb. each for the two highest, 104 lb. for another, while the heaviest one was 128 lb. Mr. Cardno has one swarm, which weighed 109 lb. the same day. The four swarms I had from one hive were likewise weighed. The top swarm was 126 lb.; second, 71 lb.; third, 47 lb.; and fourth, 36 lb. The parent hive weighed 93 lb.; being the same weight it was last year. After another year's experience, I am still of opinion that the Alpine bees are superior to the common variety, if they have plenty of hive accommodation; but if kept in small hives, they use all their combs for breeding, and have no room to store honey.