

Danger—Glanders.

We have recently heard that there has been some instances of this disease amongst horses during the past winter in the Province of Quebec. We see from American exchanges that it is in several parts of the States. We extract the following from the English Agricultural Gazette:

"Dr. Hardwick recently concluded an inquiry into the circumstances of the death of Emily Hulbert, aged eighteen, who, while living with her father and other members of her family over stables belonging to Mr. Bacon, Colville Mews, Kensington, was attacked with glanders, and subsequently died at St. Mary's Hospital. A sister of the deceased, an infant, had previously died of the same disease. Evidence was given respecting the horses which were from time to time brought to the stables and the manner in which they were disposed of; and also as to the nature of the disease called glanders and the possibility of its being conveyed by means of the atmosphere from horses to human beings, especially children. The jury agreed to a verdict that the deceased had died of glanders."

We have heard of the existence of this disease in Lambton. We have also heard that a diseased horse that was affected with farcy in a bad state, nearly or quite developed into glanders, was on the verge of being shipped with a lot of sound horses, but was detected in time to stay the danger. This disease is not very prevalent. There are now some laws regarding it, but we maintain that a more rigorous Act is wanted in Canada to prevent the introduction or spread of any contagious diseases. Our stock is generally healthy and free from any of the dangerous and deadly diseases so prevalent in other countries, and an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. In fact, the only way to keep a good name is to guard it. We should instantly stamp out the least semblance of contagion. We have admitted two dangerous diseases to our farms. We cannot be too cautious nor too careful. Our live stock interest must be our main source to depend upon. We are only doing our duty in pointing out where danger exists.

Our spirits have been recently cast down by the visit of our great destroyer, Death. Mr. R. C. Hammond, Delaware, Ont., is now no more. He was our first intimate acquaintance in this our adopted county. We had grown up together and consulted each other on most matters. He had the rare qualities of a real gentleman in every respect. No one in this township or in this county has ever gained a higher reputation for honor and honesty from all that knew him. He was retiring in habits, and might have been an honor and pattern to our law makers. We much regret his loss. We should all attempt to attain such a name as our esteemed friend bore. An honest man is the noblest work of God.

The Oshawa *Vindicator* is of opinion that while some people desire to pay their debts some do not. A shopkeeper meeting a man out of work on the corner of the street, intimated that he had a load of wood he wished to have cut. "Well," remarked the man, "cut it." "Oh," replied the shopkeeper, "I want you to cut it." "You do," was the rejoinder, "and what will you give me?" "Why you know you owe me an account which you promised to pay me long ago; I'll allow it on that," said the storekeeper. "Ah, you will," said the man; "I don't work in that way—I work for cash, I do." The shopkeeper spoke angrily. But the debtor coolly replied: "Yes, blow away; you're mad, but I have the advantage of you; I owe you an account, and I am going to owe you. You won't get work nor money out of me." And the shopkeeper has not; neither have others who have given credit to men of that stripe. Fortunately all men are not like that; still there are enough to make "cash down" the proper method of doing business.

GLEANINGS.

Half gypsum and half dry wood ashes makes an excellent top dressing for grass and wheat when applied quite early in the spring at the rate of two bushels to the acre.

Use a brush and soap-suds on ivies for the scale-bug. I know of no other means for exterminating them. I had a large abutilon nearly destroyed by them, and I used the suds but once, and am entirely rid of them.

STARTING FUCHSIAS.—One of the new and successful ways of growing fuchsias is to take a nice thrifty leaf, place in a pot, and in two or three months it will peep out, and soon a beautiful plant will be the result.

WHEAT HARVESTING.—The time of cutting influences the quantity and quality of the grain. That which is cut a fortnight before it is ripe is proved to be richer in gluten, and in fact in yield, than that cut when fully ripe.

One hundred pounds of Indian meal is equal to 76 pounds of wheat, 83 of oats, 90 of rye, 111 of barley, 333 of corn stalks, 400 of oat straw, 500 of wheat straw, 666 of rye straw, 200 of timothy hay, 160 of clover hay, 500 of Irish potatoes, 625 of rutabagas, 909 of beets, 700 of carrots, 700 of cabbages, 60 of beans, 40 of oil-cake, and 1,200 of white turnips.

In starting squashes, Mr. J. T. Chandler, Everett, Mass., places a liberal quantity of manure in a hole for each hill, adds an inch or two of fine soil, levels up with coal ashes, puts in the seed or sets the plants, and after each hoeing scatters on the surface a fresh supply of ashes. In this way, the *American Cultivator* says, his patch is "kept entirely free from grubs, while in his experience every hill planted without ashes will be destroyed."

Judge Warner recommends the Northern Spy, russet, red Canada and greening varieties for cider. He considered the russet the best of all apples for this purpose, being sub-acid, juicy and a good keeper. Apples as a rule are picked too late; they should not be permitted to become mellow. This gentleman advised a dressing of plaster for the trees after they blossom to kill worms and increase the size and quality of the fruit.

