# The Times, New Bloomfield, Pa.



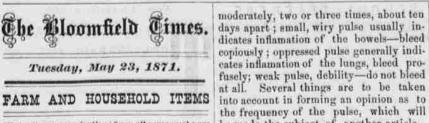
### FARM AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

We invite communications from all persons the are interested in matters property belonging to this department.

#### For The Bloomfield Times.

A Horse's Pulse and its Indications.

The condition of the pulse is a consideration of the utmost importance to the veterinary practitioner. In most diseases he has no other means equally as good of determining the actual state of his patient's system, and there is nothing which will guide him so well in forming his opinion in regard to the necessity of bleeding. There can be no considerable excitement of the system, from exercise, intense emotion, or disease, without causing a corresponding increased action of the heart. This is ascertained by the pulse, and the presence of disease is thus readily detected. The pulse may be discovered and counted in several places on the horse's body, but nowhere is it so easily found as upon the underside of the lower jaw-bone. Here the sub-maxillary artery passes over the edge of the bone, and feels like a small cord under the skin. By pressing the fingers upon it steadily, the pulsations may be felt pushing their way along at the rate of about thirds for a final state of about thirty-five to forty-five per minute, in the farm horse. One great advantage of resorting to the suo-maxillary artery to find the pulse is this : that the pressure upon the hard bone beneath enables one to determine, not only the rapidity of the pulse, but also its strength and other characteristics. Fifty beats to the minute, when the horse is not laboring under museular or nervous agitation, constiold. tutes a diseased pulse, and seventy or eighty betrays a most fearful state of excitement. Such is the case in blind staggers. In inflamation of the lungs and bowels, seventy beats per minute is about the maximum attained in the great majority of cases. In health the pulsations are slow and soft, making an impression that is readily recognized when the pressure of the finger is applied, but not hard and tense, by any means. But as fever and inflamation come on, the vein becomes more turgid, the blood becomes more heated, the action of the heart is lightened, and the pulse increas-ed in proportion. It is sometimes the case that the blood is thick when there is but very little fever; but the amount of the latter is always indicated by the quickness of the pulse. The quick, throbbing pulse speaks of inflamation somewhere; the hard pulse of some chronic or long standing disease. Some-times we find the pulse to present both of times we find the pulse to present both of these conditions simultaneously, and then the case is an alarming one, calling for prompt and vigorous measures, or death will probably remove the necessity of further efforts. Besides the terms employed above, there are others in general use among horsemen, to distinguish the various kinds of pulsation recognizable under the influence of disease. The hard pulse is that in which the beats give evidence of powerful or over action of the Discusses of the Blood, Liver, Kidneys, and Biadder, these Bitters have been most success-ful. Such Discusses are caused by Vitinted Blood, which is generally produced by derangement heart, but without much disturbance of the circulation otherwise. In the wiry pulse they appear small, as to volume, but hard and jerking, causing great irritability in the region of the heart, so that the ventricles act too soon, before the veins are properly filled. Immediate dan-ger does not lurk behind this, but advances with it boldly, defiantly, and with rapid strides, indeed it betokens acute inflamation, especially of the bowels, or some-times of the urinary organs. The oppressed pulse exists when the arteries are too full or overloaded with blood, thrown out from the heart, but returning to it with difficulty. Inflamation of the lungs or a sudden and violent attack of pneumonia is generally the cause of this phenomenon, and in this case, bleeding, if not carried to excess, will actually increase the strength of the pulsations instead of weakening them ; it will be a proper recourse in all the conditions of the pulse thus far enumerated. Not so, however, in the case of the weak pulse, for here there is debility and exhaustion, and the heart beats but feebly, while the blood is poor and thin, as well as deficient in quantity. Such accompanies all diseases that tend to prostrate the system, and at other times may indicate the very near approach of death. Some persons bleed for every ailment, and others not at all. There must be discrimination in this, as in every thing else. When the horse is well, it is absolute folly and cruelty to bleed, and we should let well enough alone. But when the veins are turgid with blood, and the pulse under the stimulous of fever and inflamation, is hard, wiry, or oppressed, the practitioner who endeavors to cure the horse by means of medication only, generally finds himself entirely at fault, and meets with no success. For the more convenient reference of the reader, I will here recapitulate the various states of the pulse in diseases, with the general indications of each, and instructions concerning bleeding. Quick, throbbing pulse, in inflamation, --bleed freely; hard pulse, feverish excite-ment,-- bleed freely; full, corded pulse, chronic or long standing disease--bleed



the frequency of the pulse, which will be made the subject of another article.

#### Seasoning Wood.

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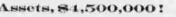
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