FALSE QUARTER

Is when the hoof is divided transversely, or more commonly, longitudinally, from top to bottom; and this accident is nothing more than the result of a sand-crack, quittor, or perhaps a canker in the foot, improperly cured. It is likewise caused by bad shoeing, as when the hoof is rasped too thin, and too near the hair, or coronet; or by any wound that a horse may receive on the coronet, which produces inflammation and suppuration in the foot. A false quarter is both dangerous and painful, if the cure is not entrusted to a person well acquainted with the structure and economy of the foot, for at every step the horse makes, the divided part of the hoof widens; the laminae gets into it, which makes it bleed, and produces a very painful lameness, which is difficult to cure.

For the treatment of a false quarter, the reader will refer to the article, Sand-crack.

FARCY

Is a chronic disorder, which takes place in consequence of a relaxation and obstruction in the absorbent vessels, which are very numerous
and large in the posterior extremities of the horse, consequently produces swellings in the legs, belly, and other parts of the body. When these swellings are large, they are known by the name of water farcy, but as the disease takes root, the lymphatic veins also swell, and will soon appear like knotted cords; these knots are produced by the valves with which these kind of vessels are particularly supplied; the knotting obstructions taking place at each valve, occasions them to burst, and produce ulcers of a bad nature, and difficult to cure, which, in a very short time, spread all over the body; this state of the disease is termed the corded and button farcy.

If the disorder has been neglected or ill-treated, the swelling of the legs and other places increase; the horse falls off his food, he grows lean, a consumptive fever comes on, and a running at the nose takes place, which, in its further progress, often announces, that the farcy had degenerated into the glanders. The causes that produce this disorder, may be general debility, foul feeding, a want of proper exercise, a scirrrous state of the mesenteric glands, or from an affection of the secretory organs, or from an impurity of the serum; and, whatever diminishes the vital heat. The stranglers greatly exalt the malignity of this disorder.
At the beginning of the disease a considerable enlargement and pain is perceived in the affected absorbents. Glandular tumours begin to spring up, at first extremely sensible, but soon becoming scirrhous; and if these symptoms are permitted to increase, those little tumours soon discharge a foul and corroding sanies, which gives the disorder a very ugly appearance, by spreading themselves with a considerable rapidity all over the body. When the disorder attacks the head first, it may be expected it will proceed with greater violence, and will terminate with more pernicious consequences, than at any other part of the body, as this last symptom frequently announces it will finish in the glanders. Another case equally fatal, is, when the farcy retreats from the outward parts of the body, and falls upon some internal vicera, such as the lungs, intestines, &c.

The cure. When the animal is fleshy, or in high condition, bleeding, and a little mild purging physic, cooling diet, and a great deal of gentle exercise will be required.

But should the animal be low in condition, his hide bound, his coat starting, it cannot but be obvious, that medicines, having a tendency to reduce the system, must be avoided, which symptoms announce, that the constitution of the animal has become vitiated by the absorp-
tion of the poison produced by farcy; the buds will be numerous, the absorbent vessels, and sometimes the veins accompanying them, will be hard and distended; painful swellings will probably attack the extremities, and the whole frame will soon wear a haggard and distressing appearance.

At such a period, and indeed, in every degree of farcy, we may give the following balls, gradually increasing the proportion of the active material, until it has arrived at three or four times its original quantity. Particular care must be taken the horse is not exposed to cold air, his clothing warm, and a moderate gentle exercise twice a day.

Should the animal feel sore about the mouth or throat, purge or stale too much, from the use of those balls, in this case, the use of medicines should be discontinued until these effects disappear, and the horse recovers his appetite, viz. take of muriate of quick-silver, (corrosive sublimate), an ounce; antimony, four ounces; flour of sulphur, eight ounces; anisated balsam of sulphur, a sufficient quantity to form sixteen balls. One of these, or of the following, may be given every day.

Take arsenic an ounce, antimony, four ounces, flour of sulphur eight ounces, anisated balsam of sulphur a sufficient quantity to form sixteen
balls. The use of these medicines must be continued some time after the disease is removed. If any of these balls cause irritation upon the intestines, and kidneys, their use must be discontinued, or it will be adviseable to add half a drachm of opium to each ball.

The diet must be scalded oats and bran, mixed together, with a handful of split beans, at each feed: the clothing must be warm, his drink made warm also, and white with bran, or meal.

