The Farm.

How to Treat Flesh-Wounds.

Every person who has the care of a horse, cow, ox, or mule, should understand exactly what he can do to save the life of his beast, should a flesh wound be made when far away from a professional veterinarian. A valuable horse is frequently gored by an ugly bull or ox, and colts are liable to have the horn of a spiteful cow thrust into the side or the buttocks. There are a thousand ways in which a team may be fearfully wounded when at work; and in many instances a beast would bleed to death long before a veterinarian could be called.

We will suppose for example, that an ill-natured cow has thurst a horn into the abdomen of a colt, so that the intestines begin to protrude. Let them be washed clean and be forced back as soon as possible. It may be necessary to lay the animal down on one side, and lash the hind-feet to the fore feet. Should the wound be so large that one person cannot keep the intestines in, until a needle and strong thread can be procured, snatch a few long hairs from the animal's tail, employ the small blade of a knife to make holes through the skin, and tie up the wound temporarily; then, procure a large needle and a strong thread, which should be thoroughly waxed, and close the wound with separate stitches, half an inch apart. Every person who keeps domestic animals should have a small leather or paper punch, such as railcar conductors use for punching holes in tickets, with which to make holes through the skin. With such a punch, one can make a hole so quickly that an animal will scarcely feel it, while it is always difficult to crowd a round needle through. A saddler's or glover's needle, having a triangular point, will be found far more effective than a round needle. After the wound is properly closed, melt a piece of pitch or common resin, as large as a hen's egg, with an equal bulk of linseed oil, which will make a very adhesive wax, or salve, that will not irritate the skin, spread the wax on a piece of sheetlig, say one-eighth of an inch thick, shave off the hair near the wound, and press the plaster on while it as hot as it can be handled.

Again we will suppose that a horse or an ox has run a snag into his shoulder, and a piece of the wood is broken off several inches up in the flesh. The wound will never heal until the sliver is removed. If the piece cannot be reached with pliers, it may be necessary to make the wound longer, in which case, let punch, needle and thread be in readiness, so that the entire wound may be neatly sewed up as soon as practicable.

Should the blood flow freely before a needle and thread can be procured, hold a small piece of flat stone, a smooth block or even the square end of a nail firmly against the wound, and press it so hard that the blood cannot escape; and after the wound is completely sewed up, if blood continues to flow, lay on lint, then let some person press a small piece of board against the wound for half a day, if it seems necessary.

A little bare-footed son of the writer once stepped on the cutting edge of a grass scythe and cut the foot so nearly in two that the parts hung only by a piece of skin on the upper side of the foot, as broad as a person's two fingers. The father and surgeon were more than two miles away, and there was no man on the farm. But the mother of the lad had sufficient nerve and presence of mind, when she saw the blood flowing rapidly, to take the lad in her lap, return the partially severed portion of the foot to its proper place, press the parts together and hold them so firmly for more than one hour, that blood could not escape. Many persons never have considered that profuse bleeding can be entirely stopped by mechanical pressure. The wound in the foot was sewed up firmly by taking fourteen stiches; and the foot of the now young man, is only a trifle crooked.

Every family should gather a supply of puff balls, which are always excellent when laid on a wound to arrest the profuse flow of blood. In many instances, one can place his hand on a wound, even when an artery has been ruptured and press so firmly as to stop the bleeding entirely. In case an artery should be ruptured in the limb of a horse or cow, should the wound be small, bind on a large puff boll, or lint then wrap a piece of thin wet leather around the bandage and tie the whole so tightly that blood cannot escape. Nature will soon close the issue when the rapid current is checked.

[From The Maryland Farmer.]

Extract from the "Jacobh Dunck Papers," on Co-Operation Among Farmers.