HOW SOME ASSIGNEES MANAGE AN INSOLVENT'S AFFAIRS.—In the estate of H. J. Vivian & Alex. McDonald, termed absconding insolvents of Thunder Bay, the stock of \$1,642 sold for \$850, and \$708 more were collected. Lawyers' and Sheriffs' fees absorbed \$461, witnesses \$240, assignee's and interim assignee's, including expenses to Toronto, \$290, and there is actually a balance of \$69 in the bank to pay two or three cents in the dollar to creditors. [Monetary Times.]

MANUFACTURE OF STARCH FROM POTATOES.—The manufacture of starch from potatoes is very simple. The potatoes are washed, grated fine, and the pulp is stirred in water and strained and settled. The starch falls to the bottom, while the refuse, called slum, is drawn off with the water. The starch is then gathered and washed, and dried in a kiln, when it is ready for packing in barrels for market. A bushel of potatoes produces from six to eight pounds of starch. The machinery and building necessary to work up 1,000 bushels a day costs about \$3,000.

Various estimates are given by different authorities of the manurial value of the constituents of wood ashes; allowing in these estimates the same value for the potash and phosphoric acid as we do in commercial fertilizers generally, a bushel of unleached ashes may be worth from 25 to 40 cents; that is to say, if you should buy the same quantity of potash salts and phosphates in the market as you would get in the bushel of ashes, you would have to pay for it from 25 to 40 cents, according to the quality of the ashes.

The Rural New Yorker notes that in drying corn loses one-fifth and wheat one-fourteenth. From this the estimate is made that it is more profitable for the farmer to sell unshelled corn in the fall at 75 cents, than at \$1 per bushel in the following summer, and that wheat at \$1.25 in December is equal to \$1.50 in the succeeding June. In the case of potatoes—taking those that rot and are otherwise lost, together with the shrinkage—and there is little doubt that between October and June the loss to the owner who holds them is not less than 33 per cent.

Stock.**Breeding for Draught.**

In relation to breeding draught horses—called cart horses in England—a correspondent of the London Agricultural Gazette says:

Hitherto in the breeding of cart-horses far too little attention has been paid to the selection of sires; the chief recommendations have been a low fee and easy access. It is needless to say that close observation and considerable practical experience in the breeding of the different kinds of our domesticated animals thoroughly convince us of the value of pure blood. I like a good animal, yet I would infinitely prefer, for breeding purposes, a moderate animal of pure strain to that of the most perfectly formed mongrel. We greatly dislike all signs of weakness and effeminacy in the male; he should be wide and deep rather than high and leggy. In the draught horse, good feet and legs are of the utmost importance; the shoulders should be oblique in order that the animal may have free and safe action. The stallion should have a well-arched chest, long, lean head and clear, prominent eye. We prefer to breed from young rather than from very old animals; the produce of aged parents more early assume the characteristics of premature old age and decay. Our opinion is strongly in favor of putting the fillies to the stud at two years old, assuming that they have been well kept till this age. I have heard an objection raised to this system on account of the greater degree of risk. This is for the most part an imaginary evil; it is well known that parturition for the first time is attended with less danger in a young than a comparatively old subject, and the produce of young animals is almost invariably the most vigorous. Not the least important consideration is the saving effected; if a foal can be reared it will pay for at least a year's keep, and the mare will be worth as much at five years old as if she had not had a foal, and the work to be got out of a two-year-old is very trifling. The adult animal when in foal may, if in careful hands, be safely worked up to the date of foaling, provided she is not overdrawn, or during the latter period of gestation used much in the shafts, particularly with heavy loads; on grass farms, where little horse work is to be done during the winter, undoubtedly, a yard having an open shed and manger, with a few loose boxes, however rude their construction, if they are only watertight overhead, and afford some degree of shelter, are far more healthy than close, musty stables, to maintain an animal in a healthy state. A certain cubic area, or free breathing space is necessary for a horse; it should not be less than 600 cubic feet, on sanitary principles.

Feeding Stallions.

The following, from the North British Agriculturist, gives the practice there of feeding draught stallions during their season:

A cart stallion over 16½ hands high, expected to serve seventy or eighty mares—a full complement for any horse—and having probably to walk his 10 miles a day, will eat daily from fifteen to eighteen pounds of good sound heavy oats, which should be given with hay or sweet corn chaff, and had better also be bruised. Three or four pounds of white peas are a useful addition to the oats, help to maintain condition, and are less apt than beans to cause itching of the legs, to which such horses are prone. The best of fodder will of course be provided for the stud horse. He should have a little at a time, and if he clears up his corn and chaff will not eat more than fourteen pounds of hay. On Saturday nights, or an "off" day, a few handfuls of grass or clover will prove a salutary change; but vetches are to be interdicted, for neither horses or bulls, having a full supply of them, prove certain stock getters. To counteract the effect of liberal supplies of hard food, necessary to maintain the animal's condition, he should have twice or thrice a week a pound of bruised linseed cake, a few slices occasionally of carrots, swedes or mangels, and on Saturday nights a bran mash, containing an ounce each of nitre and common salt. Horses judiciously managed throughout the stud season, which does not much exceed three months, sustained through the day by a few mouthfuls of hay, a feed of corn, and frequent access to water, and helped out by a bucket of gruel, after a long or trying day, will do their duty well, and will not need any further food than those indicated.