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OLD SERIES]

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

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From the Canada Farmer and Mechanic.
THE COW—HER DISEASES AND
MANAGEMENT.

Remarks on Bleeding.—Every person having the direction or the management of cows should be able to perform the operation of bleeding, as circumstances are liable to occur when the life of the animal may be saved by its timely application, where proper assistance cannot be immediately procured.

The method of bleeding requires some attention. In local diseases, or those affecting a part of the body, the nearer it is performed to the seat of the malady, the more effectual it will prove. In the general or constitutional diseases, this is less necessary; and the blood may be drawn from any part where there is a good vein, particularly in the neck. It must be remembered that there are two kinds of blood vessels, *arteries* and *veins*. Through the former the blood is conveyed from the heart towards the extremities of the body, where they are connected with the veins which bring it back again to the heart. An artery "pulsates" or "beats"—a vein does not. Hence the difference may readily be known.

The operation of bleeding may be performed by *seam* or *lancet*; the *seam* will be found the best instrument for those who are not acquainted with this process, but the *lancet* will be preferable where the skin is very thick, and much depth to go through before reaching a vein. These instruments should always be kept bright, and free from rust, by means of which the operation will be easily performed and there will be less danger of the orifice, or wound, becoming *festered* or *foul*.

Bleeding from the Nostrils.—This complaint, which is usually attended by a slight fever at its commencement, is more or less profuse, according to the cause from which it proceeds. Although not considered dangerous, to manage it properly it is necessary that the practitioner should be well acquainted with its origin. When it is accompanied with a fullness and distension of the vessels of the head, it may be considered as an effort of nature to relieve this state, and it should not be stopped too suddenly. When it proceeds even from hard exercise, or over-driving the animal, the evacuation of blood will remove the fever produced by this cause, and unless the charge is very profuse, it can do but little harm. But, when, on the contrary, it occurs with a cow which is weak and debilitated, and it appears evidently to arise from thin, acrid state of her secretions, then a check must be put to it as quickly as possible.

The stopping of the blood is always in one's power by external applications; and a very good remedy for this purpose is,

Take of sugar of lead, 2 drachms; and white vitriol (sulphate of zinc) 1 drachm and dissolve them in a pint of vinegar.—A cloth, dipped in this solution, is to be applied cold behind the ears and back of the horns of the animal, and must be removed as often as the cloth gets warm.—Or, in place of the above, take of blue vitriol (sulphate of copper) 1 oz., and dissolve it in a pint of vinegar, and apply it in the same manner.

When the bleeding is stopped by these, which seldom fail, attention is to be paid to the cause from whence it proceeds; and when it is accompanied by a fullness either of the general habit, or of the head in particular or when it proceeds from any suppressed secretion of the skin or other parts, then these external applications should be made in connexion with a general bleeding, and medicines to open the bowels, in order to lessen the excess of fluids in the body. The medicines to be administered in this case are as follows:—

Epsom salts, from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; saltpetre $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; powdered ginger $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. To be mixed and given in a pint and a half, or two quarts of water gruel.—

With these precautions, the cure of this malady will generally be found easy.

Looseness or Scouring.—This disease is not unfrequent with cattle at all seasons of the year, so it arises from a variety of causes. It is very liable to proceed from an acrid state of the bile, which the appearance of the stools will show, although it may be produced from over-heating, the fluids being driven from the surface towards the bowels; but it more frequently arises from errors in diet, than from any other cause. Thus food given hotter than it ought to be will occasion the complaint; and a want of proper nourishment will produce the same effect. Hence, cows long denied their customary support are generally afflicted by this malady.

The disease consists in a frequent discharge of the contents of the bowels, which varies in its appearance during its progress, being generally of a liquid form, sometimes slimy, at other times black and bilious, and occasionally of a watery, frothy consistence. The animal has generally a bad appetite, the pulse weak and low, the skin dry, soon becoming tight to the ribs, the countenance appearing dull, and accompanied by a degree of slow fever, with much thirst. On opening the body, after death, the gall bladder will be found full of a thin, acrimonious fluid, the part of the bowels near it showing several putrid spots, and the whole intestines will be more or less inflamed. Besides this, the ulcerations are sometimes so extensive, that callous pieces, equal in size to one's fist, have been found in the bowels, which have given rise to the name of "rottenness," and "garget in the guts." When laboring under this disease, cattle are very sensible to the impressions of weather, and generally seek shelter or cover, where it can be found.

