



[From the Daily West.]

## SPRING.

The joyful Spring once more with chaplets crown'd  
Has poured her choicest blessings all around;  
Each silent valley and each verdant lawn  
Enriched with flowers, look beautiful as the dawn;  
Demure and modest, here the violet grows;  
In yonder garden blooms the blushing rose;  
To these the lilac adds her fragrant dower  
Of perfume, cherished by the sun and shower.  
Reviving Flora walks the earth, a queen  
Of kingdoms peerless as a fairy scene:  
Far o'er the hills, in many a graceful line,  
The rainbow blossoms of the orchards shine.  
How softly mingled all their tints unite,  
Embalmed the breeze and bliss the graceful night;  
Embowered in shade, the partridge makes her bed,  
With silken moss o'er tender osiers spread;  
Each happy bird expands his dappled wings,  
Soars with his gentle mate and sweetly sings;  
The sounds of joyful husbandry arise,  
In pleasing murmurs to the pale blue skies;  
Shrill flut's the plowman's whistle, whilst he speeds  
Along the yielding earth his patient steeds.  
Joyful the life, which tills the genial soil,  
And sweet the profits of the farmer's toil;  
Content, as smiling as a cherub's face,  
Keeps joyful vigils round his dwelling place,  
And gentle Hope and Love forever bright,  
Smiling like seraphs in their bowers of light,  
Salute his mornings and embalm each night.

## The Merciful Man's Care of his Beast.

We have long been of opinion that the brute creation, so inseparably connected with the comfort and well-being of mankind, were not generally so well cared for as they ought to be. There are those among us, as also elsewhere, who probably bestow all due care upon their dumb animals; but the number is few indeed.

We have also known men who would expend more means in catering for the comfort of a fine horse and whose pride was more gratified in the display of a fine blooded beast, than in any other earthly, or, perhaps heavenly possession—their families not excepted. However, being fully conscious that "there is no accounting for taste," we have no disposition at present to enter into any controversy with them, on this account. Being agents unto themselves, also, doubtless all men have the privilege of seeking to gratify their tastes and feelings in any way most pleasing to themselves, only being restrained from in any way infringing upon each other's rights. Notwithstanding, to avoid extremes by judiciously pursuing the middle path, is doubtless most conducive to the common good.

To properly care and provide for his horse, or cow, or ox, necessarily involves no compromise of the duties or immunities which the husbandman owes or which may pertain unto any department of social or domestic life. Indeed, it might be established as an axiom, that the man who, in all reasonable ways, makes provision for the good keeping of his animals, will usually be found a good provider and careful guardian of the comfort of his family.

That a reckless improvidence towards the former has no favorable influence in aiding the accumulation of means for the dutiful performance of the latter, we have seen unfortunately exemplified, in more instances than we could have wished; and possibly, the exercise, or even the effort, in some instances, to acquire the practice of bestowing a little more attention upon their animals might eventually result in a greater development of the organs of self-culture and of a more plausible provision for the wants and comfort of his family, besides the material assistance afforded by a good-conditioned team or a well-fed cow, towards furnishing the requisite means for supplying those wants.

The great Washington, in his care of his horses, was not less exact than in his unscrupulous fulfillment of his other duties. For the instruction of those desirous to copy after so illustrious an example and as a matter of curiosity, we print the following extract:

During the whole of his presidency, Washington preserved the habit of rising at four o'clock and retiring to bed at nine. On Saturdays, he rested somewhat from his labors, by either riding into the country, attended by a groom, or with his family in his coach drawn by six horses. His stables were always in the finest order, and his equipage excellent both in taste and quality. Washington's master of horse was an old fellow named Bishop, who had formerly been the body servant of General

Braddock. At cock crow the stable boys were at work; at sunrise Bishop stalked into the stables, with a muslin handkerchief in his hand, which he applied to the coats of the animals; if the slightest stain was perceptible on the muslin, the luckless stable boys were at once subjected to due punishment by the veteran under the care of German John, whose grooming of the white chargers was a study. The night before the horses were to be ridden, they were covered over with a paste made of whiting, then they were swathed in body cloths, and left to sleep upon clean straw; in the morning the composition had become hard, was well rubbed in, and curried and brushed, which process gave to the coats a beautiful satin-like gloss. The hoofs were then blacked and polished, the mouths washed and the teeth picked and cleaned. The Leopard-skin housings were then properly adjusted, and the chargers led out for service.

In riding, with some of our equestrians, a moderate trot or lope is altogether to slow; spurs must be resorted to and the poor animal goaded into a feverish state of excitement and furious flight, at times, too, when there is no existing necessity for haste.

If, during such a needless rushing in hot haste, the horse's ankle should be sprained or his back sore, or any other debility occur, little, if any, attention is paid to it. If he gets well, he is only the sooner ready for another similar campaign. If not, then from compulsion, caused by disability, the animal is granted a few days respite.

When any bruise or wound is inflicted upon an animal, it should be the first business of the owner or whoever has the care of it, to adopt some means for speedily restoring it to health and soundness. In the treatment of fresh cuts, wounds or bruises, four things demand attention—not that all will be called in to requisition in every instance; but when needed, none of them can be safely omitted. These four things are: to stop bleeding, to cleanse the wound, to bring the parts together, and to prevent inflammation.

