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GLANDERS IN CANADA.

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It is the purpose of this communication to explain how glanders, an exceedingly common disease among horses, is being dealt with in Canada, and to show by the brief relation of several human cases that, although in this country glanders in man is, without doubt, relatively rare, it is, nevertheless, sufficiently common to deserve more attention than it has received in the past, when attempting to diagnose obscure suppurative and granulomatous conditions. The connexion of the first part of our subject with the human disease will be clear when it is remembered that the great majority of cases of human glanders—at least ten of the eleven Canadian cases hereunder included—are directly traceable to a diseased horse; so that the stamping out of glanders among horses would mean its practically complete extinction as a human disease.

Equine glanders was probably introduced into Canada by the army horses brought over from England and France in the 18th century. The circumstances connected with the human cases reported by Dr. Smallwood and Dr. Richardson warrant the statement that the disease was well known and widespread among horses in Quebec and Ontario in the forties of last century, though for this period no reliable veterinary evidence is obtainable. There is little or no evidence that equine glanders has ever been prevalent in the Eastern Provinces, but in view of the unexpected number of cases of glanders recently discovered in some other parts of the Dominion previously supposed to be comparatively free from glanders, it is quite possible that the Maritime Provinces may not be absolutely free from the disease. For over twenty years the Manitoba Government has had fairly efficient legislation designed to stamp out this disease, which has prevailed there ever since the Province was settled. About one hundred cases of equine glanders were