

The herds of cattle roaming over the prairies of Texas are said often to number thousands, and when making their way to the watering places are not to be trifled with.

Mr. J. F. Cass, of L'Original, has sold to Mr. James Murphy, of Potsdam, N. Y., a pair of improved Berkshire pigs, perfect in point of form and colour, bred from imported and Provincial first prize animals.

SALE OF STOCK.—Mr. Ashworth, of Belmont, Ottawa, has sold his short-horn bull-calf, "The Marquis of Belmont," got by Sweetmeat (20,924) out of Souvenir of Thorn-dale by 2nd Grand Duke (12,361) to William Graham, of Gloucester; and the short-horn bull, "The Lad of Belmont," got by Sweetmeat (20,924) out of Lesbia by Barrington (1,229) to the Hon. James Skead, of Ottawa.

SHORT HORN MEMORANDUM.—Mr. John Snell, of Edmonton, has re-purchased the two year old short horn bull "Louden Duke," which he sold to Mr. Wm. Collum, of Wilmot, last spring. "Louden Duke" was bred by Abraham Renick, of Clarke County, Kentucky, and imported by Mr. Snell. He has distinguished himself by winning the first prize as a yearling at the Provincial Fair at Kingston in 1867, and the first prize as a two-year old at Hamilton in 1868, where he had to compete with the best ring of that age that has ever met in this country. His weight at two years and six months, in ordinary condition, is 1,900 lbs.

WARM WATER FOR STOCK.—Every now and then we come across a paragraph, copied probably from some agricultural paper that is edited by a city man, who knows little practically about what he writes of, recommending that in cold weather the water given to animals to drink should be warmed. Well, now, we would like any of these very clever writers to just try the experiment of drinking warm water themselves. If tea, coffee, or anything palatable is infused in warm water, it becomes drinkable; and so with stock, if you add a little meal, bran, or even salt, to warm water, they will drink it. We have tried the temperature of water from spring wells, and have found that in the coldest freezing weather it does not go below 39°, and we have proved to our own satisfaction that in cold weather, if a horse or cow is offered a choice between a pail of cold water just pumped from the well, and one of water that has been slightly warmed by the addition of hot water, they will not touch the latter. Animals should get water fresh from the well or spring, not that which has become partly frozen, and is full of lumps of ice, which are sure to be swallowed to their injury. When stock are kept long without water, or get it only once a day, they are apt to drink too much at once, which is the reason why they are observed sometimes to get chilled after drinking. They should have access to water at all times, or if kept confined should have it given them often and little at a time, three times a day at least. In summer they prefer water that has been warmed by exposure to that which is very cold from the well.

Veterinary Department.

Diseases of the Horse's Mouth.

Lampas is a disease which is very often supposed to exist amongst our Canadian horses, and is a favourite complaint of many grooms and others who aspire to a knowledge of horsemanship. Now, what is understood by lampas is a swollen and turgid condition of the gums around the incisor teeth of the upper jaw, and extending to three or four of the cartilaginous bars forming the roof of the mouth. This congested state of the parts mentioned is occasionally met with in young horses from two to five years old, and during the time they are shedding their teeth. The apparent augmentation of substance is due in most cases to congestion of blood, and in some instances there may also exist a serous infiltration into the cellular membrane which attaches the bars to the hard palate.

The symptoms of lampas are a swollen and reddened appearance of the gums and bars, and they either protrude or are on a level with the teeth. No doubt, during the time the temporary teeth are being replaced by the permanent teeth, this turgid and congested state gives rise to a considerable amount of irritation, and prevents the horse from masticating his food properly, and this very soon interferes with the true process of digestion.

This is, however, a very simple affection, and but little treatment is required. If much inflammation exists, two or three slight scarifications will relieve the congested parts and blood-vessels, and the horse should be fed for a few days on soft food, that requires but little mastication, and this will effect a cure. In some cases a mild dose of purgative medicine is advantageous in removing the irritation produced during the process of shedding the teeth.

There is a cruel practice in common vogue amongst many, in regard to the treatment of lampas, and that is the absurd practice of burning the gums and bars with a hot iron. This is called burning out the lampas. This absurd operation is not confined to horses really suffering from an attack of lampas, but many a poor horse has his gums severely burned because some wiseacre has looked into his mouth and said he was affected with the lampas, when in reality he was suffering from some constitutional disease, and thereby has got added to his other ailments a sore and inflamed mouth, which not unfrequently terminates in caries of the bone.

We unhesitatingly assert that in nine cases out of ten, where a horse shows an impaired appetite, said to be caused by lampas, the real cause of loss of appetite will be found elsewhere, and we strongly recommend owner horses not to allow their horses to

be subjected to the cruel and absurd practice of burning out the lampas. We would also advise those who are in favour of using the lampet iron, before operating, to consider what would be the suffering and the result of applying a hot iron to their own gums. We think one application would have a salutary and lasting effect.

Abortion in Cows.

A "County of Oxford subscriber" asks: "What is the cause of cows slipping their calves when about half gone in calf? Is it infectious? Can you give me any cure or preventive?"

Abortion is a frequent occurrence amongst cows, and especially in high-bred animals, and such as are kept in a high condition. There are many circumstances that appear to have a tendency to produce abortion, as injuries, over-driving, &c., &c. We are also of opinion that it is frequently brought about by eating largely of certain kinds of herbs and grasses, the seeds of which possess properties that have a peculiar and exciting action on the womb. It may also be produced by innutritious, indigestible, or badly prepared food, together with an insufficient supply of pure water, and also from exposure to cold. In all cases where a number of cows abort, or when it occurs year after year upon the same farm, we are inclined to believe that it is in a great measure due to some local influence either connected with the food or water. We do not consider abortion infectious, but the smell proceeding from a sick animal or its discharges may produce a certain nervous excitement in others, and we cannot too strongly recommend the removal of the affected from the healthy. As a preventive, a moderate supply of soft, laxative food, with an occasional dose of treacle, has a very good effect when the bowels are torpid. Strict cleanliness should be attended to, keeping the stalls well cleansed and the stable or byre thoroughly ventilated. Putrid matters, especially, should be carefully excluded from the premises.

In some cases the premonitory symptoms are tolerably well marked, and abortion may be prevented by removing the patient to a comfortable box; and if the animal is in high condition, feed very sparingly, and give every day for three or four days one ounce of laudanum in four ounces of water. A cow that has aborted once is apt to do so again.

GLANDERS IN THE HUMAN SUBJECT.—The medical journals report the case of Mr. Eli Townsend, Montgomery, Ala., who treated a horse having the glanders. Mr. Townsend had, at the time, a scratch upon one of his hands, through which his system became inoculated with the poison, and after great suffering, he died in fifteen days from the beginning of the attack. A similar case has recently occurred in the city of New York, where the disease is very prevalent among horses.