

which the bone has been broken without breaking the skin, and where the bone has not been splintered. *The Compound Fracture* is when the bone has been broken and the skin also. *The Compound Comminuted* is that in which not only has the bone and skin been broken, but when the bone has also been splintered. In speaking of fractures, the treatment is the same in all, with the exception of fracture and sometimes depression of the skull, which will be mentioned separately.

Treatment.—Only a few years ago, whenever a horse, cow or dog broke his leg, the fashion was to kill him, no matter in what situation the fracture was. Now, unless in exceptional cases, there is no excuse for doing any such thing. In the case of a simple fracture, the first thing to do is to make a thorough examination and find out the exact manner in which the bone is broken. Having ascertained this, make a plaster of Paris paste. Take two squares of linen and make small pads of same stuff to fit over the fracture. Then sling the horse. Now plaster the paste on some linen bandages, and having put the pads over the fracture secure them with the dry linen. Then bandage with the plaster of Paris bandages, after having, of course, brought the two ends of the fractured bone in exact opposition. It is best to sling the animal in a stable with an earthen floor, as then a hole can be made under the injured limb. The horse should be lowered every day or so, but the strain on the slings should not be taken off. The injured bone will unite in about six weeks, and the only further treatment is frequent applications of ice or cold water at the point of union.

Compound Fracture.—Here the skin is broken also; the first indication, then, is to cleanse the wound and ascertain that the bone is not splintered. In some respects these cases come out even better than a simple fracture. The operator is able, generally, to see the fracture, which he cannot do in a simple fracture. He can, therefore, bring the bone exactly into its proper place, whereas, in simple fracture he has to rely on his sense of feeling. The bone must be set as indicated in the case of simple fracture, and the wound, after being properly cleansed, should be dressed with a lotion composed of carbolic acid one scruple, glycerine one ounce, water eight ounces. A cloth wet with this should be left on underneath the plaster of Paris bandage, and it can generally be contrived that a portion of the healing lotion may be poured down so as to saturate the bandages; otherwise an open bandage must be contrived, in which case proper professional advice had better be obtained.