

THE HORSE.

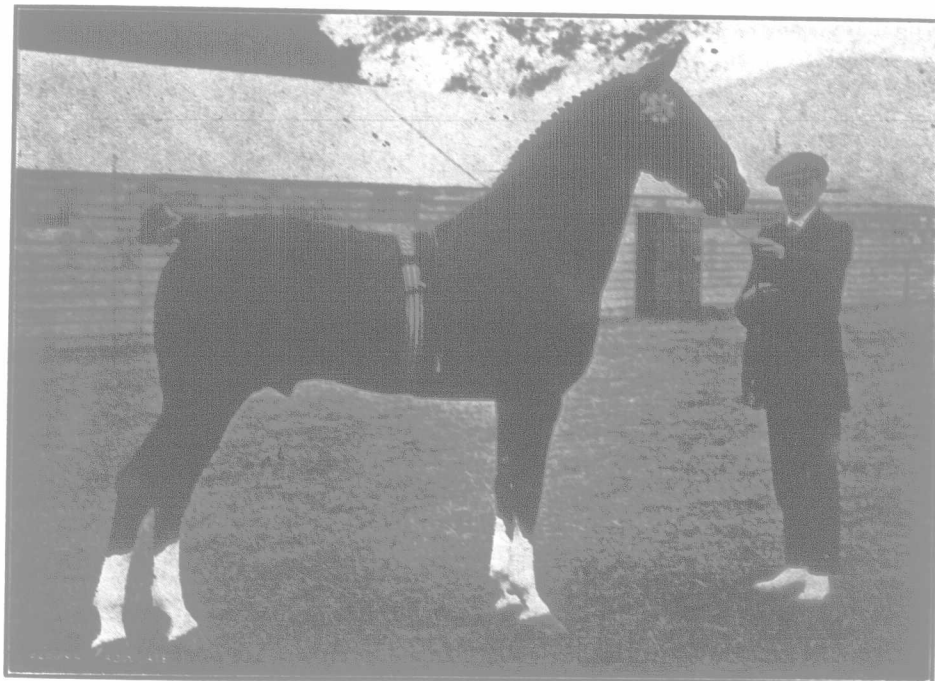
Diseases Resulting From Wounds.

Erysipelas.

Erysipelas occasionally occurs as a result or complication of wounds. It may be defined as an inflammation of the skin and underlying tissues, characterized by a diffused swelling of the parts involved, which has a remarkable tendency to spread, and is dependent upon some unascertained alteration in the blood.

Symptoms.—In an indefinite period, but usually about the third or fourth day after the infliction of an injury, the skin in the immediate vicinity of the wound is swollen, smooth, shining, hot, tender and painful. The swelling extends sometimes very quickly in all directions. If a limb be affected, its whole circumference becomes involved in the swelling in a few hours. The swollen surface pits on pressure (that is, when pressed it has a doughy feel, the finger sinks into the tissues and the indentation does not disappear quickly when pressure is relieved) where muscular tissue is present. Where the sub-cutaneous tissues are hard and firm, the pitting is not so well marked. In rare cases little vesicles are formed, which is followed by some amount of sloughing. This occurs more frequently at the flexures of the joint when a limb is affected. Besides local symptoms, we notice more or less constitutional disturbance; the pulse becomes frequent and strong, shivering fits are generally noticed, increase of temperature, loss of appetite more or less marked, lameness if a limb be the seat of trouble. The degree of constitutional disturbance is in proportion to the severity of the attack. The tendons and ligaments, the fibrous coverings of adjacent muscles, as well as the skin and subcutaneous tissues, become involved; the pain is usually excessive, the swelling hard and tense, and occupies a large extent of surface. In a variable period purulent collections form in the muscles, or more deeply between the tendons and ligaments, which on being lanced discharge a watery pus, which, in some cases, contains shreds or masses of gangrenous tissue. The systemic disturbance is severe, rigors are frequent, pain acute; the pulse, at first full and strong, becomes frequent, small and feeble; the respirations are hurried; the bowels generally constipated, and the faeces covered with mucus; the urine is scanty and high-colored. The appetite is lost, but the thirst is usually excessive. Occasionally the inflammation extends to the articulations nearest the injury, and the case becomes complicated with open joint.

