JARDON

Is a preternatural excrescence or tumour on a bone, caused by the discharge of a superfluous quantity of ossific matter upon the part it is seated; which enlargement takes place on the outside of the hock, as a spavin does on the inside, and splints, &c. Those kinds of swellings commonly proceed from external injuries of the bone, such as blows, kicks by other horses, or by the violent exertions of leaping, racing, and breaking horses too young; this often produces preternatural hardness of the ligaments, which enlarge, and harden the bones also, near the place where those ligaments are inserted.

The cure of these tumours, improperly called Jardon, will be fully described in the article Spavin and Splints, &c. to which the reader may refer.

JAUNDICE

Is a very rare complaint in horses, and in them it is less liable to be united with other diseases than in man. The reason of this is, that the liver is very seldom diseased in the horse primarily, but commonly in consequence of the
disease of some other part, as from inflammation of the lungs, where there is great irritation and an increased circulation; another thing is, that affections of the liver is very difficult to be ascertained in the horse. The most common symptoms are the viscus ceasing to secrete, which occasions costiveness; and the faeces are also of a clay colour, and the animal sometimes lame.

Many people think that the liver is diseased when the eyelids and urine are yellow, with all other symptoms of jaundice; this, in fact, however shews that the gland is in health, and is a true sign that it performs its proper secretion. But when inflammation of the liver takes place, the secreted bile becomes obstructed, and is forced into the hepatic veins, or taken up by the lymphatics, and carried into the circulation, which tinges all the secretions, and forms the jaundice, or the yellows (as it is commonly called). The liver having but a very dull sense of feeling, if the inflammation be confined to the interior parts, it will hardly be attended with any pain (at least perceptible) in brutes: but when inflammation of the liver catches the diaphragm, intestines, or parietes of the abdomen, the animal is sometimes lame, without any apparent cause.

The jaundice in young horses is seldom dangerous; and when it is caused by high feeding,
and want of sufficient exercise, it is more easily removed than when it is brought on by those causes which induce a morbid state of the liver.

It would be very desirable to find out a remedy which would mediate or resolve the concretions of the bile already formed; but, however, in the cure of the jaundice bleeding is of no use, because it produces debility and promotes absorption, and must evidently increase rather than diminish the disease. But it will be proper to give some laxative clysters of soap and water, for in the beginning of the disease horses are apt to be costive, and sometimes costiveness alone will bring it on.

Similar good effects may with reason be expected from mercurial purging medicines, by their increasing the natural motions of the intestines, and causing a greater flow of bile, as well as of all the other humours which are poured into them.

These, as we know by abundant experience, may be taken for several months, every three days, without exhausting the strength or spirits.

If it happen that the jaundice is of itself attended with a purging, there may be nothing farther necessary, than by gentle means to prevent its being excessive, such as opium, and at the same time to strengthen the system by proper remedies; of this kind are the alkaline salts,
lime-water, soap-leys, and various soaps. Three drachms of volatile alkaline salts, given twice a day, has a peculiar or specific effect in an inver-terate jaundice.

When a horse is taken with the yellow, and the disorder ascertained by the yellowness of the eyes and lips, which I believe to be the only two symptoms observable in brutes; in this case the excrements are generally hard and costive; to this it will be necessary to give a few brisk purges, joined with calomel, which succeed very well in removing the obstructions of the bile.

Rowelling is also proper, particularly to fat horses; warm water, made white with bran or gruel, and warm marshes of a part of bran, scalding oats, and beans, are to comprise the whole of the animal's diet. Every attention must be paid to keep him warmly clothed, and plenty of gentle exercise.

It may be necessary to add, that if the jaun-dice is attended with inflammatory symptoms; such as fever, or any disorder of the brain, it must be understood, that in such a case, the appearance of the yellow is only the effect, and not the cause, of the disorder; for which I re-commend strongly to bleed, and treat as in every inflammatory case.