

an unwholesome bill of law costs, the amount represented thereby being available for maintaining their horses in health, or for employing competent veterinarian skill, should incident or disease unfortunately render this course necessary, a much more legitimate channel, in our opinion, for the judicious employment of surplus or available cash. In examining the various cases which have occupied the attention of the courts, both English and American, the following seems to be the generally accepted definition of soundness:

"A horse is sound when he is free from hereditary disease, is in the possession of his natural and constitutional health, and has as much bodily perfection as is consistent with his natural formation."

"A horse is free from vice when he has no bad habits that make him dangerous, or that are injurious to his health, or that in any way diminish his natural usefulness."

"Though the above definition is, perhaps, the best that can be given, actual experience shows that its acceptance is not effectual in doing entirely away with disputes which eventually find their way into the courts and drag their slow length along, the purchaser soon becoming alive to the fact that if he has got a slow horse and a slow trial, his money is leaving him with lightning celerity, and the seller having at last some dim perception that 'all is not gold that glitters,' and being somewhat mystified as to the perplexing question whether, after all, he himself, as well as the horse, is really 'sold,' the only self-possessed and happy figures in the group being the legal advisers, who have pre-empted to them a glorious field for making 'contention worse confounded.'"

From what we have already said our readers will at once see with what caution any one should proceed when warranting a horse "sound and free from vice," and that on such an occasion he should have pretty clear ideas of the subject under discussion, always looking at the possible contingency of legal proceedings. Some owners will not, under any circumstances, give the warranty which many purchasers insist upon having; it is quite true that these people effectually provide against the unpleasant results which we have mentioned as possible, but it must not be forgotten that a too rigid observance of such a rule may often do away with the chances of a really desirable sale, and entail a loss which caution, tempered by judicious enterprise and confidence, might have prevented.

Many of those, under whose eye this article may fall, may not be aware how slight are the defects which, in the eye of the law, constitute "unsoundness." For example, an abrasion, as Mr. Hanover says, "though hardly perceptible, and requiring but little care, is an unsoundness until perfectly healed."

Practically speaking, in examining a horse as to soundness, the following rules should be observed: Have the horse to be examined, if possible, left in a box-stall three hours; then have the attendant lead him out, when the examiner and purchaser must carefully see if there is any stiffness; this is the time and place the animal will exhibit it most, if present. Then place the horse in the stable with head facing the door, so that the examiner can observe whether the pupils contract naturally and alike; then pass the hand over the poll to discover the existence of poll evil, if present; thence to the parotid and submaxillary regions to find whether there is parotitis or induration of the submaxillary gland. Closely examine the throat and find whether gleet exists. Place the thumb transversely on the jugular vein, in order to ascertain whether obliteration has taken place, the vein filling up rapidly where it is natural. Examine carefully under the mane for fistula or other diseases; and then the withers for fistula or other injuries. We next proceed to examine the point of elbow for shoe-boils, and the muscles of the shoulders to see if atrophy exists. Pass the hand to the knee, and if the animal be for saddle use, be particular to discover whether any traces exist of having stumbled and fallen at any previous time; we then search for splints, especially in the neighborhood of the knee, because, if in close proximity thereto, a splint will interfere with the action of the joint. We then examine closely the posterior portion of the fetlock, to discover whether there has been any rupture,

back, or partial fracture of the lumbar vertebrae, usually known as ricked back, he will either stagger or fall according to the extent of the defect. We now stand square behind him, but at a respectful distance, and casually glance from his hips over the ribs to his shoulder; we shall then discover any defects that may be present, such as being hipped. Having satisfied ourselves that in these respects the animal presents a normal appearance, we pass to one side, gently run the hand along the lumbar vertebrae, down over the stifle, and to the hock, where a critical examination must be made, so many diseases locating themselves there. Amongst the most prominent may be mentioned spavins of three distinct kinds, bone, occult, and hog or blood spavin, curbs, thoroughpins, sallendees, capped hock, of which we have two kinds. With the exception of navicular disease, which is extremely rare in the hind feet, the examination of the lower hind limbs will be similar to the course pursued with reference to the lower fore legs. We must not omit to raise the caudal extremity (tail) to discover if there are any tumors in that region, which sometimes occur.—*Spirit*.

