

the stable. During the illness they were never off their feed; in four weeks they were well, and now they seem as if they had never had the disease. My horses were originally in good condition, but where horses had been in bad condition and hardworked, it was found necessary rather to increase than to diminish their rations of oats; but the Indian corn which forms so great a part of the food of the working horses of this country, was considered very dangerous.

Your Lordship will perceive that my proceedings were mild, and I am convinced that such treatment, with patience, is more effective and safer than violent remedies.

But many owners were anxious to have the use of their horses as soon as possible, and had recourse to strong remedies, such as aconite and belladonna, frequently, and in some cases arsenic. Others kept the stable extremely hot and ill-ventilated. Some of the horses treated in this manner may have apparently recovered more rapidly, but they seem to have contracted other diseases, such as rheumatism, to which perhaps they will be constantly liable.

The want of horses was very irksome. The consequence was that in some of the large towns, such as New York, horses were cruelly worked when they ought to have been at rest, and many died, or were used before they had entirely recovered. In the latter case the animal was sometimes seized with dropsy. His legs first and then his whole body became immensely swollen, and in a short time he dropped over and died. These cases were rare, but were more fatal than the epidemic itself. One case came under my observation where the horse had suffered very slightly from the epidemic, had been treated with the greatest care and even tenderness, but was seized with dropsy and died in two days.

The disease, after its first appearance in a town, seems to reach its height in from eight to twelve days, and to last for from four to six weeks, when the normal state of things seems to be re-established, with the exception of a few horses who recover more slowly. I have not yet been able to obtain any statistics, but, as far as I can judge from the newspapers and from my own observation, I should say that about ninety per cent. of the horses were attacked by the epidemic. In Washington I could find no one who could point out a single horse that had not suffered from it. Of those attacked, from three to four per cent. may have died, and of the few cases of subsequent dropsy and disease of the kidneys nearly a half were fatal. Some very valuable horses, upon whom the greatest care had been bestowed, were lost at New York and elsewhere; but I have not been able to find out as yet the treatment to which they were subjected. I am not without hopes that some of Her Majesty's Consuls may have observed and will report upon these cases.

It has been stated in the newspapers that at one or two places cows have been attacked and have died of a similar disease. One instance is mentioned of pigs and fowls who had been allowed to be about the litter of diseased horses having been also attacked. A single case is mentioned of a man having died from the contact of the matter proceeding from a diseased horse's nose with an open wound in his hand. I have not, however, been able to verify these statements. But if the disease should unfortunately invade England, it is hardly necessary to recommend to Englishmen great cleanliness as well as disinfectants.

It is said that the Medical Officers of the United States Army intend to prepare a report upon this interesting subject. I have no doubt that it will be

a scientific and able one, and will contain valuable information as well as statistical details; but in the meantime I have thought it right to transmit to your Lordships the above statements, derived from the newspapers and from my own observation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

The Right Honourable
Earl Granville, K.G., &c., &c., &c.

LIST of Places and Dates of Appearance of
Horse Disease.

Place.	Time of appearance of Disease.
Toronto, Canada	September 29
Hamilton, "	October 5
London, "	8
Caledonia, "	10
Montreal, "	11
Niagara Falls, New York, U.S.	11
Collingwood, Canada	14
Rochester, New York, U.S.	14
Buffalo, " "	15
Cleveland, Ohio	15
Quebec, Canada	15
Kincardine, "	15
Kingston, "	17
New York City	18
Boston, Mass.	20
Brooklyn, New York	20
Syracuse	20
Portland, Maine	20
Springfield, Mass.	20
Oswego, New York	22
Flushing, Long Island	23
Detroit, Michigan	24
Malone, New York	24
Newark, New Jersey	24
Elizabeth, New Jersey	24
Orange, "	24
Bridgeport, Connecticut	24
Brunswick, Maine	25
Albany, New York	25
Lockport, New York	25
Norwich, Connecticut	25
Bangor, Maine	25
Poughkeepsie, New York	26
Philadelphia, Pa.	26
Providence, Rhode Island	26
Port Jervis, New York	26
Baltimore, Maryland	26
Paterson, New Jersey	27
Columbus, Ohio	27
Washington	28
Concord, New Hampshire	28
Chicago, Illinois	28
Kingston, New York	28
Norfolk, Virginia	29
Trenton, New Jersey	30
Elgin, Illinois	November 1
New Haven, Connecticut	1
Charleston, South Carolina	2
Goldsbrough, North Carolina	2
Richmond, Virginia	2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	3
Cincinnati, Ohio	4
Albany, Georgia	6
Pottsville, Pa.	6
Salt Lake City, Utah	7
Scranton, Pa.	7
Louisville, Kentucky	7
Wheeling, West Virginia	10
Toledo, Ohio	12
Wilmington	12