A neighbor of mine rode to the station the other day and took the cars for Baltimore, the first time in a life of nearly sixty years, and when he came back he couldn't find language enough to express his delight at the despatch with which he was enabled to execute his business and return, and the pleasing sensations of railroad travel, (the result of combination,)—"so like a rockin' chair workin' bac'ards and for'ards on nothin' you know," and yet he would see a pestilence creep up out of the great city and sweep away the living tide between him and it, before he would attend a narrow guage road meeting of farmers, or strike a blow on the public highways for nothing; he wonders "why somebody don't go ahead and build plenty of sich roads for people to travel onto;" *and he represents his class.*

We grumble at the "high prices" and "hard times," and pay any price for our goods, when we might combine, buy the raw material, get a hatter, shoemaker, saddler and tailor in the neighborhood, keep them busy, improve the country, make a home market for our produce, and clear something besides.

We go to Baltimore and permit two or three profits on some of our produce by means of middle-men, when by a grand co-operative distributing establishment we might reach the retail trade direct, and share in the retail profit, and then come home and go up to the "Codge" and drink and talk away half a day over our misfortunes, and wonder why "somebody don't 'go ahead' and do it," and when somebody does go ahead, we hold back and say "he wants an orphis," or "it's a conjuration new fangled idee," or "he wants to make sum munny out of it," and after the thing has failed for want of our support, we go up to the "Codge" again and drink to that remarkable prescience which induced us to say in the beginning of the enterprise, in language as sublime as original, "I told you so."

We feed a pig nine months for 100 or 150 pounds of meat, or eighteen months for 200 or 250, when we might get the same weight—and more meat—in half the time, and wonder "why somebody don't go ahead and introduce that thar 'proved stock," or else we deny the reports of its superior excellence, and chuckle over our exalted wisdom as we remark, "the breed o' hogs iz all in the corn-house;" give us enny hog an' plenty o' korn, an' we'll down the scales for you, and all them big pork we read ov growed on paper. they did,"—when a combination of a few farmers would buy the stock and test it for less money apiece than "drinks all around."—We make three pounds of butter per cow per week, and put no faith in stories of ten and twelve pounders, although by combination a dollar a cow would bring twenty in the pail.

All this has been and is; but when the guardian angels of rural Maryland shall spread their white wings over the triumph of their protected, and gather the champions of her cause around them, chief among these shall stand as the agent of her redemption the jeweled form of combination; and to secure the help of the superhuman "somebody," we have been waiting for, we must bend our own energies to the task, and Hercules will be with us; to feel that the two-hand blade of a Cour de Leon is in the van, we must wield the weapons we have at command.

How to Make a Cheap Cellar Bottom.

The *Industrial Monthly* says: "In sections of the country where there is an abundance of cobbles stones, collect a few loads of them about four or five inches in diameter, grade the bottom of the cellar, lay the cobbles in rows, and ram them down one-third their thickness into the ground, so that they will not rock nor be sunk below the line of rows by any heavy superincumbent pressure, such as the weight of a hogshead of molasses or a tierce of vinegar. The bottom of the cellar should be graded so that the outside will be at least two inches lower than the middle. A mistake sometimes occurs by grading the cellar bottom in such a manner that the centre is left two or three inches lower than the outside. When this is the case, should water enter from the outside, it will flow directly towards the middle. A straight-edged board should be placed frequently on each row of stones as they are being rammed, so that the uppersides may be in a line with each other. After the stones are laid and well rammed down, place a few boards on the pavement to walk on; then make a grouting of clean sand and water lime, or Rosendale cement, and pour it on the stones until all the interstices are filled. As soon as the grouting has set, spread a layer of good cement mortar one inch thick over the top of the pavement, and trowel the surface on smoothly. In order to spread the mortar true and even on the surface, lay an inch board one foot from the wall, on the surface of the pavement, stand on the board and fill the space with mortar even with the top of the board, after which move the board one foot, fill the space with mortar and trowel it off smoothly. Such a floor will cost less than a board floor and will endure as long as the superstruction is kept in repair. A floor made in the foregoing manner on the ground, in the basement of a barn, a piggery or a stable, would be rat-proof, and would be found cheaper and more serviceable than a plank floor. The work should be done in the former part of the growing season so that the cement may have sufficient time to become dry and hard before cold weather."