DISEASES OF HORSES AND CATTLE.

A heavy draught stallion, the property of Mr. James Tanner, Seneca Township, who died on the 4th ult., with urgent symptoms of colic, arising from Scrotal hernia. The peculiarity of this case was ascertained by a post mortem examination, to be contraction of the pyloric orifice and a great thickening extended about four inches along the duodenum, to such an extent that nothing could pass from the stomach, which was quite distended by gas and water. The animal lingered only a day and a half in spite of all treatment, the condition described being necessarily fatal, though its exact nature could be ascertained only by a post mortem. Case No. 2.—A bay mare, the property of J. S. Cotter, Esq., of Cayuga, on being visited on the 17th, was found to be laboring under all the symptoms of lockjaw or tetanus. Upon enquiry it was ascertained that the animal had run away, sometime before, smashing the buggy to which she was harnessed and injuring her foot so as to cause a slight lameness, from which she soon apparently recovered, and nothing more was thought of the matter. Subsequently she became lame again, and pus was noticed to be oozing from the heel of the foot. Upon an examination of the foot, a piece of wood about an inch and a half long was discovered embedded between the frog and the sole. Such remedies as were demanded were applied, but without any salutary effect, the animal dying about four days after the extraction of the offending splinter from the foot as before mentioned. In this case it is quite evident that had the foot been properly examined, immediately after the accident, and on the first appearance of lameness, and the splinter removed, in all probability the supervening lockjaw would not have occurred, and the animal would still have been alive and well. It may be here mentioned that a horse valued at £12,000, died a few weeks ago, in France, of lockjaw, supervening from an accident while in exercise. The third case worthy of mention is that of a very fine cow, belonging to William Munroe, Esq., of Caledonia. She had broken into a granary, and eaten an enormous quantity of chop stuff, and when turned into a clover field had eaten very heavily of clover on a frosty morning. The combined effect was an excessive distention of the rumen, thus causing immediate and urgent danger to the animal's life; in fact she was fast sinking. This was on Thursday, the 24th ult. As there was no time to lose, I punctured with a trochar to allow the escape of the gas, which issued forth in a large volume. Finding the issue of the gas afforded no perceptible relief to the suffering animal, and the danger still continuing, with the consent of the proprietor, I extended the opening made, with the trochar to about four inches in length, when the contents rushed out in large quantities, affording only partial relief, but introducing a large spoon I emptied the rumen still further, and thus completed the work; the animal immediately showed signs of complete relief, and the next morning I administered suitable remedies; and the result of the whole treatment is that the cow has returned to

blood to the horse! At that time, these teeth have become associated with such inflammation and are consequently its cause. As a consequence, horse owners look upon "wolf-teeth" as they would upon a rattlesnake—as something to be feared and destroyed as soon as possible.

The removal of these teeth causes little pain when properly done with forceps, but when they are punched out by placing a bar of iron against them and hitting this with a heavy hammer, as is usually the case, it not only causes severe and useless pain, but it so frightens the animal as to sometimes make it vicious for life. Wolf-teeth have no effect upon the eyes directly or indirectly, nor do they cause the enlargement of bones of the nose attributed to them. Dr. Horne, of Janesville, Wisconsin, who formerly believed that these teeth caused blindness, was induced to examine the mouths of a large number of horses to satisfy himself of their influence.

The result of these examinations, to say nothing of the almost unanimous opinion of the veterinary profession, founded on many years of experience, should convince any intelligent man. Of 1,073 animals examined, 216 had wolf-teeth, and of this 216 all but one were perfectly free from any disease of the eyes or any other part; of the whole number of animals, 37 had affections of one or both eyes, but with the single exception mentioned, they did not have wolf-teeth.

BOARDING STABLE BOYS.

