

gest no alteration in the ordinary method of proceeding; it is perhaps as good as any other; but our readers will perceive that it renders the Herd Book a less faithful exponent of the history of facts than it would otherwise be, and very frequently imparts undeserved lustre to obscure names.—*Bell's Messenger*.

USE OF THE TURKISH BATH IN VETERINARY PRACTICE.—Sir,—Though the use of the Turkish bath in the treatment of disease in the human subject has made so much progress of late, we seldom hear of its application in the case of quadrupeds; and it may not, therefore, be without use or interest if I give you a short account of its effects in an instance in which it was lately tried under my directions. The animal was a cart mare. When I was first told she was ill, and saw her two or three hours after the first appearance was observed, she was shivering with her hind legs straddled, continually looking round at her flanks, first one side and then the other, and very unwilling to move at all. Her pulse was full, and 80 in the minute. The symptoms appeared to indicate inflammation in the region of the kidneys. I had her removed to a loose box, and having the command of a cattle-bath, I had the fire at once lighted; but as it would take some hours to heat, and the symptoms were urgent, I had the mare bled, a purgative of dissolved aloes (4 drachms) administered, and a mustard poultice applied to the loins. During the bleeding the pulse varied from 80 to 100, and when it became feeble, and the mare showed signs of weakness, the bleeding was stopped. More than 7 quarts of blood had been taken by measure. At the end of 4½ hours after the bleeding, the pulse was not reduced in frequency, ranging from 80 to 84, but it was softer than before. The mare, however, was still suffering, lying at full stretch in the loose box, occasionally struggling from pain, and raising her head to look at her flanks. By this time the bath was heated to 100 degrees, and I was anxious to get the mare into it. It was with some difficulty that she was got on her legs and up to the bath, but from the moment she entered she seemed to find relief, and after a short time showed no signs of pain. She was kept for 5 hours in the bath, the temperature increasing to 120 degrees, which it was not allowed to exceed. After washing in the outer chamber of the bath with tepid water, and sheeting, she was brought down to the stable and dried with cloths. Her pulse had come down to 60 degrees, and she appeared entirely free from pain, and took a little bran mash. She danged, and passed a small quantity of urine without pain. She had drunk water freely while in the bath. After an interval of an hour and a-half she was put again in the bath for about three hours. The treatment of the bath twice a day and then once was continued for four or five days, at the end of which time she was quite recovered. The cattle bath can be so easily

constructed, and at so moderate an expense, that it is much to be regretted it is not in more general use. I have seen a cow with highly inflamed udder after calving speedily cured of it, and for common colds and coughs in horses it is most effectual in arresting and removing them.—Yours, &c. C. E. F., December 15, 1862.  
*Mark Lane Express.*

THE RURAL SEASON IN ITALY.—The only season of the year in which the Italians are really loth to tear themselves from the country is the latter end of Autumn—October and November—at least up to St. Martin's day. Lovely as the country is during spring and summer in North Italy, it seems to intensify all its charms so as to clothe in ineffable loveliness the fall of the year. The air sharp and bracing as it is apt to be in the morning and evening, is never so balmy and genial as it becomes at this time towards the noon, and continues to the close of the usually bright, gorgeous sunset. The stillness of the landscape, generally prevalent in these mountain-screened regions, becomes infinitely more striking, and, as it were, palpable in this season of nature's repose. Nothing can be slower and gentler and more lingering than the decline of a North Italian year—the autumn tints steal over the foliage by imperceptible degrees, as the crow's foot over the countenance of a lovely woman untouched by illness or sorrow; the leaves drop one by one, circling and winding round through the still air, like so many flakes of undrifted snow; the first touch of decay seems rather to revive and enhance than to blight even tone down and mellow the richness and luxuriance of this bountiful land; and the sky, no longer dazzling with its settled glare, no longer monotonous in that cloudless blue which is apt to cloy us in settled summer or winter weather, entertains us daily, in this period of transition, now with vast masses of heavy vapours in the shape of phantom clouds clinging to the Alpine summit, now with a thin white veil of mist floating over the plain like a transparent ocean.

A HINT FOR OUR SPARROW CLUBS.—The valiant members of the agricultural community who spend their time in killing birds, and then meet together to celebrate their folly, may as well read the following prices, which the Australian Acclimatisation Society offers for the introduction of birds and animals in which New Zealand is deficient: Hares, per couple, male and female, £5; red deer, ditto, £15; blackcock grouse, cock and hen, £10; silver pheasant ditto, £5; nightingales, ditto, £5; English partridges, ditto, £4; cuckoos, ditto, £3; mist thrush, ditto, £2; common thrush, ditto, £2; blackbirds, ditto, £2; starlings, ditto, £2; sparrows, ditto, £2; rooks, ditto, £2; crows, do. £2; jays, ditto, £1 10s.; robins, ditto, £1 10s.; wrens, ditto, £1 10s.; bullfinches, ditto, £1; green grey linnetts, ditto, 15s.; sparrows, 5s.; English quails, ditto, £1. That distinguished or