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every dressing to prevent the rising of fungus or proud flesh. This treatment was continued ten weeks; at the expiration of that time, I had the satisfaction of returning the horse again to the owner perfectly sound.

I have described this case of quittor, being one of the worst I ever saw, to shew that the operation by the knife is perfectly safe, and indeed the surest method to cure the disease in the state above described. But the operation requires great judgment and dexterity in the performance, in order to avoid wounding with the instrument the tendons or ligaments of the coronet and coffin-joints.

RHEUMATISM.

Rheumatism is certainly a very common complaint in the human subject; but whether this disease ought, or ought not to be considered, in a modern veterinary work, as a genus of disorder belonging to the brute species, is not yet sufficiently determined, nor proved by experience and observation.

We know that many horses become lame without any apparent cause; yet this does not sufficiently warrant us to pronounce with certainty, that it is positively produced by rheumatism: because his lameness may arise
from injuries done to, or violence exercised on this noble animal, and not from rheumatism, as many old farriery writers supposed it to be: their works being for the most part compiled from the practice of medicine and surgery, adapted to the human subject, they have not discriminated between the structure and diseases of the human and brute species, and have described many diseases as common to both, which in reality belong to the former only, but never affect the horse nor any other quadruped.

It is thus the ignorant practitioner, when he cannot find out the seat of the complaint, immediately pronounces that it is a rheumatism; whilst the more minute investigation of the enlightened soon find the disease to be in some other place, and of a nature very different from rheumatism. Such as an inflammation of the sensible sole, frog, and lamina of the foot; or perhaps in the ligaments of the coffin and small pastern joints, &c. In short, if we examine and reflect upon the structure and functions of those parts, we shall see, that they are continually kept in an unremitting state of exertion; and the action which produces an unequal distribution of the weight, will undoubtedly produce a lameness, easily to be mistaken for a rheumatism, as the inflammatory symptoms
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will often subside, without the farrier's assistance; but there will remain a chronic lameness, for weeks, or perhaps months, generally owing to the mismanagement of the original accident; and to save the practitioner's ignorance, the disease goes under the name of rheumatism.

If horses and other animals are subject to rheumatism, it will be found to proceed from an inspissated mucus left upon the fascia of the muscles, occasioning pain when they move.

The grand difficulty lies in ascertaining the seat of this disease; however, the shoulders and hips are the parts most commonly affected with it, and it is often so deeply situated in those parts, that neither the sight, nor even the touch, can enable us to determine, nor to distinguish it, from any other lameness. But if a horse goes lame without a visible cause, and a wasting of the limbs on the side affected, it appears so evident, as not to leave any doubt of its being a rheumatism.

The cure must be began by taking a little blood, and rubbing the parts twice a day with spirits of turpentine, or blistering the decayed parts, allowing them to discharge for a considerable time; if these fail, no method would then be attended with so probable success of a radical cure, as the actual cautery, made very small and round pointed, so as to be introduced
very deep into the muscular parts; a few doses of purging physic will be of some service, particularly if it proceeds from any strumous humours, or a tendency to an ulcer; in the interval of purging give one or two alterative balls every day, composed of antimony half an ounce, and calomel fifteen grains; the same dose may be repeated every day and continued until the desired effect is obtained, taking care to keep the animal well clothed, with a great deal of gentle exercise.

This is another case in which warm bathing would be extremely beneficial, if it could be provided for horses, with as little trouble and expense as it is done for the use of the human subject. After the treatment above recommended, it will be advisable to turn out the animal to grass; for which a salt marsh will be preferable to any other; but this is recommended as a last resource only.

RING-BONE

Is a bony enlargement, situated on the lower and anterior part of the large pastern bone, very often spreading downwards to the coronet, and from its resemblance to a ring is so denominated. The ring-bone may arise from the following cause—strain, or defect of the lateral
ligament which runs from the lower head of the large, and upper head of the small pastern bones. If the enlargement spread downward so as to come near the coffin joint, it will be found to proceed from a natural or accidental defect of the ligament surrounding the head of the small pastern bone, which is covered by cartilage, in which state it is often incurable.

The prognosis of a ring-bone is more or less favourable, or dangerous, according to the violence of the accident which has given rise to it, and the magnitude of the ring; as the pain and lameness produced by it always depends on the quantity of ossified matter throughout, and fixed on the bony and ligamentous substances; and in proportion as this abounds will the cure be more or less tedious and difficult.

The cure of ring-bones, spavins, splints, curbs, &c. are extremely simple, as nothing more can be done, than frequent applications of blisters; and if these fail, the actual cautery is the only chance of cure; and if it should not, it will at least stop the farther progress of the disease.
ROARING.

