

no appearance of the patient getting relief, but signs of it gradually becoming worse, the only chance is to puncture the paunch, which must be done on the left side about equidistant from the last rib, the prominence of the haunch and the lumbar vertebrae. The puncturing is generally done by practitioners with a trocher and canula made for that purpose. When such an instrument is not at hand the operation can easily be done with a well sharpened table or pocket knife, either of which is preferable to a penknife. In fact, in all cases when the swelling is great and the animal becoming stupid, we would advise to puncture at once, as in many of these cases if immediate relief is not given, death will soon take place.

Animals that have been affected with tympanitis should, for several days, be fed on a soft and easily digested diet; and if the bowels appear constipated, a dose of purgative medicine should be given.

Murrain.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER :

SIR,—Around where I live there is a disease very prevalent and very destructive among cattle, called murrain. It comes on suddenly, and almost invariably kills them within twenty-four hours after the attack. There are no apparent symptoms prior to passing of blood with the urine. I have read THE FARMER pretty attentively, and have not once seen it mentioned, when most of the other diseases which afflict domestic quadrupeds have had something said about them. This leads me to think other localities are not scourged so with the murrain as the one in which I reside. It is no uncommon thing for it, when it commences its ravages in a herd of cattle, to destroy one-half of them within a year. Various remedies have been tried, but they have generally proved ineffectual. What is the cause of it remains a mystery. Some profess to say they have seen leeches in the livers of beasts that have died with the murrain, but I never saw any; others say it is an herb they eat that causes it, but that also I disbelieve, for they die in the winter as well as the summer. I never saw but one beast cured of the murrain, and that was by giving her lumps of salted butter and drenching her with buttermilk, but that cure proved useless with the next ones tried. Any information on this disease will be thankfully received.

WILLIAM.

Brooke, April 14th, 1864.

NOTE BY EDITOR CANADA FARMER.—We have not, in this country, had an opportunity of meeting with a case such as our correspondent designates Murrain. In Britain the disease known as Murrain effects the mouth and the whole alimentary canal of cattle and also the feet. It is sometimes described as the mouth and foot disease, and in general is not fatal in its character, although a great many animals become affected by it. The disease referred to in the above communication, is possibly that designated Red-water, as we are informed it is not uncommon in many parts of Canada, although personally we have not met with any case of the kind.

A more particular account of the symptoms attendant on the disease our correspondent mentions, is necessary to enable us to arrive at a correct conclusion regarding the real nature of the malady. The most characteristic symptom of the disease known as Red-water is the increased discharge of urine, containing the colouring matters of the blood. When occurring in a milch cow, there is a gradual diminution of milk, which is very thin and watery, and has a peculiar frothy appearance. As the disease advances, the animal gets emaciated, and the urine changes its colour, at first to pink, gradually becoming darker and darker. The pulse becomes quickened and weak, there is also palpitation of the heart produced by extreme weakness. The animal gets weaker and weaker, and at length dies through sheer debility.

Among the causes of Red water are first,—certain grasses, especially those growing on limestone and less sandy ground, the plants or twigs of certain trees, as the oak, &c., also removing cattle from poor land to luxurious pastures, more especially when the days are hot and the nights cold.

The severity of Red-water differs considerably. Some cases recover in a few days, whilst others run on speedily to a fatal termination. Red-water in general is best treated by administering in the early stages a dose of purgative medicine, as one-and-a-half pounds of Epsom salts, combined with some carminative. When the bowels are freely moved the animal may be considered tolerably safe. It is also necessary to change the food—to give linseed, or oil cake, bran mash, gruel, and also allow as much cold water as the patient chooses. If there is much weakness a quart of good beer ought to be given several times a day,—and as the disease advances some of the compounds of ammonia are beneficial.

Red-water may usually be prevented by good feeding,—allowing plenty of common salt. In Britain, and more especially in Cheshire, at one time considerable tracts of dairy land were useless for cattle on account of their developing Red-water. These lands by draining and dressing with artificial manures, have since been rendered perfectly healthy.

LIABILITY FOR PLACING DISEASED HORSES NEAR A PRIVATE STABLE.—In the Superior Court (General Term) the case of Wilkes vs. the Harlem R. R. Company was argued. The action was brought to recover damages for turning out their horses infected with farcy and glanders in a meadow adjoining the stable of the plaintiff, whereby his horses took the diseases, and many of them died. Edwin James, who had obtained a verdict before a jury for the sum of \$5,000, argued the case of the plaintiff, which came up on appeal. The question is one of considerable importance. It was contended by the defendants' counsel that they would have been liable to an indictment if injury happened by the public exposure of their horses in such a condition; but they disputed their liability to a private individual. We do not appreciate this distinction, and if damage has been sustained by an individual, upon every principle of law and justice he ought to have a remedy.—*Wilkes' Spirit.*

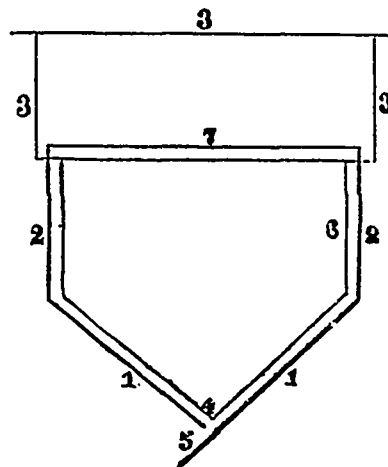
The Apiary.

