

ary Surgeon, I may say, are almost in as much request as the services of the Medical Officer, and I have no hesitation in saying that such services will be recognized in Canada, for there are the people more intelligent and sober, and the stock produced in this country will compare favorably with those of other.

From the Scotch Farmer and Horticulturist.

The Diseases of the Pig.

There are many admirers of the "payer of the estate" who bestow as much care and attention on the estate as the lord of the Manor does to his favorite horses. Cleanliness, good food, and regularity in feeding, &c., tend to develop a fine and healthy constitution—fraternal to the health of many—which insure a prize at agricultural shows. We rather admire the cleanly pig, not overburdened with fat, which is the mark of the thrifty villagers in England rear, in order to eke out the scanty wages on which the pig family has to be kept. Disease now often appears amongst these animals, but of the most frequent causes of death and suffering is perhaps the hand of the owner, who, if consulted, should the pig seem of sorts, may try his hand at giving it a dose of castor-oil, when, as in the process of giving such an animal, he gets "more noise than wool," as a few loud screams precede the effect of the physic, which far more frequently kills than cures. There is no animal so easily killed as a pig; and we can mention several cases in which young practitioners have administered mixtures fearlessly into the mouth of a running pig, but only to feel a dead weight in their hands and see the poor animal shed lifeless at their feet. It is therefore that tasteless medicine in powder should not be used for this animal, and the most reliable is tartar emetic. There is no medicine generally useful in the diseases of the pig, and it is given in some cases in doses so greatly large to produce vomiting—that is, from five to ten grains in a little slop. Better to give rather a full dose for such a case than too small a one, because if the dose is not at once apparent, the drug enters the system and does more harm than good. I do not advise the combination with calomel, a very worthy rival to antimony in the estimation of some of the best informed physicians in the diseases of the pig is the white hellebore in doses of from five to fifteen grains. This drug is an active nauseant readily absorbed in food, and is regarded as a specific in frequent and severe attacks of sore throat, and often present a malignant character in the pig. But we must revert to the administration of tartar emetic in small doses, repeated at short intervals. About a third of a

grain, with ten grains of nitre, given in a little slop several times a day, and stopped when it induces sickness. In severe inflammatory affections, we can recommend this even more than the white hellebore. Although Youatt mentions antimony as an ingredient in many applications for this animal, it is not to be recommended, and we prefer cleaner mixtures than train-oil and sulphur, &c.; but half an ounce of white hellebore, over which a quart of boiling water is poured, constitutes a good lotion for this disease in the pig. White hellebore is, in some animals, a very dangerous poison, but the pig appears to resist its effects in a remarkable manner; and Tabourin, one of the most distinguished authors on veterinary medicines, says that the *poisonous* dose of white hellebore is unknown. As a useful purge for the pig, we may mention a couple of croton beans bruised and mixed with food. Nitre and sulphur are amongst the remedies often of service, and easily administered in food.

The foregoing remarks on medicines to be used for the pig are, we think, called for in agricultural journals, because far too little attention is paid to the kind of medicine, and mode of administration to be adopted, in treating the disorders of the porcine tribe.—Bleeding is the great and universal panacea; but we do not agree with Youatt when he says "this is a most useful and necessary operation, and one which, in many diseases, is of vital importance." It is far less called for in the pig than other animals, and we cannot sufficiently deprecate the plan of docking a bit off the tail, or cutting the ear of the pig whenever he appears a little mopeish. Paddy's story imparts a useful lesson. He bled the pig so often by cutting the tail, that in one attack the animal died, because, said Paddy, "he had no more tail to cut, and had to wait for it to grow again." The amount of blood lost by the tail is trifling, and the operation may be justly condemned as useless.

To see a sick pig is in the estimation of some even more rare than seeing a dead donkey, and it may be deemed a waste of time to devote valuable space to the consideration of the diseases of the animal. But there are those whose experience would indicate a heavy mortality, and it is undoubtedly the fact that very dangerous contagious fevers, destructive parasitic disorders, and other maladies are to be witnessed in well-stocked sties.

Just as all diseases of the dog are called "distemper," many of these of the horse are termed influenza, and a large number in cattle are at once declared to be pleuro-pneumonia, so are all the diseases of the pig known by the absurd name of measles. We say absurd because there is no similarity at all between the many forms of disease termed measles in the pig and the same affection as seen in man.