

being bared and passed rapidly up the mouth, as near the palate as possible, until it reaches the root of the tongue, when it is delivered with a slight jerk, the hand is withdrawn, and the tongue being released the ball is forced down into the oesophagus. Its passage should be watched down the left side of the throat, and if it do not pass immediately, a slight tap under the chin will easily cause the horse to swallow it. The only safe purgative for a horse is Barbadoes aloes, or the flour of the Croton bean, for some peculiar purposes; but its drastic nature renders it undesirable as a general aperient. When aloes are used, care should be taken to have them new, as they speedily lose their power, and they should be freshly mixed. Very mild doses only should be used; four or five drachms are amply sufficient if the horse have been prepared, as he should be, being fed for two days, at least, entirely on mashes, which will cause a small dose to have a beneficial effect, equal to double the quantity administered to a horse not duly prepared for it. The immense doses of eight, nine, ten and even twelve drachms, which were formerly in vogue, and which are still favoured by grooms, ostlers and carters, are utterly exploded; and it was well known that eight or nine good fluid evacuations are all that can be desired, and far safer than twice the number.

Four and a half drachms of aloes with olive or linseed oil and molasses sufficient to form a mass in the proportion of eight of the aloes to one of the oil and three of the molasses, is the best general ball, though often four drachms, given after a sufficiency of mashes or green food will accomplish all that is needed or desirable. Castor oil is a most dangerous and uncertain medicine. Linseed is not much better. Olive oil is safe, but weak. Epsom salts is inefficient, except in enormous doses, and is then dangerous. It is, however, excellent, given in clysters of weak gruel; which, by the way, except where very searching and thorough purging is required, as in cases of mange or grease, is by far the safest, most agreeable and mildest way of purging the horse, and evacuating his bowels. Where, however, his intestines are overloaded with fat, where he shows signs of surfeit, or where it is necessary to prepare him to undergo some great change of system, as from a long run at grass to a hot stable, or *vice versa*, a mild course of two or three doses of physic, with a clear interval of a week between the setting of one dose and the giving of another, is necessary and cannot be properly dispensed with.

Ordinary cases of costiveness can generally be conquered by diet without medicine, such as hop bran mashes, green meat and carrots; but where it is obstinate, the rectum should be cleared of dry faeces by passing the naked arm, well greased up the anus; and the bowels should be then thoroughly evacuated by clysters of thin gruel, with half an ounce of Barbadoes aloes, or half a pound of Epsom salts dissolved in it. If the patent syringe be used, the injection will reach the colon and caecum and dispose them also to evacuate their contents. Common cough is generally, subdued without much difficulty, though it often becomes of most serious consequence, if neglected. It is accompanied by a heightened pulse; a slight discharge of the nose and eyes, a rough coat and a diminished appetite being its symptoms. The horse should be kept warm, fed on mashes, and should have a dose or two of medicine. If the cough be very obstinate, bleeding may be necessary.

Bronchitis is a cough, with catarrh extending to the entrance of the lungs superadded. It is characterized by a quick hard breathing, and a peculiar wheezing, followed and relieved by coughing up mucus. It must be treated by bleeding, though by no means so copious as in cases of inflammation of the lungs. Repeated bleeding of four or five quarts, at intervals, until relief is obtained, are preferable to the abstraction of large quantities at once. The chest should be blistered, and digitalis, nitre and tartar emetic exhibited, as for inflammation of the lungs; bronchitis, if neglected is apt to degenerate into the sick wind.

Strangles or colt distemper, is a disease which shows itself in all young horses, and from which, when they have once passed through its ordeal, they have no more to fear. It is