The following, taken, we believe, from the *American Stock Journal*, contains directions relative to the treatment of wounds, which, to those owning or having the care of animals, will be found worthy of close attention and should be kept where it can be referred to when needed:

The first is to stop the bleeding. If only dark colored blood from the veins is flowing, it will usually stop itself, before any harm is done; but if scarlet-colored blood from the arteries is running or passing off in jets, it probably will not cease before the animal is greatly injured, and perhaps not while life lasts. For the arrest of arterial bleeding, the only measure perfectly reliable is tying the artery; the next best means is pressure, where it can be continuously applied; then comes searing with an iron at a white heat, and far less urgent cases the use of astringents of alum or cold water. The choice among these must depend on the urgency of the case and the availability of the remedy.

The second thing to be done to a fresh wound is to clear it of all foreign substances; even clotted blood should be carefully removed, if the bleeding can be stopped without its aid; nothing should be left to be thrown off by the efforts of nature. Foreign substances cause irritation, and prevent a speedy union, and nothing can be put into a wound that will not retard the healing.

The third matter requiring attention is to bring the separated parts into close contact. The object of this, is to secure a perfect sticking and growing together of the parts without having any open or running sore. In the common practice of farmers, this is almost entirely neglected, and much loss of time and much suffering is the consequence. A clean cut wound, if the parts are brought and kept close together, will heal immediately and without discharge; but if the parts are bruised, rather than cut, an immediate union cannot be obtained; but it is always better to keep the parts supported and in contact, because if this be done, less new flesh has to be formed. To hold the sides of a wound in contact, stitches, sticking plaster and bandages are the means employed.

The fourth thing to be done, is to prevent excessive inflammation. A certain degree of inflammation or excitement in a part, is necessary to the reparation of injuries, but this excitement is very likely to go too far, and either result in gangrene and death, or in exhausting suppuration. Inflammation is restrained by rest, by low diet, by the application of cold water, and by the use of cooling medicines, such as salt petre, glauher salts, etc. A few cases will be given to illustrate these points.

A colt, in attempting to jump over a fence of newly split rails, received a wound in the back part of the inside of the thigh. The bleeding was so profuse that had not the accident been witnessed by persons who promptly applied the proper remedy, the colt would soon have bled to death. Already staggering from loss of blood, he was easily thrown, and the sides of the wound pressed firmly together, so as to stop the bleeding until instruments could be obtained. The divided ends of the artery had retracted, and it could not be found without cutting down directly upon it, at the edge

of the wound. The artery was tied with saddlers' silk, one end being cut off close to the knot, and the other left long enough to hang out a little at the corner of the wound, which was then closed by stitches, and the colt set upon his feet; nothing more was done but to keep him quiet; after about two weeks, a gentle pull brought away the thread which had tied the artery, and then he was permitted to go at large.

In a case of profuse bleeding, occurring after the removal of a fungus growth from the poll of a horse, the bleeding was promptly arrested by the hot iron. Where the bleeding is from a single trunk, the ligature is better, but where the blood runs from many small vessels, the iron is the most convenient. In the case of a bull that bled more than is usual after castration, and where the application of the ligature or hot iron would have been difficult, the object desired was quickly secured by throwing a few pailfuls of cold water upon the animal.

A young horse kept in a woods pasture was observed to have a wound near the point of the shoulder. On the supposition that it was not serious, and would soon be well, nothing was done. The wound, however, did not heal, and at the end of two months it appeared worse than at first; the surrounding parts being much swollen, and the horse scarcely able to walk. A careful examination showed that a piece of wood still remained in the wound; after its removal the wound healed without further trouble. Had this horse been caught, and the wound carefully examined when first discovered, and the broken splinter removed, the horse would have been spared much pain, and the owner some trouble.

A team horse was kicked on the head by another horse; the skin was not broken, but the skull was fractured over the eye, and a portion of bone depressed so as to occasion the eyeball to protrude downwards and outwards. A flap of skin was raised by the knife, over the depressed bone, and a small piece of bone removed by a trephine; through the opening made an instrument was introduced, and the depressed bone elevated to its proper position, the flap of skin was then replaced and secured by stitches. The bone soon united, and the horse recovered without deformity or loss of vision.

A favorite dog ran against a sharp ax, and raised a flap of skin and flesh from the side of the face head, as large as the whole hand. This flap was carefully adjusted, and retained by stitches, every part united, and no disfigurement was observable. In both these cases the cure depended on the perfect replacement and contact of the divided parts, whether bone or skin.