A late meeting of the Pacific Blood Horse Association, the following resolution was unanimously carried:

"That this Association deprecate in the strongest terms making it compulsory to board the stable boys and riders of the horses which are leased with the tracks, and hope that hereafter all the associations and proprietors on the Pacific Coast will grant the privilege for owners and trainers to board their boys on the ground if they see fit, having taken due precaution that there shall be no danger from fire. That every facility will be granted them to economize in every manner, so that the expenses of the training of horses can be reduced to the minimum. This Association has full faith that such a course will result in increasing the revenues of the track, by encouraging a greater number of horses being kept in training, and the larger fields will make amends for the loss of profits in boarding the boys. The burden will be taken from those who make the sport, without transferring it to any particular person. The larger number of horses to run in stakes and purses will draw a largely increased number of spectators, and the money added to the gate receipts will more than reimburse the associations for the less amount of rental they will receive.

There is another feature in the trainer boarding his assistants of even more importance than the saving of expense. In this way he has them more under his charge, and they are not so liable to be corrupted by the influence of scoundrels who infest the public houses. Necessarily, small boys are employed in racing stables, and when they are thrown into the company of such associates as some of the frequenters of the public house, the influence is bad. They hear drivers tell how they could have won a certain race if they had deared, and recount, with evident pride, how one horse was selected to win, and the parts they played in the infamous transaction. They will hear how one driver "drove it out on them," and that man will be anathematized in words as strong as they can find to express their detestation. Naturally they will learn to associate the losing of races with smartness, and the efforts of the honest trainer to educate his boys to a sense of honor and to take pride in integrity which cannot be corrupted, is unavailing. Parents who would be glad to see their children in a position where they could be earning something and acquiring knowledge which will eventually give them a higher position in life, are deterred by the companionship they are destined to meet, and will not permit them to engage in a pursuit which entails such danger.

Mr. Robert Steel has bought the pacing gelding Innocent Sam.

dinge, Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire, Eng., in October, 1877, and were imported in December of same year. Mr. Manley has some young dogs from the above couple which he imported with them, they being whelped after he purchased the sire and dam, and before he left England. Our correspondent has neglected to inform us of the pedigree of TYRANT and TUNSFELL on the sire's side, which default will be looked upon as a clerical omission.

SMALL SHOT.

DUCKS.—Over 10,000 ducks have been taken at Long Point this fall.

FOXES.—Barford, Que., must be a paradise for sportsmen. Over a hundred foxes were caught there in two months.

CURIOS.—Chas. Russell, of Comstock, Kalamazoo Co., Mich., has a sheep with a horn growing out of its neck on top, about five inches from the head.

SETTER.—Mr. W. Vie, St. Louis, Mo., has sold to Mr. Wm. Dangerfield, Montreal, the bitch Eco, sired by France. The consideration was not made public.

EAGLE.—A boy thirteen years old recently shot in Sandusky East, at a distance of 160 yards, a grey eagle, measuring seven feet across the wings.

MISTAKE.—Two sportsmen of the township of Eldersley, hunting for deer, mistook a horse for a noble buck, and put two shots in him accordingly. Those shots cost \$40 a piece.

SNOW BIRDS.—As will be seen by advertisement in to-day's paper Mr. Loane offers to furnish any number of live snow birds at a reasonable price. They can readily be sent by express to any part of the country.

COLD.—The cold at Poplar Point, Man., is so intense that the wild ducks are unable to fly but a short distance, and the people to save ammunition run after them and kill them with long sticks, as they can only rise a short distance from the ground.

FISH AND GAME PROTECTION CLUB.—The annual dinner of the Montreal Association will be held at the City Club, on Tuesday evening, 21st inst. It will of course be a game dinner, and will of necessity pass off pleasantly.

CATS FOR RABBITS.—An Owen Sound paper calls the attention of the authorities to the fact that Thomas cats are being palmed off on unsuspecting citizens for rabbits. The tails of the cats are cut off and the ears stretched a little, and the oldest inhabitant, it is said, can't tell the difference.