Digging and Care of Potatoes.

We make the following extract on this subject from the *Potato Book* as both timely and practical:

"From planting to cooking, and in all processes between and inclusive, potatoes are unquestionably the most abusad things ever cultivated for human use; and in the long catalogue of errors peculiar to this excellent esculent, one of the most outrageous is neglecting to harvest them as soon as they are ripe. No other crop was ever maltreated in this way. When any other crop is fully matured, the farmer secures it at once lest it wastes and decays. But potatoes, being out of sight, are out of mind until a convenient season. When the farmer can find nothing else to do he digs them and then perhaps complains of them for being of bad character. Any other crop would be as bad, or worse, if treated in a similar manner. Potatoes are not unfrequently left in the ground several weeks after being ripe, as though they were dead stones and undamageable, instead of living, perishable organisms, subject to all the conditions, transformations and diseases that pertain to all vital structures. It is seldom that potatoes are not more or less damaged by neglect to harvest at the proper time, or by improper management in harvesting, however well they may have been raised and matured. When the tops of potato plants wither the tubers are ripe, and, like other crops, will be injured if not at once gathered and taken care of. If allowed to be once soaked in the ground by a severe or prolonged rain after ripening, they lose irreparibly some degree of their sweet flavor and some portion of their nutrimental properties; nor are they so sound and vital for seed potatoes; and every rain augments the damage, rendering them both less palatable and less wholesome. What farmer can be ignorant of the fact that the potatoes he digs in November and December are less dry and sweet than those he ate from the same field in September and October previously? Potatoes should not be exposed to the air, sun, or wind to dry them, as is customary, after being dug. If moist or dirty when taken from the ground, cleaning and drying does not protect them, but the reverse. Every potato that becomes uncovered before it is ripe, or which protrudes above its earthly covering, soon becomes blighted in the exposed part—a fact which proves that it is defenseless against aerial elements, and its need when dug of immediate protection."

Keeping Horses on Clover Hay.

If clover is cut when in blossom, is cured without being bleached and dried to death in the sun and rain, and is stored in such a condition that it will not heat in the mow, or stack, the fodder will be of excellent quality for any sort of stock. Touching this subject a writer in the *Country Gentleman* says: "Richard Montague, of Union Springs, N. Y., who drives the fastest horse of the place, informs us that he gives it no grain, but feeds it exclusively on clover hay, which he regards as richer food than any other kind of fodder. His horse has had no other food for the past two years. He takes care, however, to have his hay cured in the best manner, and not brown and dusty, as too frequently happens. The season for cutting is when in blossom. He never allows the sun to shine on it more than half a day before putting it into cock; one whole day of drying would be too much. He leaves it in cock at least a week, opening the heaps two or three times, only an hour or two each time. Clover hay cured in this way, instead of being discolored and dusty, comes out in Winter fresh and green, and much resembles the condition of a box of raisins when opened. The animals devour all, and to use his own words, 'eat all the scattered leaves, and lick everything out of the manger, leaving it clean and glossy.' Everything depends on curing the hay properly."

The above though containing very important advice on the subject of curing clover hay, it will occur to every practical farmer that in attempting to leave clover hay in the cock to cure that in five cases out of ever six it will be liable to be spoiled to a greater or less degree by rain. A cock of clover hay will take rain like a sponge, and once wet after being partially cured half its virtue is lost. The farmer who proposes to follow making hay of clover, to succeed in always having the best article must provide himself with a sufficient number of light canvas covers about three and a half or four feet square, with cords fastened to the corners and pegs to stick in the ground. This will secure the covers in their place and prove an effectual preventive against damage to the hay by rain. The gain in quality of the hay would much more than pay for the covers in one harvest.

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