The local treatment of farcy must be attempted by frequent application of blisters, as well as the application of the actual cautery, which must be repeated as often as necessity requires, being certainly the best local applications, particularly when there are ulcers. Their effect is to diminish the inflammation of the absorbents, by creating an irritation upon the skin; while, by stimulating the external absorbents, the action of the internal are also increased. Moreover, the parts that have been blistered, and those cauterized with the hot iron, must be well fomented with a solution of blue vitriol; the parts being previously washed with warm water.

If this treatment be properly and judiciously attended to, it will eradicate the most inveterate farcy. To support this assertion, I could almost
Farcy.

fill a volume of the different cures of farcy I performed by the same treatment, many of which had been abandoned, and condemned as incurable by farriers of high repute, after being kept some months under the treatment prescribed in the old school. Yet the disorder is often so complicated, or has such a tendency to degenerate into malignity, or has already acted so much on the system, as to have rendered the case capable of resisting every effort of nature and art.

Therefore, I shall mention here two different cases of farcy, treated both in the same manner, in which it succeeded completely in one horse, and failed in the other; the first was in Dublin; he was sent to Mr. Burn's slaughtering-house to be killed; it fortunately happened I was there at the time, for the purpose of making some anatomical researches on different dead horses, and other animals which are generally there in great quantities. In this situation I begged mercy for the poor animal, for the purpose of making experiments, and improving myself, as I thought no better subject could be got for those purposes; his hide was perforated, and ulcerated with farcy buds in more than thirty places; his legs and sheath considerably swelled, and had a slight running at the nose, with all the symptoms of the glanders.
Yet it gives me pleasure to say, that he was radically cured by the above treatment, in less than three months, after which time he was sold by Mr. Burn, for fifteen guineas, to a farmer, and three months after he was sold again for forty-five guineas, as he turned out to be one of the cleverest leapers and hunters about Dublin.

I have experienced the same success in a vast number of horses; in many instances equally as bad as the one before described.* Yet, we sometimes meet with obstacles that are really insurmountable, and in which the efforts of art are of but little avail: this, every rational man will allow.

Therefore this incontrovertible fact will lead me to give here the description of a case of farcy, which has been treated in every respect as the above, yet it did not terminate with the same success.

A mare of Captain Moreland's troop, of the 12th light dragoons, was taken very ill on the 11th day of July, 1806, with a dreadful itching all over the body, particularly at the head, with a considerable inflammation of the brain, which

* I could procure more than fifty cases of this kind, that were equally as bad as the above, even in the regiment I am now in, that got completely cured without experiencing any kind of relapse.
in a few hours terminated in the complete staggerers. On the first discovery of the disease, I caused the animal to lose four quarts of blood, and to take immediately a purging ball, composed of eight drachms of aloe, and a drachm of calomel, which operate very well in about fifteen hours. At the same time a strong blister was applied on the head and neck.

On the 12th and 13th the blister was well fomented with warm water three times a day, an hour each time. During this time the itching continued with great violence all over her body, which almost made her tear herself to pieces. In consequence I ordered the mare to lose three quarts more blood, and every itchy part about her to be blistered and fomented the day after, in the same manner as the head. The animal was indulged with plenty of warm gruel for her drink, mash of bran, and scalded oats and nitre.

The 15th and 16th no medicines were administered.

The 17th the staggerers was subdued, but I perceived that the disorder would terminate in farcy. In order to guard against such termination, on the 18th I ordered the physic to be repeated as before, which operated very well. After it was settled, I prescribed the sublimate corrosive balls as above, to be taken once, or
twice a day according to its effect, which treatment was continued until the 30th, at which time the whole of her body, head and legs, were covered with farcy buds, of different sizes, some as big as an egg, and others larger, &c. they were all treated (as described in farcy) with blister, and the actual cautery; this treatment brought every one of them to a good suppuration, which continued for several weeks; but, during which time, the animal appeared weak, and fell away very much; in consequence, I ordered every internal medicine to be suspended, until she recovered her strength, which she did, but the disorder increasing with its former fury, I prescribed on the 20th of August, the same balls, to be continued as before, and given, with every appearance of success, until the 10th of September, at which time every bud was apparently cured. The animal seemed to be in good spirits, feeding and drinking well, every secretion was perfectly regular, until on a sudden she broke out again in her hind quarter, with lumps of a considerable size, a blister fixed, on every one of those hard lumps, brought them to a good suppuration again in a few days which continued to be properly dressed until perfectly cured; such favorable symptoms would induce any medical man to expect a permanent cure would soon make a compensa-
tion for all his troubles, and indeed those hopes of success continued until the 20th of October, when, in the course of one night, her legs and joints was found so swelled, as to render the animal incapable of being exercised as usual. A few days after her knees and fetlock joints appeared as if they had been dislocated; Hemorrhages took place from the knees and fetlock joints. In this situation she therefore became no longer capable to walk out, without being supported by the assistance of seven or eight men.