PIGEON SHOOTING.—On the afternoon of New Year's Day, a pigeon shooting match took place at the Silver Creek Brewery, Guelph, between chosen sides. Judge Chadwick, George Gleeman, Mr. McFarlane on one side, and Thos. Y. Jreat, C. Root, Kirk Skinner on the other. The first named won by a score of 19 to 17. Each man had ten birds to shoot at.

JANUARY CATTLE FAIR.—The first Wednesday in each month in the year is the date on which the regular cattle fairs are held. The first Wednesday in January, 1879, was the first day in the year, and places of business generally are all closed on New Year's Day. Still, as no postponement of the cattle fair had been made, many farmers brought in their animals, and readily found purchasers. There were a number of foreign buyers present, and the animals offered, nearly one hundred, were purchased at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cwt. None of the animals were heavy enough for the old country market. About a dozen cattle were brought in Thursday, and were sold at the figures already quoted.—*Guelph Herald*.

Richard H. Wood an elevator at the Hamilton Hotel, which is under the management of his partner, Mr. Whitney, became his partner November 1, 1877. Mr. Whitney was a very striking personal appearance of portly build, flowing snow white hair. He was President of Rochester of the Citizens' Gas Association, member of the Board of Managers of the Western House of Refuge, trustee of the Rochester Savings Bank, and up to two years ago President of the Rochester Driving Park Association. He was a lover of horses, and under him the driving park acquired its best reputation. He was for a short time a member of the Rochester Board of Aldermen, but refused a nomination to Congress. He leaves a wife, son and three daughters. His brother James is still living. His oldest son, James W., will succeed to the business. The oldest daughter is married to Arthur D. Fiske, nephew of Josiah M. Fiske, and the other two daughters, Louise and Julia, are unmarried. Mr. Whitney a two sisters married Congressman Andrews and John E. Williams, former Mayor of Rochester.

Horse Notes.

One or two cases of epizootic have recently occurred near Goshen, New York.

The progeny of War Dance won \$13,470 last year, the poorest showing made by the descendants of this fast horse for several seasons.

Dan Mace will have charge next season of the stable of trotters belonging to Mr. Charles P. Reed, of Erie, Pa., including Midnight, record 2:18 1/2.

Larger and more valuable importations of thoroughbreds have been made by our American turfmen during the year 1878 than in any year of the last quarter of a century.

Orin Hickok, of California, thinks he has about the best trotting three year-old of the year in Overman, by Elmo, out of a red mare bred by himself. He has won three races, without losing a heat, and, with a best time is 2:23, he has trotted the last half mile, on two occasions, in 1:14.

The most remarkable testimony to the greatness of Rysyk's Hambletonian as a sire of trotters is furnished by the entries to Kellogg's trotting budget for foals of 1877. Thirty-eight entries were made, and all but one of the youngsters are descendants of the Hero of Chester, although he died less than three years ago.

There has been some curiosity to know what Mr. Vanderbilt intended to do with his \$21,000 purchase, Maud S., who electrified the country by trotting in 2:17 1/2 as a four year old. Mr. Vanderbilt solved the problem recently in reply to an interviewer, in which he said: "I consider Maud S. a mere plaything for the present. I do not intend to match her for speed any more than I do any others, but will have her educated and finished, and then I will drive her on the track."

Mr. H. M. Strong, of Battie Creek, Michigan, has sold to Mr. Tousey, of Bay City, his four-year-old colt Tom Walton, record 2:23. Mr. Tousey, the purchaser, is owner of several of the best horses in the State, and in this purchase has surely made choice of a very promising colt. As he judged the colt in two races last fall, he was well posted as to his merits. Price not made public, but reported to be about \$1,700.

PIGEON AND GLASS BALL SHOOTING.—A shooting match took place at Granby on New Year's Day between Joseph Laughton and E. Brooks, who killed 14 pigeons out of 22, and broke 9 glass balls out of 10, while their opponents, Thos. Culbert and Richd. Sweet, killed 12 birds and broke 9 balls. The first named won by 2 birds.