

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

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### Beyond Expectations.

I have been delighted with the various explanations your paper gives concerning matters of agriculture, and I with much pleasure enclose the amount due you. I might say that when I gave my name to your agent I never expected to receive such value for my money. I sincerely hope that your weekly journal may flourish, and continue to be the leading agricultural paper in Canada. I send you herewith a new subscriber.

JAS. H. WILSON.

Hillview Farm, Victoria Co., Ont.

I have taken the "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" for about thirty years, and could not think of getting on without it. The weekly makes the best farmers' paper in this or any other country.

C. E. BLINN.

Missisquoi Co., Que.

I am glad that you have made the "Farmer's Advocate" a weekly paper, and would not be without it for a great deal. Wishing you every success in your good work.

JAS. E. ASHFORD.

Wentworth Co., Ont.

I am very much pleased with your paper, and find it very interesting and full of useful information, and have been trying to extend the circulation in this section.

A. W. McCracken.

Stormont Co., Ont.

### Quality and Returns.

Data collected by the Ontario Beet-sugar Company from measured acreages under beet crop on a large number of farms, well distributed over several counties, shows an average yield of over twelve tons per acre. Yields of 15 tons and over per acre, however, are quite usual on well-cultivated farms. The average per cent. of sugar contained in the entire deliveries of over twenty-eight thousand tons of beets at the Berlin factory in 1903 was 15.3. The character of our soil, known the world over as a superior root-producing soil, the warmth of the summer months, with frequent showers, and the sunny days and cool nights of September, are the principal causes for the high quality of Ontario sugar beets. A ton of sugar beets of the above average test of

15.3% sugar in roots realizes to the farmer, delivered at the factory, \$5.10. Twelve tons, which is an average yield per acre, will bring over \$60 per acre, while the actual cost to the farmer, living, say four miles from the factory, to produce and deliver the crop should not exceed \$33, leaving him a handsome profit of \$28.20.

### The Rubber Investment.

I have just been reading in your March 17th number of the "Advocate" an article concerning a Rubber Investment Co., of Chiapas, Mexico, which has been circulating its literature through Canada. Now, in view of the fact that I have had some expensive experience with this same Chiapas Company, your article appealed to me very strongly, and I think your readers may well weigh your kindly advice and caution.

This investment was presented to me by an agent of the Chiapas Company—a minister of the gospel—who came as a relative of a kinsman of mine, and by his glib oratory and positive promises, induced me to invest to the extent of my small savings—a matter of several hundred dollars. This was four years ago. Contrary to the company's statements, I have received nothing so far on the investment. Last November the company issued a printed circular, to the effect that they had found much of their land unfitted for rubber culture; that some of the valuable woods (mahogany, etc.) which they had supposed belonged to their plantation were outside the limit, etc., etc., thereby rendering them unable to meet their obligations under present arrangements. They stated their intention of reorganizing and starting on a new basis, thus enabling them to carry out their intentions (?).

The shareholders can obtain nothing (notwithstanding their agent positively stated that the amount of the investment could be withdrawn at any time), and there remains, therefore, nothing for them to do but sign to sanction the present arrangement.

My letters to the agent with whom I placed my investment have met with most insolent response. He states he is so absorbed in his "ministerial work" that he has "no time to think of rubber." The gentleman has learned wisdom in four years. I am inclined to think it would be as well for the readers of the "Advocate" not to find time for it either.

RUBBER INVESTOR.

## HORSES.

### Diseases of the Digestive Organs.

(Continued.)

SUPERPURATION, or over-excitement of the intestines from the undue action of purgative medicines, is a condition of the bowels frequently seen. The susceptibility of horses to the action of purgatives and other medicines varies greatly. While on general principles this is governed to a great extent by breeding, hot-blooded horses being more susceptible than cold, and hence require smaller doses in proportion to age, weight, etc., we find that horses of like breeding exhibit various degrees of susceptibility. It is impossible for any man to foretell by the general appearance of a horse just how large a dose of aloes or other purgatives it will require to give the desirable action, which is usually moderate purgation; hence, we can readily understand that the most skillful may be disappointed in the result of a purgative. In some cases, where he has given an ordinary dose, one that is in proportion to the size and breeding of the animal, he may observe practically no action, while in another case of apparently the same nature he may observe severe purgation. Some horses, without showing any indications, are particularly susceptible, while others are the reverse. Then, again, the susceptibility of a horse varies at different times, owing to the general condition of the digestive tract, which is not in any way indicated by his general appearance. While in cases where reasonable intelligence and care is exercised in the size of the dose and after treatment, it is seldom serious consequences occur; at the same time, it is possible untoward results may arise in any case. The result of a purgative depends, not only upon the size of the dose and condition of the animal, but upon the treatment. When the necessities of the case will permit, the patient should be prepared by not allowing him anything to eat except a little bran for 12 to 14 hours before administration, after which nothing but bran should be fed, and water given in small quantities and often (and if the weather be cold the chill should be removed), until purgation commences, when solid food should be given in small quantities. Gentle exercise during the first few hours after administration hastens the action, but on no account should the animal be exercised or worked severely, nor should he be given any exercise during its action. It is customary and good practice to allow perfect rest after the administration of the dose, until its