On the 24th she was not able to stand up at all, without being supported, although she possessed a tolerable good appetite from the beginning of this treatment to the 2d of November, at which period death put an end to her misery.

On dissection, the abdominal viscera was found full of ulcers and obstructions; the lungs in the highest state of mortification, the heart enlarged, and nearly in the same state: a great quantity of water in the abdomen, thorax, and ventricles of the brain: the ligaments of the knees, fetlock joints, &c. greatly relaxed, and even separated from the bones in several places, which accounted for the animal not being able to walk or even stand on her legs, a few days previous to her death. The shanks, the large
and small pastern bones were very much enlarged, and carious in several places, &c.

It is not easy to account for this uncommon case of farcy, any other way than that it has been produced by an extraordinary virus, which had, previous to her last attack, circulated in the blood, and other fluids. This is so evident, that the mare having been ill with the strangles, and being badly treated by the dealers, previous to her having been purchased for the regiment, she was very often taken ill with a cough, running at the nose, and a swelling under the jaw, which subsided completely by the use of a few doses of physic, and some alterative balls: yet these symptoms will be sufficient to prove, that when the strangles are of a bad quality, or rendered so by improper treatment, the virus will sometimes produce a malignity in the blood, capable of creating the above incurable mischief, which in any other case, but such complication, might by this treatment, judiciously followed, obtain a permanent cure.

The general appearance on dissection of horses that die with farcy, is, that the thorax contain a greater or less quantity of watery fluid, possessing in many cases, such a degree of acrimony, as to produce disorder on the hands by coming in contact with it. The abdomen contains the same kind of poisonous fluid, the
FEVER.

Lungs are black and putrid, the kidneys enlarged or entirely decayed, and in many instances the epiphyses have been found divided from the bones, the cartilages separate, and several bones themselves almost dissolved by caries.

FEVER.

Horses are subject to one species of fever only. But quadrupeds are never troubled with that kind of disease called intermittents, quotidian, tertian, and quartan fevers, so common to the human species. But when a horse is taken with a fever, it is much more dangerous than when that malady visits man.

Owing to the powerful action of the heart, and arteries, in the horse, inflammation terminates in gangrene and mortification, in the course of a few days, which is very rarely the case in the human subject. Fever is in animals seldom a primary disease, being always associated with and originating from a variety of diseases, such as catarrh or cold, strangles, inflammations of the lungs, fractures, and every spasmodic disease arising from the extreme vessels.
The symptoms of fever in the horse are dullness and inflammation of the eyes, heaving at the flanks, impeded respiration, the nostrils dilated, the ears, tongue, and lower extremities hot, strong breath, fickle appetite both to meat and drink, sometimes great avidity of drink, the dung voided but seldom and hard, and difficulty of staling, with high-coloured, red, or yellow urine. The difference in fever, with inflammation of the lungs, is, that the horse lies down in the first, but never does in the last. Some cases of fever require the earliest assistance to check the progress of the disease. We shall therefore, before we mention the treatment proper to be adopted in its cure, say a few words on the state of the blood, that the practitioner may be assisted in forming his opinion respecting the quantity of blood necessary to be taken away.

When blood is fresh drawn from a vein, it appears to be homogeneous, and of a red colour; but, when suffered to stand in the vessel, it soon coagulates, and divides into two parts, which are distinguished by the names of crassamentum, and serum. The crassamentum is the red cake, and the serum the amber-coloured water in which it swims. The crassamentum itself indeed consists of two different kinds of matter, namely, the red particles, and the
coagualable lymph; but these, when the animal is in a healthy state, are so intimately blended, as to appear, when cold, a red uniform mass.

But, in case of inflammation and fever, where the action of the heart and arteries is increased, the blood is longer in coagulating, and the red particles being heavier than the coagulable lymph, which should suspend them, separate, and fall to the bottom. This causes the yellow and buffy coat which is seen on the surface of coagulated blood in these diseases; and as the mass of crassamentum is greater or less in proportion to the serum, and more or less covered with a thick yellow matter, so we are to estimate the degree of inflammation existing in the system, and how far bleeding may be further necessary.