This is rather an inconvenience than a disease, and takes its name from a roaring noise, which the horse makes in breathing whenever he is put into quick action. This disagreeable noise exists without any inflammation; the cause of it is however a previous inflammation of the lungs, by which coagulable lymph is thrown out into the cells, and perhaps the blood itself, getting white by the absorption of the red particles, and by the moisture of the surrounding parts, when the deposit fills the cells, that part of the lungs inclines to the schirrus, and obstructs, in a greater or less degree, the passage of air.

It is thus we perceive, that roaring proceeds from diseased lungs and lymph being extravasated, and coagulated on the inside of the windpipe or the trachea, in which case the air that comes out of the lungs rushes against those little bends of coagulated lymph, and makes the noise we hear, so often mistaken for broken wind. This disease is distinguished from broken wind, by the respiration being more frequent, and the inspiration and expiration being uniform.

Cure—In the treatment of this disease, very
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little can be done towards a permanent cure; but we may sometimes prevent the disease, when it proceeds from inflammation of the lungs, by the frequent use of gentle purging physic; rowel under the jaw, and frequent application of blisters on the wind-pipe, and on each sides of the chest, if we suppose the lungs have any share in the disease. I have employed calomel, and the digitals, half a drachm of each, with the greatest success, in several diseases of the lungs; and I recommend them as an admirable remedy to produce absorption, &c. that will succeed, provided the disease is not accompanied with an abundant discharge from the nose.

RUPTURE.

We call it a rupture, when any part of the abdominal contents are forced through the interstices left between the tendinous expansions of the abdominal muscles, for the passage of the spermatic chord, which is composed of nerves, blood-vessels, &c.

Horses are most frequently affected with that kind of rupture that pushes out on the sides of the lower belly, where the tunica vaginalis passes through the rings of the muscles, with the spermatic vessels, into the scrotum;
and in geldings they seldom reach further than the first ring, which is a little way above the groin or inguinal glands: but when a rupture happens on the sides of the flanks, they generally bunch out about the size of a six-penny loaf, and are fullest when the horse stands at rest, especially when the stomach and bowels are loaded with food; and in broken-winded horses they rise and fall with the motion of the flanks; they are soft, and yield to the pressure of the hand, and most of them feel empty or hollow, through which the viscera make their way immediately to the skin.

Ruptures proceed from violent exertions in working; kicks from other horses; very high leaps; or from being staked; or gored by cows or bullocks, &c.; all which accidents frequently divide the muscles of the lower belly, without piercing the skin, or exhibiting any other appearance of external injury being committed; by which means, the intestines, with a part of the peritoneum, comes through, and causes a swelling of a proportion and size to the laceration made in the part.

The cure of all kinds of ruptures is extremely difficult, not to say impossible in horses; yet, as I have treated a few cases of this kind with success, it will be necessary to mention how I proceeded. First then, all the parts must be
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returned into their proper situation, for which purpose the animal must be thrown, and kept upon his back until this is effected. If we succeed in this operation, we shall have nothing more to do, than to keep them in their places, which must be effected by pressure made on the seat of the ruptured part, with a plate of lead of the same size, or rather larger, covered with tow, supported in its situation with little mattresses made with tow, making the mattresses of gradual sizes.

There must be a cushion filled with hay, sufficiently thick and soft, so as to avoid any great pressure on the opposite side. The whole must be properly secured with a very long and large bandage, to go about five or six times round the horse's body. The part must be fomented three times a day with a solution of alum and vinegar, equal quantities of each: in half a gallon of this, add two ounces of muriatic acid of salt; or take a decoction of oak bark, alum and vinegar, equal quantities of each. But our attention must be particularly directed to the bandage, as the only means capable of preventing the return of the tumour.

I have seen horses labouring under ruptures, that went through their business pretty well for several years, notwithstanding the accident:
except when attacked with the gripes or cholic, to which they are extremely subject on the least violent exertions; when the disease often terminates fatally, by forcing down a part of some of the abdominal contents through the tendinous expansions of the abdominal muscles, into the scrotum in a stallion; but in geldings and mares the tumour is more confined in the groin, and never happens to them, without external injury be done to the part.

SAND-CRACK

Is a disease to which horses are extremely liable, owing to the preservation of their feet being generally entrusted to the care of an uninformed class of men, that rasp, and cut a horse's hoof at every shoeing, as a carpenter does a piece of wood; therefore it is not to be wondered at, that we often see the fibres of the hoof separated from the coronet to the shoe, and forming sand-cracks; a disease extremely painful, and often difficult to cure.

This erroneous method of cutting, and raising the frog above the ground, will produce contracted feet, and contracted feet cause sand-cracks; a tread, or a cut on the coronet, a little below the coronary ring, will also produce this disease.