action has ceased and the bowels regained their normal condition. While there are in all cases more or less nausea and distress, caused just prior to and during the visible action of the dose, these are often so slight as to not be noticed, but irrational treatment, such as allowing solid food, copious drinks of water, fatiguing exercise, etc., increase the irritation and distress. It is good practice to administer a little ginger with the purgative, especially with aloes, as this tends to lessen griping. The usual symptoms associated with the action of a purgative are slightly hurried breathing, a partial but temporary loss of power in the circulation, and often an absence of desire for food (not present in all cases). When the purging is about to commence the animal usually becomes more or less nauseated, and suffers from slight griping pains. If the purging, however, does not go on to an undue extent, these symptoms soon subside, the pulse becomes normal, and the nausea is succeeded by a desire for food. Should the patient be of a weak constitution, or be ridden or driven for a considerable distance, or worked while the purging continues, or be worked too soon after purgation ceases, or if the dose was too powerful in the first instance, or if two or more of these causes or circumstances operate together, the purging will in all probability become excessive, and the life of the animal thereby placed in danger. While under ordinary circumstances purgation should commence in 18 to 24 hours after the administration of the dose, and continue for a like period, it is not unusual for a much longer time to elapse before its action is noticed, and its duration may also be extended beyond the normal period. A purgative dose should not be repeated for at least 48 hours, and then only a small dose given in cases where the first has not operated. We are assuming that the drugs given are of good quality, for, of course, no dependence can be placed upon their action otherwise. Purgative may continue for a long time, but so long as the patient is kept quiet the appetite remains good and the pulse normal, or nearly so, little or no danger need be apprehended; but if the appetite fail, the pulse become thready, and the animal weak, prompt treatment is necessary. The symptoms indicating too violent and long continued action of a purgative are: Staring, glassy eyes; frequent indistinct or intermittent pulse; passing offensive or bloody faeces; distended abdomen, with or without evacuations; pallid or pasty tongue, and general weakness. The horse usually stands still or paws and wanders about, but seldom lies down. Horses suffering from any acute disease of the respiratory organs are particularly susceptible to the actions of purgatives, and in such cases a small dose frequently acts with great violence.

TREATMENT.—As stated where appetite and strength remain, even though purgation continue an abnormal length of time, it is unnecessary to interfere, but should the serious symptoms mentioned be observed, means must be taken to check the diarrhoea, which, however, must not be done too quickly. Care should be taken to not allow large quantities of cold water or other fluids, as the thirst is usually great, and he would drink inordinately. He should be given water in small quantities and often, and a little flour or starch mixed with the water gives good results. He should be allowed small quantities of anything he will eat—dry food, as hay and oats, preferable. If he is very weak, stimulants, as about 4 ozs. whiskey or brandy, should be given every few hours, and to check the purging about 2 ozs. laudanum and 2 ozs. prepared chalk should be given in a pint of cold water every four hours until diarrhoea ceases. Care must be taken to not continue this treatment after purging ceases, as there would be a danger of causing constipation.

"WHIP."

### Starting the Colt.

A great deal has been said about breaking and working colts and horses, but I have noticed nothing on what I consider a very important point. Doubtless many farmers have colts to break and work this spring, and in this a little common sense and good judgment should be used. In starting the colt or horse that has run idle during the winter, it should be borne in mind that he is like a boy as compared with a man, not having muscle to do hard work on the start, and should be worked according to their strength, say half a day at a time. This will tire the colt plenty, and if urged to do too much it has a tendency to make him a sulky or stubborn horse, and he will lose life or energy, which we should try to keep if we wish to have the kind of horse that looks well and sells well in the market. The colt should never know how much he could do, or how big a load he could draw, till he gets the first working year or two over him at least, or better not till he is five or six years old if possible; then he gets to think he can go as far as he likes, or draw all he is hitched to, and if he is an intelligent horse he will do all he can, and do it cheerfully and without the whip. This, with proper care in the fitting of his collar