The treatment of fever must be attempted first by bleeding, to the quantity of three or four quarts: for success in cure, depends, in a great measure on early bleeding: for as in animals, particularly the horse, the progress of the diseases is much more rapid than in man. After having abated the force of the arterial system by bleeding, we must endeavour to relax the intestines, and expel any irritating matter, which otherwise would increase the disease. This will be effected by two or three
glisters of warm water every day. The diet should be warm mashes of bran, with a small quantity of scalded oats or oatmeal mixed in them. Hay is to be given in small quantities: the water given for drink should be about milk warm. Should the animal refuse this diet, he must be supported with oatmeal gruel, given five or six times a day with the horn, until his appetite returns. If the cough be violent and troublesome, it will be necessary to repeat the bleeding, and give the following balls:

Take flour of sulphur six ounces; tartar emetic three ounces; calomel eight drachms; purified opium half an ounce; a sufficient quantity of honey to form a mass, to be divided into twenty-four balls, one of which to be given twice a day.

It will be necessary also to give the animal an ounce of nitre, dissolved in a quart of water-gruel, or mixed with a little treacle or honey, as a ball: it will be found of very great service, and the best medicine that can be given in inflammatory cases.

The following balls are likewise extremely good in fever, and other inflammatory cases, viz. take powdered nitre twelve ounces; antimonial powder three ounces, camphor six ounces, or treacle or honey enough to form the mass;
divide this into twenty-four balls, and give one every eight hours.

If this treatment be properly attended to the fever will be very soon removed, and the extreme vessels will recover their usual action. Horses in fever should always be well clothed, to be able to allow a plentiful supply of fresh air in the stable: for nothing can be more pernicious to sick horses than to be confined in the hot effluvia which arises from other horses, bodies, excrements, wind, and urine, shut up in the same stable, rendering the air unfit for respiration: and, undoubtedly, greatly increases the disorder. In such a situation, the best medicines, however judiciously prescribed, can be of no avail, as their effects are counteracted by improper management.

The rack and manger ought to be washed with warm water, particularly when there is a discharge from the nose, &c. The common cordial balls or drenches, that are frequently given in inflammatory cases, are to be carefully avoided, as they tend, by their heating qualities, to increase the oppression of the stomach, and aggravate the inflammation.
FISTULA

Is a kind of ulcer running in different directions, and for the most part difficult to cure, having its internal surface and its orifice callous. It is known to exist when there is an aperture on the surface of the body, from which a sanious or other matter either flows, or may be pressed out; its depth and direction is discovered by the probe, or if the directions are various, warm water may be injected therein, by which it will be easy to determine the size of the cavity.

The most frequent cause of sinuses forming in ulcers and abscesses, is the want of vent to the discharge, which easily insinuates itself in every direction, till it finds an opening externally, or into some of the neighbouring cavities.

All the fleshy parts of animals are liable to fistula, but more particularly the lion back, withers, and the top of the head called the poll. If in consequence of some accident, an inflammation, or suppuration takes place on any of those places, the matter cannot easily find its way outwards, it will, run in the intertices of the muscles and bones, and in this state of stagnation, will form what is termed fistulae, when there is more than one, and the ravages produced by the long continuance of pus in
those different sinuses, are sometimes so great as to render the case incurable. These obstacles to cure are very often owing to the infamous practice of farriers, and other stabularians, in using astringent and even caustic applications too soon, instead of encouraging a good suppuration, and then to give a free passage to the pus, by making a good large opening with the knife, and afterwards taking care the wound does not close before the cavities are properly and uniformly healed. For farther particulars on the nature and treatment of fistulæ in different parts of the body, we refer the reader to their respective heads, as sinuses, poll-evil, caries of the bones, &c.

FOUNDER.

Every one almost that has wrote on the Veterinary Art, describes pretty well the causes and symptoms of this disease, but they are quite silent on the real seat of founder. They say, that cold suddenly applied to the body, whether it be from a current of cold wind, or from plunging the body into cold water when overheated, the effects are the same, &c. This is all very true; but these are not all the causes that may produce these disorders. This accident
will happen also by breaking and riding young colts about, at the age of two or three years; when we may conceive how easy it is to destroy for ever, the delicacy of their fibres. Another cause of foundering is often produced by shoeing; particularly in the summer season, when the weather is hot, and the roads hard; at this time, if the frog, binders, and sole, has been over-pared, or cut away with the buttress, and the horse exposed to severe and continual exercise, particularly on hard roads, inflammation of those parts is sure to ensue, which, in its progress will extend to the laminae, and sensible sole. The symptoms at first are these: when the horse begins to cool, he appears very stiff and feeble in his fore quarters, and when forced to move forwards, he collects his body, as it were, into a heap, and brings his hind feet as far forward under his belly as he possibly can, in order to remove the pressure of the weight of his body from the fore legs and feet; at the same time he sets his fore feet to the ground with seeming great pain; his feet are extremely hot, and his legs more or less swelled, and evidently painful to the animal when touched; a violent fever succeeds, and the horse continually lies down, finding it impossible to stand up; if he be up, it is only for a few minutes; in this deplorable state, if he is not properly
treated, he will soon cast his hoofs, or the case will speedily terminate in death.

