

# THE GLEANER.

AND NORTHUMBERLAND, KENT, GLOUCESTER, AND RESTIGOUCHE  
COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

New Series, Vol. I:

*Nec aranearum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.*

No. 21.

Miramichi, Tuesday Morning, February 14, 1843.

## THE GLEANER.

Agricultural Journal.

From the Halifax Colonial Farmer.

BLAIN.

This is a disease of the tongue in cattle, which from its sudden attack, fearful progress, and frequently fatal termination requires particular notice. The animal is dull, refuses his food, and ceases to chew the cud. A discharge of saliva appears from the mouth; at first limpid and inoffensive, but soon becoming purulent and ill-scented—the head and neck swell, the animal breathes with difficulty, and is sometimes suffocated. On examination of the mouth the tongue appears enlarged, but it is in fact, only elevated from its bed between the cheek bones, and the cause of this being examined into, large bladders are found running along the side and base of the tongue. These bladders grow rapidly—become of a great size; and quickly break, forming deep ulcerations. Other bladders immediately arise near them of a still larger size. Sometimes the animal dies in 24 hours, but at other times a malignant fever comes on. The tongue soon becomes really swelled. General inflammation of it speedily follows; and that part on which the ulcers first appeared becomes mortified. This disease is sometimes very contagious, and will be communicated to cattle that eat in the same manger, or feed in the same pasture. It sometimes spreads to other domestic animals, and has, as well as the Glanders, and Quarter evil, (or Blackleg) been communicated to human subjects; it is generally supposed that the poison is conveyed by touching some scratch or sore place: but a man has lost his life by eating with a silver spoon with which he had held down the tongue of an ox affected with the Blain, and accounts have been lately published in France of men dying with the Glanders who must have received the contagion in their breath, as there was no contact. Creatures dying of these diseases should be buried immediately without skinning, (a man in the States very lately lost his life by cutting his hand while skinning a beast that had died of the black Murrain.) Stables should be well washed,—smoked with sulphur and whitewashed, or the disease may be expected again. Blain it is believed has been very rarely known in this Province, but we have heard of it many years ago appearing in Lunenburg.

The treatment of Blain is very simple, and if adopted at an early period of the disease, effectual in a great majority of cases; as it is, at first, a local malady, the first and most important means to be adopted will be of a local character. It is inflammation of the membrane of the mouth along the side of, and under the tongue, and characterised by the appearance of vesicles or bladders; perhaps pellucid at first, but becoming red or livid as the disease advances. These vesicles must be freely lanced from end to end. If this operation is performed when the cattle begin to draw, and

before there is any unpleasant smell or gangrenous appearance, it will usually effect a perfect cure. But if the disease has made considerable progress and the vesicles begin to have a livid appearance, with a very offensive smell, all that remains whole, as well as the new ones beginning to rise, must by degrees be effectually lanced, and the ulcers washed half a dozen times in the day or oftener, with a weak solution of chloride of lime (a dram of the powder to a pint of water.) By means of a Syringe or piece of sponge, this may be brought in contact with every part of the ulcerated surface. If the unpleasant smell is removed by this treatment, the mouth may be bathed with equal parts of Tincture of Myrrh and water; or (what is better) with a strong decoction of the roots of the yellow rooted marsh dock, (*Rumex Britannica*) called in a part of this Province, 'Rosemary root.' Where these cannot be procured, there are in every parts of the country plants which may be used with advantage to make decoctions to wash sores that appear disposed to mortify, or to run water and spread. Among these we may reckon two of the paper-like mosses which grow on mossy ground in the woods, and on old mossy logs, but not on standing trees. The best is the ash colored ground Liverwort; (*Lichen caninus*). When dry it is ash coloured on the surface and attached to the mossy turf by many small roots, but when damp, as it is generally, growing under a thick shade, it is a pale black, with some small, smooth, shining brown appendages fixed to the edges of some of the leaves. When the Putrid sore throat appeared for the first time in America in 1756, it was a much more dreadful disease than it is now. It was perfectly unknown to the physicians, and spreading rapidly, and proving invariably fatal, created a great alarm, till the use of this Lichen was discovered, which, though by no means infallible, saved many lives. The other paper moss, (*Lichen aphthosus*) is very common on barren land overgrown with small spruce; the jagged irregular leaves are green above and white beneath. The roots of Sea Lavender (*Statice Limonium*) a plant growing on the edges of marshes and beaches, with leaves like plantain, and a very branchy stem covered with a multitude of light blue flowers; or the seed cones of black Spruce may also be used to make a strong tanning decoction, which is often useful. But when the creature appears very sick, and a part of the tongue is actually mortified, it will be hardly worth the pains to attempt a cure.

From the Athenæum.