Treatment.—A brisk purgative of six to ten drams of aloes, according to the size and condition of the patient, with two drams ginger should be given. The swollen parts should be well bathed frequently with hot water, or, if practicable, hot poultices kept to the parts. After the purgative has operated, diuretics, as nitrate of potassium, in three to four-dram doses, should be given twice or three times daily, and tincture of iron should be given in six to eight-dram doses, in a pint of cold water as a drench, twice daily. The food should be of first-class quality, of the best kind, and given in liberal quantities. In the more severe cases treatment must be more energetic. A purgative must be given, and the excitement and fever combated with fifteen to eighteen-drop doses of Fleming's tincture of aconite in one-half pint of cold water, given as a drench, every three or four hours until the pulse loses its excessive force and frequency, after which it must on no account be continued. After the purgative has acted, the tincture of iron should be given in four to five-dram doses every three or four hours. Heat should be kept to the affected parts. If abscesses form, they must be opened, but it is advisable to abstain from the use of the knife unless pus be present, as the admission of air into the tissues is apt to cause sloughing. **WHIP.**



A Former Champion Hackney at the Highland.

The Value and Art of Grooming.

It is fairly easy to mark a good horseman by the appearance of the team he leads out at 7 o'clock in the morning, or by the spirit of his driving horse. Many feed their horses with extravagant generosity, but neglect them otherwise to such an extent that the feed is partially wasted and the animals are sluggish, present an ill-kept appearance and generally give evidence of no skillful care. Feed is essential but efficient grooming is almost as necessary. The cleaning and rubbing of the skin stimulate the secretions and improve the system throughout. This decreases the requirements of the body in the way of feed and more is accomplished with the smaller ration than with a large one under careless

conditions. That gloss and finish evident in the show animal or the park horse is the result of careful and persistent grooming, for in the majority of cases they are not over-fed. The well-groomed farm or draft team can be easily distinguished, for with an unlimited supply of grain a feeder can make a horse fat, but he cannot bring out that gloss of coat or the fine fettle of a well-groomed drafter or driver. The horses on a farm, known to the writer, have always been well fed but previous to this spring they never had the spirit or the appearance that the amount of feed given should produce. Early this season a new teamster took charge and the horses were well curried and cleaned every evening. They have done more work than usual, but on account of the attention received they look fifty per cent. better, and are superior in every way to what they formerly were.

A practice altogether too common is to clean the team in the morning. This is better than not at all, but under this method the horse remains all night with dirt and mud on his legs and the hair full of sweat and dust. Between six and seven in the morning the team is cleaned and harnessed but inside of half an hour they are at work again and just as badly off in regard to dirt. The thirty to sixty minutes of cleanliness is not sufficient. The thorough cleaning and rubbing of the legs, stimulates the circulation, prevents stiffness and as a general result maintains the soundness of those parts which are subject to considerable strain.

To clean and groom a horse properly there are required a curry-comb, body-brush, mane-and-tail-comb, some flannel cloths, an old or partly worn-out broom for use on the legs, and a hoof-hook. This, at first sight, appears like a formidable requisition for supplies but one will find the majority of these in practically every stable. Some will use one or two of these tools but few use them all under ordinary farm conditions. They are all necessary, however, if the job is to be thoroughly executed. With the broom first sweep off the mud and dirt that collects on the hair of the leg and around the hoof. The bottom of the foot should be cleaned out with the hoof-hook or, any suitable tool, and all solid particles removed from around the shoe and frog. When the animal has got reasonably dry the body and legs should receive further attention. With

the comb straighten out the snarls in the mane and tail. Then apply the curry-comb to disentangle the hair which has become matted with sweat and dirt and to remove splashes of mud. Follow this with the brush, which cleans out the hair and stimulates the skin cells. The flannel cloth should then be brought into service to remove dandruff and add that finish manifested in all well-groomed horses. The legs should be rubbed as well as cleaned for they undergo considerable strain. A thorough rubbing stimulates circulation and prevents stiffness and unsoundness. Do not neglect the leg of a horse; it is one of the vital parts, and one of the first to show signs of abuse.

In the morning it may be necessary to clean off the straw or bedding that adheres to the flanks or body of the horse, but no excessive amount of work is necessary. A few minutes with the brush and flannel cloth will put the team in excellent condition to go out feeling fresh and able to do a good day's work. Every minute spent in grooming will show results in the spirit and appearance of the horse.