Extracts from my Bee Diary.

To the Editor of THE CANADA FARMER :

SIR,—The first day of January, 1861, I brought home four stocks of bees in good condition, having moved them 50 miles or more, they remained unsettled the rest of the winter. When I placed them on their summer stands I found them much reduced in numbers. I adopted Mr. Grant's plan of making artificial swarms, as recommended by, Rev. J. G. Wood, in his treatise on bee management. Made my hives 12 inches front, 12 inches rear, and 13 inches deep, with bars across the top of the hive from front to rear as guides for the bees to build their combs on; had a moveable top to all my new hives. Result of first season's operations, a complete failure as regards artificial swarms. Cast two swarms in the natural way, one went to the woods, one we saved, they left us some surplus honey. March 20th 1862. Placed my bees on their summer stands. One of the old stocks died during the winter. Had wintered them in a tight board box, they came out in good condition. Depended upon natural swarming this season, cast the first swarm the 20th June. The old stocks cast from two to five swarms each. Put from two to three after-cast swarms into one hive. At the end of the swarming season I had 14 hives of bees all in seeming good condition. We will see what my Journal says, 1st, March 1863. Lost all my old stocks and some of the new ones, leaving me five to begin the season with. The loss was not an entire one for they left us about 300lbs. of Honey. The loss I sustained caused me to attempt to discover why I failed. The attempt to make artificial swarms in the summer of '61, taught me that the queen bee will not leave the main hive to inhabit a hive placed at the side or top. The loss in '62 was I think caused by placing my hives too close together; they stood side by side, entrance facing to the east, in fact they became queenless. Another fault was that my hives were too small, I find bees kept in small hives more inclined to swarm than in large ones. In August 1862, I obtained a copy of Langstroth on the hive and honey bee. Made during the winter of '62 and '63 hives No 2, and an observing hive as per diagram, and two of my own plan for trial as per diagram. Transferred a stock of bees and comb into a Langstroth hive from a common one, the first week in May 1863. It filled the main hive and 40lbs of surplus honey

in boxes. Practiced artificial swarming last summer as recommended by the above named treatise. One of the artificial swarms filled two boxes of 16lbs. each of pure honey, besides their winter supply. To sum up the result of last years work with bees. I have now this 12th day of March, 1864, ten good stocks of bees, lost two in the winter, one had a drone laying queen, which I did not discover until it was too late to help it, the other perished for want of food



To understand the accompanying diagram, you must imagine a hive of this description to be sawed in two halves, from front to rear, 1-1, bottom of hive, 2-2, sides, 3-3, cap to cover boxes for surplus honey, 4, entrance for the bees to pass in and out of hive, 5-5, comb frame, 6, alighting board, 7, honey board. The advantage of a hive of this description is, that, the honey moth when thrown out of the comb by the bees falling on an inclined surface, must go out of the hive. *DIAGENES.*

TREATMENT OF THE STING OF BEES.—The organ with which bees inflict their sting consists of two barbed or rather serrated darts issuing from a sheath and placed back to back, so as to leave a groove between them. The sheath is encased in nine cartilaginous scales provided with muscles, eight of which perform the duty of pushing the weapon out, while the ninth draws it back. To increase the pain caused by the mechanical action of the dart, a poison is secreted from two bladders situated on both sides of the intestines, and it is this poison which causes the formation of a small pimple on an erysipelatous redness. This generally disappears in a few instants, but sometimes when several stings have been inflicted at a time, or when even a single one has injured a nervous filament, the inflammation is rather severe. In such cases, Dr. Latour proposes the following treatment:—1. To pull out the sting which generally remains in the wound. 2. To foment the place with iced water, or else extract of saturn or ammonia. 3. To apply an impenetrable coating of colodion, rendered elastic by the addition of one-tenth part of castor oil, whereby the production of heat in the living tissue is prevented and inflammation avoided.—*Scientific American.*

BEES AND HONEY OF GREECE.—The honeys of Hybla and Hymettus are at this day almost as celebrated as they were in the time of the classical Greek poets; the honeys of Cerigo, of Zante, and many other places, continental and insular, are all fine, and each has its admirers. The honey of Leucadia is, perhaps, almost as good as any, and the descendants of the bees that fed Ulysses deserve some consideration. I was interested, then in the little beegarden on the site of the city of Leucas. It was a rocky, barren-looking spot, and did not at first sight seem very promising, for the whole ground for a great distance around looks naked and without vegetation. But it is not really so. Every little crevice or interval between two stones, whether large or small, and not a few holes made by vegetation in solid rock itself, contain some little flowering plant especially patronized by the honey bee. Rosemary and sages abound. I was not much surprised, therefore, to see the bees, but the hives rather puzzled me at first. They consist of small oblong boxes placed on end on a low stone, each box being covered by two or three tiles, evidently to keep off the heat of the sun in summer. Two round holes, each about half an inch in diameter, sufficed for the bees to enter and emerge, and it did not seem to matter much where these holes were pierced. The boxes were constructed in the roughest manner, and seemed to have not 2 feet apart; and each box was about 20 inches high, and 9 inches square. The bees were exceedingly busy and perfectly good-tempered.—*Austed's Ionian Islands in 1863.*