

A Great Doctor.

Neale, in his Eight Years in Syria, says:—A doctor is thought nothing of here unless he resorts to violent remedies. I was told a curious anecdote of a *soi-disant* doctor, who acquired a great reputation in Beilan. He was much given to administering emetics, and having a very delicate patient, resorted as usual to this method of cure, leaving in the hands of the patient's brother three strong doses of emetic, which he directed should be administered at intervals of three hours. The brother, finding the first powder had no immediate effect, gave the unfortunate invalid the remaining two within five minutes. The result was violent sickness succeeded by spasms and cramps, which in a few hours terminated fatally. Next day the doctor was astonished to learn, on enquiry, that his patient was dead, and evinced his concern in his face. "Never mind," said the brother; "It was so fated; but Mashalla! you are a great doctor: the medicine you gave never ceased operating till the moment of my brother's death. It was a fine medicine, and if it could not cure him nothing earthly could."

A Horse With a Tube in His Neck.

For half an hour one afternoon recently, a crowd surrounded a truck which had halted in front of the Exchange Place door of the Mills Building. Attached to the truck was a horse, and there was a peculiarity in the horse's appearance which had caused the crowd to gather. The horse was doing its breathing, not through its nostrils, but through a tube inserted in its neck. The contrivance looked very much like an old-fashioned candlestick with the base and an inch or two of the shaft showing. In the tube was a sort of a filter, to catch impurities of the air which passed through it, and the arrangement appeared to work very satisfactorily. The driver explained that tracheotomy had been resorted to to save the life of the horse, which has suffered from asthma. The tube had been in use for several months, and the horse appeared to be as well as ever. It was certainly able to do its full share of work. Every two or three days the tube was taken out and cleaned, but the horse had it in its neck the rest of the time.—*N. Y. Times.*

The Horn Fly.

Mr. James Fletcher, entomologist of the experimental farm, is at present engaged in preparing a bulletin on the horn fly, which, according to popular belief, is killing many cattle. This, Mr. Fletcher explains, is utterly impossible. Although many reports of this character have reached him, he has not been able to verify one single case where the fact of death from the fly has actually occurred. The little pest was introduced into America about five years ago from the south of Europe by imported stock, and it is found on cattle all the way from Windsor to Montreal. This is the first year, however, in which it has been noticed in Canada, although in certain of the New England States it has prevailed to a greater or less extent for the past five years. Mr. Fletcher, in his bulletin, will suggest certain remedies by which the fly may be got rid of, and it is essential that farmers should try these remedies without delay, as certainly they are losers by the existence of the fly in Canada. The quantity of milk which a cow would give when in good health is reduced fully one half by the worry and annoyance to which the fly puts her, while at the same time the cattle will not fatten.—*Empire Corr.*

Bacteria in Hailstones.

The *John Hopkins Hospital Bulletin* recently received some observations by Dr. C. Abbott upon the bacteria found in the interior of large hailstones which fell during the storm of April 26, 1890. Care was taken to exclude all organisms except those brought down from the altitude where the hail was formed. The number of organisms observed ranged from 400 to 700 to the cubic centimeter. The majority represented only a single species—a short, thin, oval bacillus—though several other undetermined species were observed. These observations suggest possibilities. Medical men are often asked to account for the origin of sporadic cases of disease well known to be contagious—scarlatina, for example—where the source of infection is impossible to trace. A cyclone may have swept through the infected region; clouds of dust containing the bacillus of the disease in question may have been carried to a height, borne along for hundreds of miles, incapsulated in hailstones or raindrops, and brought again to the earth in a location favorable to their growth.

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