Whatever the cause of this malady may be, the commencement of the treatment should take place first, by clearing out the bowels, and discharging any acrid matter contained in them, which may tend to keep up irritation. This may be done by the use of the following saline purge, notwithstanding some degree of looseness may prevail at the time:—

Take of Epsom salts $\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; saltpetre $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; camphor 3 drachms; coriander and cummin seeds $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. each. Mix the whole into a powder, and give it to the animal in two quarts of water gruel, sweetened with half a pint of molasses. When this medicine has operated, remedies opening to the skin may be administered and continued, among which the following is recommended:—

Take of camphor $1\frac{1}{2}$ drachms; salt of tartar 3 oz.; saltpetre $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; Mithridate $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. To be mixed, and given at one dose, in two quarts of water gruel, in which one ounce of soap has been previously dissolved. If the symptoms of the disease demand it, the dose should be repeated once or twice a day. As soon as the stricture or dryness of the skin is removed by the above named medicines and the complaint is only kept up by the weakness of the bowels, the cure then, but not till then, may be trusted to the use of the following astringent:—

Take diascordium $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; dragon's blood $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; powdered ginger $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; grains of Paradise 3 drachms. To be mixed, and given at one dose, in a pint and a half of the following decoction, and repeated once a day:—Take of log-wood chips $4\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; camomile flowers 3 oz.; valerian $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; which must be boiled in 3 quarts of water till one-half is wasted by evaporation.

The above mode of treatment will always succeed whenever the disease has not advanced so far that the bowels of the animal have arrived at a state of ulceration, in which case it commonly proves fatal, and she lives till she is reduced to skin and bone.

During this complaint the cow should be kept particularly warm, and both her food and drink should be given with the chill just taken from them. The food should also be of the same nourishing kind so often recommended on former occasions, as warm washes of malt, Indian meal, &c.

THE FARMER'S SONG.

A life on my native soil,—
A home in a farmer's cot,
I'll never at labor recoil,
I ask for no happier lot.
The city has nothing to charm,
With its turmoil and noise and strife;
Oh! give me a snug little farm,
With a kind and notable wife.

CHORUS—A life on my native soil—
A home in a farmer's cot—
With my faithful team will I toil
And ask for no happier lot.
Gee up!—gee up!—
Gee up, gee up, and gee O!

On my native land I stand,
Midst blossoming fields around;
While the air is pure and bland,
And the hills with herds abound;
The river is flowing by,
The song of the boatmen we hear;
And the laborers how they ply,
While echo sends round their cheer!

How cheerful it is to view
Whole vallies of waving grain,
And the husbandman's jovial crew,
With sickle's prostrating the plain;
O, the song of my heart shall be,
While earth her rich product yields,
The life of a farmer for me,
A home in the forest and fields!

From the Prairie Farmer.

THE COLOR OF HOUSES.

The practice of painting white in all cases has been rapidly giving way for some years; and a great variety of colors are now used instead. Mr Ranlett, in his *Architect*, has some remarks on the subject, which are of value.

"The interior of a house should always be painted of a warm neutral tint. Pure white is too cold and cheerless for a dwelling room, and is moreover, so liable to stains, that its appearance of purity and cleanliness, which is a great recommendation with neat housekeepers, very soon wears off.

"The purity of our atmosphere, and the absence of coal smoke, admit of houses being painted a pure white; and when lead and oil are alone used in the open air, the color will grow whiter from exposure; but in the interior of a house it will become a dingy yellow, from being deprived of light and air. White lead improves by age, and should not be used for wood work unless at least a year old; linseed oil also becomes purer and better from age, and should be at least two years manufactured before used. Much harm results from the employment of incompetent workmen in the painting of houses, as from their experience in mixing paints, and their inability to distinguish between good and bad materials, the employer often throws away his money; and defaces the appearance of his house in the attempt to beautify it by a coat of paint.