Do not neglect to trim up the feet of the colt before turning to pasture. Usually a good rasp will suffice. At this time of year it is not necessary to trim too closely for the wear on pasture will help to keep the hoof true. When the toes are kept short the quarters will usually look after themselves, but one should take notice occasionally and see that the frogs are prominent. When such is not the case ill effects are the result. While growth varies under different conditions the hoof will, on the average, grow one-third of an inch per month. The hind hoofs grow more quickly than the fore hoofs, and unshod faster than shod.

LIVE STOCK.

Shear the flock before the hot weather sets in.

The herd bull requires exercise. If a paddock is not available give him the run of a large boxstall. He will be more prepotent than if kept in cramped quarters.

J. J. Merner, Seaforth, recently held a successful Shorthorn sale. Village Marquis, a son of Gainford Marquis, topped the sale at \$800. The top price on females was \$625.

Forty-eight Shorthorns, the property of T. Stanton, of Illinois, were recently sold by auction at an average of \$742. Lavender Wreath 6th was the highest priced animal of the sale, going under the hammer at \$1,400.

Breeding tells in the feed lot. The well-bred steers are better made individuals and make more rapid gains than do those of nondescript breeding. If raising steers for feeding it will pay to use a bull of desirable conformation that has type and breeding.

On April 23, G. J. Theis & Son, Iowa, disposed of 52 Shorthorn females at a very satisfactory average. The top price was \$1,900, which figure was paid for Proud Rose, a three-year-old roan heifer. Rosewood Maid, also a three-year-old, brought \$1,600, and \$1,400 was realized on several individuals.

A correspondent in Wellington County reports that the stock have come through the winter in fair condition, although not so much grain as usual was fed. There are more spring litters than usual in some sections, and many of the farmers are planning to run their shotes on pasture, in order to grow them on the minimum amount of grain.

We have heard of \$12.00 per hundred being paid for 800-pound stockers to go on grass this spring. Compared with the prices of a few years ago this seems like taking a big risk. However, those engaged in the grazing business are optimistic regarding the outlook for prices next fall and are purchasing all the stock their grass land will carry.

"The best investment I ever made was when I put practically my last dollar into a choice herd sire," was the way one subscriber spoke in commenting on the value of blood and individuality in the animal placed at the head of a herd. "It seemed a big price at the time, but I am able to sell his progeny for a much higher figure than I could secure for any of the get of previous bulls which I had owned. I have received big interest on my money," he said.

According to the assessors' figures the population of one of the smallest townships in Middlesex County has decreased by 380 in the last four years. At the present time there is less than one able-bodied man to every 300 acres of land. Under these circumstances the maximum production from the land is an impossibility. Instead of one man to 300 acres, two men could be profitably employed to each 100 acres if the soil is to yield of its best.

Japanese Commissioner of Agriculture Visits Canada.

The Farmer's Advocate was favored recently with a visit by Issa Tanimura, D. C. L., Commissioner of Live Stock for the Japanese Government. This is Dr. Tanimura's fifth visit to the American continent, and second visit to Canada. Being a graduate of Yale University, and an Honorary Fellow in Agriculture of Cornell University, he is not at all unacquainted with American ways, or the customs of the Western world. While interested generally in live stock, Dr. Tanimura has been paying special attention to sheep. Japan annually imports \$20,000,000 worth of wool, and until recently this came largely from Australia. The British embargo on the Australian clip has caused the Japanese Government some concern and they are now moving to effect an establishment of a real sheep industry within their own Kingdom. Nothing is native to the Islands except a few beef cattle. Forty-five years ago an American shipper was engaged by the Government to superintend the beginning and establishment of sheep husbandry in Japan. He remained three years, but after his departure the industry went into decline. The policy is now to import good specimens of the different breeds and give them all a thorough and impartial trial. "We will let the sheep talk for themselves," said Dr. Tanimura. "Man must learn some things from the beast." From the North to the South of the Japanese Kingdom there is a great variation in climatic conditions and the belief exists that different breeds will popularize themselves in various sections of the country. Dr. Tanimura was the guest of Lieut.-Col. Robert McEwen, President of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Ltd. In his travels throughout this country the Commissioner has endeavored to study all breeds impartially and he has been made an honorary member of several organizations allied to the sheep industry in Canada, and of eight breed associations in the United States.

For many years importations of the leading beef and dairy breeds of cattle have been made to Japan,