By these symptoms we may perceive that all this mischief is produced by an inflammation of the sensible frog, sensible sole, and laminae of the foot; and that when the animal recovers without losing his hoofs, there will remain generally a chronic lameness confined to the foot, and ligaments of the coffin joint in particular; which will continue with more or less violence, according to the damages done to the parts confined within the hoof at the time the horse received the accident. It is this chronic lameness which often remains after the inflammation has subsided, that all the ancient writers have been pleased to call chest-founder, and vulgarly termed grawgy.

The cure of the inflammation of the sensible frog, sole, and laminae, improperly called founder, consists first in taking the shoes off, in order to rasp the sides of the heels, and quarters, and the horny sole may be cut with the buttress if found too thick; the rasping and reducing the thickness of the hoofs will be found extremely salutary in easing the parts confined in the horny box, called the hoof. The next thing to be done, is to scarify the two lateral cartilages of the foot, and then apply a strong blister on the parts, twenty-four hours after the
operation, from the fetlock joints to the hoofs; and the day following let the feet be kept constantly in a bath of warm water, if the animal can stand up; if not, he must be well fomented with the same, and poultices of bran and water applied at night.* When the blistered parts are nearly well, they must be blistered again, and continued to be so, as long as circumstances require, which may be once a week during five or six weeks: not forgetting to scarify the two lateral cartilages of the coffin bone perpendicularly, with a scarificator, or a fleam, which in case of necessity, may be used with advantage, by making half a dozen cuts to each cartilage.

If the animal should bleed more than three quarts, the bleeding should be stopped with a strong solution of blue vitriol: but, if on the contrary, he should not bleed that quantity, he must then be bled at the neck. The coronet must be scarified before the first blister is put on. This treatment will succeed admirably well to relieve the inflammation of the parts confined within the hoofs.

* It will be necessary to observe that if there is any appearance of the coffin bone piercing through the horny sole, this accident must be prevented, by covering it with tar and vitriolic acid, and spirits of turpentine, equal quantity of each; or dressed with the same, if the accident has already taken place.
During the course of this treatment, it is necessary to give six or seven drachms of aloes, as a purgative, which must be repeated at least once a week. A diuretic ball now and then, will be found also serviceable.

The following case will prove the advantage resulting from the above treatment. A troop horse belonging to the ninth regiment of light dragoons*, was rode by a quarter-master of the same regiment, on his return to his quarters at Blachington; he was rode very hard, as I suppose, by the distressed situation I found the animal in, for an hour after he got him in the stable, he came to me in the barracks at Guildford, to inform me that his horse was very ill with convulsions, as far as he could judge; as he could not stand upon his feet, and was in the greatest agony. But on examining the case, I soon found that it was an inflammation of the sensible frog, sole, and laminæ of the feet.—I instantly ordered a farrier to scarify the two lateral cartilages of the foot, and let them bleed plentifully. I afterwards ordered a glister of warm water, and at the same time plenty of water-gruel for his drink. Also I prescribed for him two ounces of nitre, mixed in a quart of his gruel, which he took with the horn.

* This happened before the regiment embarked for Buenos Ayres.
The next morning at twelve o'clock, the scarified parts having been blistered, the feet bathed and fomented, a poultice applied at night, and seven drachms of aloes given him, which operated very well the next morning: In short, blisters, warm bathing and fomentations, poultices, physic, and diuretics, was repeated alternately, one after another, during six weeks; at the expiration of which time, the animal was able to join his regiment, perfectly sound, the casting of the old hoofs excepted, and the re-production of the new ones in their place. But this process takes place so easily after the inflammation is subdued, that it is of little or no inconvenience to the animal, if properly attended in the management of his feet at every shocing.

I might here mention a vast number of cases of this kind, radically cured by the same treatment, but a most striking instance exists now in the regiment, in which I serve as veterinary surgeon: the animal is in Captain Stamer's troop, perfectly sound, after being considered incurable by every one that saw his distressing situation, during the inflammatory state of the disease, and the shedding of his hoofs which accident rendered him six months infirm, and would have rendered him entirely useless for ever, had it not been for a proper and judicious application of the above treatment.