antage of keeping the parts soft and moist for a longer time than any other agent, which is a desideratum in a night poultice, when some hours must elapse before attention can be given to see if it has slipped down, become too dry or, as often happens been applied internally by the patient.

The application of a poultice would seem too simple a matter to need comment here, but it is an every day's experience among veterinary surgeons to see horses' skins scalded or the circulation seriously interfered with by tying poultices on with a string. If I was directing a young practitioner to apply a poultice, I should insist on him putting the point of his naked elbow into it before applying it to the skin of the horse, whose cuticle is relatively more sensitive than man's. An eminent veterinary surgeon, whom I knew well in England, will never allow a tape or a string to be used at all in fastening a bandage, but always uses safety pins. There is, however, an objection to these, which is, that when a horse has a way of eating his poultices, he may also eat the pins.

A neglected cracked heel in which an unhealthy and unpleasant odour is observed, is best poulticed with powdered charcoal in the substance used. Animal charcoal is more convenient for use as being heavier and more manageable, or in its stead a small proportion of carbolic acid in oil or glycerine.

When the subsidence of inflammation is announced by reduction of heat, swelling, pain, and lameness, and the heel comes firmly to the ground, pulling open the crack, measures should be taken to heal it up slowly. Slowly, because rapid union by soft granulations is very often followed by reopening and giving way of the imperfect union, the wound looking very red and bleeding with the slightest touch. An astringent is then indicated, such as finely powdered sulphate of zinc, with three times its weight of oxide of zinc, dusted lightly over the raw surface, or, if this is found insufficient, a very weak solution of chloride of zinc ; one grain to the ounce is generally found sufficient.

Nitrate of silver has an excellent effect in repressing too profuse granulations, and it brings together the ragged edges of the skin with a minimum amount of blemish. But it has the disadvantage of staining a white heel, and needs to be applied with care.

In horses whose heels have been cracked before, or those having a sluggish circulation, the difficulty of curing them is of a precisely the opposite kind to that I have attempted to describe ; a languid ulcer, pale and lifeless, refuses to make any progress ; if poulticed, all the surrounding parts appear to be bent on turning into jelly, but the crack remains with but little alteration. Sulphate of copper, applied in the hard crystal form, has been found, capable of waking into activity such troublesome places ; or, if that fails, equal parts of turpentine and oil may be painted in with an ordinary camel hair brush. To excite, not repress granulation, is the object to be sought in the treatment of the indolent cracked heel.

In any case, to effect repair with the least possible eye sore as a permanent result should be the aim ; and to do this the scab must be rubbed off, not too roughly, when the wound is all but healed up underneath. At such a time, when a small amount of moist surface will be found under the scab, dusting it over with powdered alum will cause it to shrink. Unless this is done, a crust will remain permanently instead of falling off as is the wont of other scabs : when their time has come.

Nothing can be much better than the digestive ointment in use for generations, composed of resin, wax and oil, either in a poultice or applied on lint, and kept in its place by a bandage.

In indolent cases where poulticing has been discontinued, powdered resin, with a proportion of acetate of lead is a very favourite application, and one the writer can speak highly of.

W. R. GILBERT.