"In painting a house any light colour, particular care should be taken to "kill" the knots in pine wood, as it is technically termed, or the effects of the first painting will be greatly marred. The best method of destroying the turpentine contained in pine knots, is by spreading upon them freshly slacked lime, which will effectually burn it out. After this has been done, the knots must be covered with a sizing, composed of red and white lead and glue.

"In painting the outside of a house, there should be no turpentine mixed with the paint, excepting in the case of white paint, and then only in the last coat; not more than one part turpentine to four parts oils should be used, as oil has a tendency to discolour white.

"White lead forms the basis of all pigments for house painting excepting black; which is generally composed of lampblack; but a new mineral substance has recently been discovered in New Jersey, which forms a beautiful jet black, and resists the action of the atmosphere and water better than any paint yet made.—It has already been extensively used on ships, and will probably entirely displace every other kind of black paint before

long. Not much black paint is ever used on houses, although it is most extensively employed for fences and iron works; as it is important to use a material that will resist the action of the atmosphere, in ornamental iron work, which is soon destroyed by rust, the discovery of this new mineral pigment is a matter of importance to builders. We have seen some specimens of this new paint, which were remarkable for brilliancy of color and hardness of surface. A steam mill has been erected for manufacturing this article, and we shall be able to give some definite information respecting it before we conclude our remarks upon this subject.

"The colors and tints proper for house painting, such as browns, drabs, yellows, pea-green, grays, and imitations of stone colour, are made by mixing with white lead and linseed oil, the following colors, which should first be finely ground in oil:—

Drabs.—Chrome yellow, lampblack, and red; or Venetian red and burnt umber with white.

Brown Stone color.—Spanish brown, chrome yellow and lampblack, with white.

Gray Stone.—Lampblack and Venetian red, with white.

French Gray.—Indian red, Chinese blue, and ivory black, with white.

Sage color.—Raw umber, Prussian blue, and Venetian red, with white.

Slate color.—Black and Venetian red, with white.

Dark Blue.—Prussian blue, with white.

Sky Blue.—Ultramarine or Prussian blue, with white.

Violet.—Vermillion, blue, and black, with white.

Lilac.—Drop, black, ultramarine and crimson lake, or Indian red, with white.

Peach Blossom.—Carmine and ultramarine with white.

Rose color.—Crimson lake and vermilion, with white.

Salmon color.—Chrome yellow and Indian, or burnt sienna, with white.

Straw color.—Yellow ochre and orange chrome, with white.

Buff color.—Venetian red and yellow ochre, with white.

Pearl White.—Ultramarine, crimson lake, and ivory black, with white.

French White.—Indian red, ivory black, Chinese blue, or ultramarine, with white.

Fawn color.—Yellow ochre and Spanish brown; or Venetian red, blue, and umber, with white.

Pea Green.—Yellow and blue; or chrome green, with white.

Green.—Prussian blue and chrome yellow.

Olive Green.—Chrome yellow and black; or raw umber and black.

Bronze Green.—Black and green; or chrome yellow and black.

Orange.—Chrome yellow and vermilion.

Chocolate.—Spanish brown and black; or Venetian red and black.

"There are various other modes of producing the above shades, but simplicity and economy are the objects we have in view. The gradation of shades, produced by a varied portion of these colors is almost indefinite.

"Small quantities of the coloring matter should first be added to the lead, and continued till the right shade is procured. Enough should be mixed at one time to cover all the wood work required with one coat."

From the Farmer and Mechanic.

SALT AND SOOT.

The power of soot as a top dressing to either wheat or pasture land is materially increased by the admixture of one fourth of common salt. In the fourth volume, p. 270 of the *Royal Agricultural Society's Journal* it is stated that fifty-four bushels of soot and six of salt produced larger crops of Altringham and white Belgian carrots than twenty three tons of stable manure and twenty four bushels of bones, at half the cost. It is best to hoe the land where used as top