

These eight bones are made into two rows. In the event of any injury fracturing these bones in the upper row, you will be almost sure to have a stiff joint; but in the lower row a re-union may be effected, and but little harm is done. Fracture of this joint generally occurs in the lower row. Put a splint on at the back of the knee, your patient being in slings. Well foment the parts first, and do not put the splint on until the inflammation has passed away. Enjoin perfect rest, and feed on soft food.

Carpus, or
knee joint.

If a simple fracture, treat it as advised in fracture of the radius. If a very bad fracture, destroy your patient.

The large
metacarpal
or shin bone.

This bone is frequently the seat of fracture, both from the size of the bone and from the ligaments and muscles attached to it. Put roller bandages on it, and you may be successful. In the first place, simple hot bandages of salt and water. In these cases, there is very often scarcely any swelling. Then, when the inflammation has passed away, put on starch bandages; leave as much as you can to nature, and help her, now that the inflammatory action has passed away, by keeping up the system instead of depleting it. Apply a blister over the parts; it will tend to increase the circulation, and help the bones in uniting.

Large
pastern
bone.

As a rule, it is of no use treating these cases, nor either fracture of the pedal or bone of the foot. If you get a fracture of this pedal bone, remove, if possible, the fractured part, and leave the rest to nature. These are very tedious and troublesome cases.

Navicular
or coffin
bone and
pedal bone.

Treatment cannot be offered for fracture of this bone. The animal should be destroyed.

Femur, or
first bone of
the leg.

We often get a fracture in this bone. Enjoin perfect rest; readjust the parts, if possible; put the animal in slings, and treat as in fracture of radius.

Tibia, or
second bone
in the leg

The same as in fracture of the ulna, or elbow. Scarcely ever recovers.

Point of the
hock, or
calcis.

Destroy the animal. No treatment to be offered.

Tarsis, or
hock joint.
Shin bone
behind.

The same as the shin bone in front.

These bones are frequently fractured; when you cannot examine these cases satisfactorily externally, pass your hand up the rectum; put the animal in slings; soft feed, and leave the rest to nature.

Pelvis.

Generally fatal; but if a fracture takes place on the top of the spine, in the processes of the vertebræ, they may be treated. There are cases where we have generally to remove the pieces of bone and thus reduce the fracture.