**Patent Stucco Paint Cement.**—A composition of very extraordinary and most valuable properties is at present under this name attracting the attention of speculators in the improvement of architectural materials. To describe in half a dozen words the result of its application to facade of the building it may at once be said to assume the appearance of the most carefully dressed free stone when employed according to the prescribed directions. So perfect is the resemblance, that it would deceive an ex-

perienced mason; in short, as sand, the main component of freestone, constitutes a great portion of the materials in its application, we may say that it is the formation of freestone—the result of a chemical combination surpassing the effect of the chemistry of nature in this instance, in as much as freestone readily yields to the action of hard bodies, but this composition is of a more stubborn texture. This "Paint Cement" in colour is of the tone of cream, and of a consistency somewhat more dense than colour prepared in the usual way for house painting; and it is applied to surfaces after having been mixed with sand in the proportion of one part to three parts of the latter, or say 1 cwt. of the paint to three cwt. of the sand. After this simple preparation it is applied by the plasterer with a care proportioned to the kind of surface required. With respect to the surfaces to which it may be applied, there is no necessity for any degree of roughness; for so powerful is the adhesive nature of the base of the composition that it attaches itself to glass with apparently the same tenacity that it would adhere to a rougher substance.

It can be applied to fronts of brick or any other material, of any degree of thickness, although of course upon rough surface there must be more of the materials in order to secure uniform smoothness; and with respect to expense, we are assured that the cost of thus converting a brick house into a stone one would be somewhat about two shillings per square yard. This valuable invention is the patent of a company of gentlemen at Plymouth who have during some years tested the value of their composition before offering it the public, the firm is known as Messrs. Johns and Co. To architects, builders, contractors &c; it is represented as possessing these qualities,—

1. Its strong adhesive properties fixing most tenaciously to the smoothest surfaces, even to glass.
2. Its being highly repellant of water, and thoroughly impervious to wet or damp.
3. The chemical peculiarity of its composition does not admit of the possibility of its vegetating and thereby become discoloured.
4. The safe and gradual rapidity with which it dries, hardening the more by the greater exposure to the atmosphere.
5. Its perfect freedom from any of the caustic qualities of Lime Stuccoes, and consequently,
6. It may be painted upon soon as dry; a property possessed by no other cement whatever.
7. It is not in the slightest degree affected by frost.

From an English Paper.

**Breeding Horses.**—It may therefore be worth while to make a few remarks on the breeding of horses, for there is no part of England where there are more spirited, and at the same time more careless, breeders of horses than in the limits of the circulation of your paper. The first axiom I would lay down is, that 'like will produce like;' that the progeny will inherit the qualities, or the mixed

qualities of the parents. It is also certain that the foal will inherit the diseases of the parents, or at least the predisposition to them. There are proofs upon proofs that blindness, roaring, broken wind, spavins, curbs, &c. &c., have been bequeathed both by the sire and the dam to the immediate or more distant offspring—Peculiarity of form and constitution will also be inherited. The unskilful or careless breeder will often so badly pair the animals, that the good points in each will be in a manner lost, the defects of both will be increased, and the produce will be far inferior to both sire and dam. Of late years these principles have been much lost sight of in the breeding of horses, and the following is the explanation: there are nearly as good stallions as there used to be, poverty or indifference have induced many of the farmers to use that mare on his farm which cost little money, but still he determines to have a foal from her, and she is put to the horse; and by what rule does he select the horse? Why, a horse is selected because 'they say' he is a good one or because they only charge so an so for his covering, and a foal is still a foal; or neighbour So-and-So has a horse, and you know we must not go by him, it would not be neighbourly. Under these considerations, not having the least reference to the points of the horse or the mare, a foal is produced, in all probability a worthless animal. I wish to impress upon the minds of all farmers that the excellence of the mare is a point of quite as much importance as that of the horse, and that out of a bad mare, let the horse be as perfect as he may, a good foal will rarely be produced. Farmers should also bear in mind that a foal which, when arrived at maturity, will sell for £15, requires as much food as one that will sell for £100; and that the latter (if worked) will perform as much work for the breeder as the one that sells only for £15, but should the £100 horse happen to receive a blemish during his work, he will at any rate bring as much as the unblemished £15 horse. I have been induced to make these remarks in the hope that they may catch the eye of those farmers who breed horses, and are careless about the stamp of mare they put to the horse, and who by being thus indifferent, are the cause of producing the inferior class of horses we have recently witnessed at Horn-castle fair, and which I trust we shall see by degrees diminish in number.

**Pre-eminence of Milk.**—This is one of the most important articles of diet derived from the animal kingdom, and has many remarkable properties worthy of notice belonging to it. In the course of this work it will be shown that the higher orders of animals require a mixture of different alimentary substances for their nutrition; for when they are limited to any one kind of food, their condition is either deteriorated, or disorganization of structure ensues. Milk is the only aliment which offers an exception to this rule—that is to say, which is capable of supporting life alone. Dr Prout has well remarked, that all other alimentary matters exist