

regular progress, the neck of the womb, or *as uteri*, gives way to the action of its bottom, and of its other parts. By this action the contents of the womb are pushed forward at every throes, the water bladder begins to show itself beyond the shape, and to extend till it becomes the size of a large bladder, containing several gallons; it then bursts, and its contents are discharged, consisting of the liquor amnii, in which, during gestation, the calf floats, and which now serves to lubricate the parts, and render the passage of the calf easier. After the discharge of the water, the body of the womb contracts rapidly upon the calf; in a few succeeding throes or pains, the head and feet of it, the presenting parts, are protruded externally beyond the shape. The body next descends, and in a few pains more the delivery of the calf is complete.

In natural presentations, that is, when the two forefeet and the nose of the calf can be distinctly felt by gently inserting the hand into the uterus, but little extra assistance is required. Nature, if left to herself, will, under such conditions, generally expel the fetus. The treatment, therefore, is very simple, and the natural throes or pains should be allowed to go on without any interruption, and the result, in most instances, will be as rapid and satisfactory as is desirable. But where the water bladder breaks early in calving and before the mouth of the womb is sufficiently expanded, the process is often slow, and it is a considerable time before any part of the calf makes its appearance. In that situation it will be necessary to give some assistance, which consists in introducing the arm into the womb, and laying hold of the fore legs till they are brought into the passage, gradually assisting at every pain or throes; this being accomplished, the rest of the business is brought early to a conclusion. As soon as the calf is brought forth, its nostrils should immediately be cleansed from the adhering mucus, the mouth opened, and when it has breathed freely, it may be carefully rubbed with a wisp, and then presented to its mother, who will at once lick it freely with her tongue, which acts both as brush and currycomb most advantageously. In a few minutes it should be lifted up, be supported, and enticed to suck. If it sucks freely very little danger is to be apprehended, and the dam and calf may be safely left together. Warm water only should be given to the cow, and her food should be of a mild and nutritious character, avoiding cold roots or the like. The calf should be left with the dam at least three days, in order that it may draw its food at first naturally, and as it is required. By this time the first milk, or "heastlings," acting as a gentle purge, will have passed through its bowels, cleansing them of all mucus; it may then be safely removed and brought up by hand.

In cases of wrong presentations, the cow should be carefully examined, by inserting the bare arm as far as possible into the uterus. Upon ascertaining the position of the calf, such judicious means must be adopted to get it away in the best manner, the judgment, formed by experience, may dictate. In a presentation where the hinder parts come first, the calf may occasionally be drawn away; but, generally, in such presentations, the legs are doubled backwards; it is then necessary to push the calf back into the womb or calf-bed, and, if possible, turn it, or get forward the legs, for it cannot come forth doubled up as it is; in either case it is a most difficult task to get it away safely, and often results in the death of both dam and calf. In extremely violent cases the womb, or calf-bed, will frequently protrude and fall down. This is a very difficult thing to restore, with safety, to its proper place, owing to the continued pain on the cow. It should be well washed in warm water as quickly as possible, before it has much time to swell, and, with double fists, it should be firmly pushed into the uterus, where it must be secured by strong ligatures sewn across the opening. The cow should have a strong dose of laudanum to quiet her for some hours, so that the calf-bed may have time for the swelling to subside. Subsequently give her a little warm water, with some meal stirred in. This should be given repeatedly, but sparingly, so as not to load the stomach. No heating or any purgative drenches should be given. The cleansing or after-birth, usually comes away in a few hours, and generally requires but little attention. If however, it should become necessary to draw it away after the lapse of several days, the operation requires to be performed with much judgment and care.

When the cow has had a protracted and difficult calving time, she will require careful treatment. In common natural cases she will be soon all right; but in difficult cases, brushing of the belly and loins with a wisp is said to be serviceable, and gentle walking, exercise for a short time in the open air, when the weather is warm and fine. Gruel and cordial drinks may also be occasionally given. The latter may consist of a quart of ale mixed with sugar or treacle, and diluted with water, and given warm. The old "cowleech's" drench is—1 oz. aniseed, powdered, 1 oz. sulphur, ditto, 1 oz. liquorice, ditto, 1 oz. diacutic, ditto, 1 oz. long pepper, given in a quart of warm ale.

The old barbarous practice of driving a cow about while, or just before calving, is now, happily, exploded, except in very benighted situations. It was ignorantly believed that such extreme exercise facilitated the operation of calving, whereas its tendency was the exact contrary, and many a valuable animal has been lost by

such unreasonable and inhuman treatment. A cow in open pasture will usually leave the herd, and seek some sequestered place for calving, an instinct which clearly points out the necessity of quietness in our treatment of her at this critical period.

Milk fever, or dropping, after calving, is one of the most dangerous diseases attending parturition, and unless timely arrested, will soon prove fatal. Cows in high condition are very liable to this complaint, especially if they are kept close, and luxuriantly fed, previous to calving. The symptoms usually show themselves within two or three days after calving, sometimes within a few hours. They are known by the cow shifting about from place to place; frequently lifting up her legs, with a wild appearance in her eye, and unless the disease is arrested she will, after a while, stagger and fall down. The usual recourse is to take three or four quarts of blood from the animal, and promote the natural evacuations by Epsom salts, nitre, &c.—*Canada Farmer*.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT SHEEP

If a man wishes to buy young sheep, it is an easy matter to tell their age by their teeth. A sheep has 8 front teeth, and when one year old they shed the 2 middle teeth, and within 6 months from the time of shedding, their places are filled with 2 wider than the first; at 2 years, the next 2 are shed, and 6 months their places are filled with 2 wide teeth; at 3 years, the 2 third teeth from the centre are shed, and their places filled with 2 wide teeth, and at 4 years the corner teeth are shed, and by the time the sheep is 5 years old, the teeth will have grown out even, and it will have a full mouth of teeth; after that the teeth will begin to grow round and long, and at 9 or 10 they begin to shed, and then is the time to fatten for the butcher, and let young sheep take their place.

If a farmer would have a good flock of sheep, he must keep a few of his best ewe lambs to take the place of his old sheep. Poor nurses should not be kept. The same ram should not be kept with a flock more than one year; neither should he be used in the flock that he was raised in.

Sheep, to be healthy, should not be kept in low wet pastures. To have a good flock of sheep, they must be well fed summer and winter. To make sheep peaceable and contented, never allow them out of the pasture intended for them to run; but if they should happen to get out, return them immediately, and make the fence sure. Sheep should be taken to the field as soon as harvest is done, as their droppings are worth as much to the field as the grass they eat, and they will