A horse colt, two months old, was tossed by a cow, the horn entering some six or eight inches in a direct line below the anus. No important part was torn, but in consequence of the inflammation and swelling which followed the pressure on the urethra, the discharge of urine was prevented. When this was discovered, thorough measures to abate the inflammation were adopted; nearly a quart of blood was taken from the jugular vein, two ounces of glauher salts were administered, and the part was kept constantly bathed with cold water. After three or four hours the swelling had diminished sufficiently to allow the bladder to relieve itself, and the inflammation did not again reach a point to occasion alarm, and the wound speedily healed. Bleeding was resorted to in this instance on account of the promptness of its action, and the danger from a continued increase of the inflammation. The urethra might have been punctured in the neighborhood of the wound, and the bladder relieved in that manner, but this would probably have led to a troublesome fistulous opening. When there is danger of inflammation closing the air passages, or interfering with other important functions, the promptest measures are the best.

Through lack of prompt action on the part of those in charge of animals, when wounded, frequently much suffering is needlessly imposed upon them and many losses are yearly sustained that, by a few practical lessons such as the foregoing, diligently studied, understood and timely acted upon, would be avoided.

To Prevent Lice on Calves.—A correspondent furnishes the *Country Gentleman* the following recipe:

Take of shorts one bushel, and a like quantity of corn, barley or oatmeal, and mix well together; give each calf a pint of the mixture night and morning; it can be fed on cut hay dampened; a better way, however, is to add boiling water sufficient to scald it, and let it stand until nearly cold, and then feed it in the form of a slop. If oil meal can be conveniently obtained, a small quantity may be added to advantage. They should be warmly stabled, and have all the good hay they will eat, and a full supply of pure water twice a day. The above recipe is applicable to older animals by increasing the quantity according to age and size.

Another Branch.—By communication from Mr. Thomas Bullock, secretary of the D. A. and M. Society, we learn that a branch of that society was organized in Washington county, on April 20, of which Wm. Crosby was elected president; Jacob Hamblin, Jas. Richey, Robert D. Covington, Joshua T. Willis, W. Collins and N. C. Tinney were chosen directors; also, J. D. McCullough, secretary and treasurer.

Messrs. Crosby and Hamblin, since the organization, have visited the various settlements in the county and report an unusual interest among the people in soil culture, cotton growing and in every branch of home industry and domestic manufactures.

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## A TREATISE ON HORTICULTURE.

BY E. SAYERS, HORTICULTURIST.

No. 16.

## CULTURE AND USE OF HERBS.

SWEET HERBS.

There are several varieties of sweet herbs. The thyme, the marjorum and the basil are the most generally cultivated in the garden.

No. 1—Thyme.

Of this there are three varieties—the pot, the lemon and the thyme.

CULTURE.

The seed may be sown early in the spring in very fine earth, and the plants transplanted in rows eighteen inches apart in the fall. It is also propagated by dividing the roots in the spring and planting into rows eighteen inches apart.

The Pot Thyme is a low, bushy perennial plant with dark green leaves and red flowers.

Lemon Thyme.—A low, trailing plant with rich, yellowish green leaves and red flowers. It is a pretty, neat plant and well deserves a place in the flower garden, where it is often cultivated in the same way as the pot thyme.

Wild Thyme, *thymus serpyllum*.—A native of Great Britain, where it is found growing in its primitive state, by the road side. It is a trailing plant, with dark red flowers of pretty fragrance and is a great favorite with the bee, that collects honey from the blossom.

All the above varieties thrive well in a light rich soil, and require a little covering in the winter to protect the plants from severe cold.

USE.

All the varieties of thyme are used as seasoning herbs by the housewife. In a medicinal way thyme is made into a tea and is good in asthmas and stuffings of the lungs. There is an oil made from thyme that cures the toothache—a drop or two being put upon lint and applied to the tooth. This is commonly called oil of origanum—so says Dr. John Hill in his Family Herbal.

No. 2—Sweet Marjorum.

Of this there are two varieties cultivated—the annual, called the knotted and the wild or sweet marjorum.

The Knotted Marjorum, commonly called the sweet marjorum, is a tender annual plant, bearing small white flowers on small green knobs or knots, and hence its name.

THE SEED

May be sown in drills about the first of May and lightly covered with fine earth.

The culture is the same as other annual herbs. Keep it clear from weeds, water when needed, etc.

The True Sweet Marjorum is a hardy perennial plant, a native of Great Britain and is found growing by the roadside with the wild thyme.

It may be raised by sowing the seed the same time as the knotted variety, and transplanted into a bed in the fall to remain for a number of years.

USE.

The marjorum, like the thyme, is used by the cook as a seasoning herb, but the knotted is preferred and grown for that purpose.

The medicinal properties of the marjorum is very similar to the thyme. The green leaves are taken as a tea to strengthen the stomach; is also good for the colic and nervous complaints.

No. 3—Sweet Basil.

A tender annual plant. Of this there are two varieties cultivated—the green and the purple leaf. They have, however, the same virtues and are applied to the same use. Sweet basil is often erroneously called lavender, which is quite a different plant, being a perennial bushy plant of which I will speak in its proper place.

CULTURE.

The seed of basil may be sown in drills 18 inches apart, about the first of May and covered with light earth. It requires precisely the same culture as the knotted marjorum.

USE.

The herb is used by the cook as a seasoning herb. Hill, in his Family Herbal, says: "Basil is little used, but it deserves to be much more. A tea made of the green plant is excellent against all obstructions. No simple herb is more effectual for gently promoting the menses."