

# THE HORSE DISEASE.

## The Streets Deserted and Business Brought to a Stand-Still.

## All Omnibus and Street-Car Travel Suspended.

## Pedestrianism the Most Fashionable Mode of Transit.

## The Steam-Cars Coming to the Rescue on Monday.

## Present Condition of the Horses in This City.

## Incidents of the Disease at Other Points.

The horse disease spread like wildfire on Friday. That night travel was virtually suspended, the street-cars and stage-lines having hauled off, and yesterday morning the streets were deserted, business was at a stand-still, the roar and rumble of traffic was unheard, and a pall of silence hung over the city. Citizens got up in the morning to come down town to business, and legs that seldom walked were called upon to transport their owner many miles during the day. The people walked with wonderful unanimity, and probably the exercise was good for them. Here and there a horse could be seen moving slowly, as if he were bound for a tan-yard, wondering what the blanket was doing on his back, and why the whip was not applied as usual. All the horses in town were not suffering from the complaint, but as a precautionary measure most of them were kept in the stable.

There was but little business transacted yesterday. The express companies and large business houses made no effort to move merchandise, preferring to give their horses rest, and shelter them from the effects of the foggy and damp atmosphere that prevailed all day. Many of them expect that two or three days rest, in the early stage of the complaint will nip it in the bud.

The horse-cars and omnibuses will be missed by everybody, for everybody rides. The companies are determined to keep their stock in-doors until they recover or die, and, in the meantime, the street-car community will be under the necessity of using their own domestic animal, "Shanks' mare," or of finding some other means of locomotion.

### RAILROADS TO THE RESCUE.

On the South Side, some relief will be offered by the Illinois Central, Michigan Southern, and Rock Island Railroads, which will run extra trains on and after Monday. The former will put on three additional trains during the day, and one about 11 o'clock at night, running them to Hyde Park, and stopping at the principal streets; the other two roads will run trains from the Harrison street depot to Thirty-ninth and Forty-fourth streets and return, from 7 a. m. till 7 p. m., leaving the depot every hour, and Thirty-ninth street every half hour. The fare on the Rock Island and Michigan Southern Roads will be ten cents. The Central has not announced its tariff. The Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne dummy to the Stock Yards is expected to run very frequently, accommodating that part of the city. The C., B. & Q., the Michigan Central, and the Chicago & St. Louis have not made public their intentions, but will undoubtedly run trains if the disease continues.

On the West Side, the Chicago & Northwestern may run special trains to the city limits, if the street cars do not soon resume; but now they are short of rolling-stock, having sent away a large train of Mormons yesterday morning, and a regiment of soldiers go to California this morning.

The St. Louis & Alton, the Chicago & Northwestern, and the Illinois Central, and the Star Union line have sent orders to their country agents not to ship any perishable articles or parcels to be delivered in this city. Freight is being transferred from the Eastern to the Western roads, and vice-versa, by special trains.

### OXEN AND DUMMIES.

The great mercantile houses have decided to give their stock a rest for a day or two. Field, Leiter & Co. purchased twelve yoke of oxen yesterday. They will be experimented with on Monday. It requires a regular training to navigate oxen, and they have a vernacular of their own. Mr. Leiter said they have accomplished ox-drivers among their teamsters, and will put them in charge. Anyway, they are determined to deliver their goods, if the firm and clerks have to carry them on their shoulders. Hamlin, Hale & Co.'s animals are only slightly indisposed, and are expected to be in harness in a day or two. C. L. Woodman & Co. have a sick lot of horses, and many of their customers were left yesterday morning without their usual supply of the staff of life.

In his capacity as Alderman, Mr. Woodman thought dummies should be used on the streets during the prevalence of the horse disease. This subject will be considered at a special meeting of the Council, to be held at 1 o'clock on Monday.

### THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The authorities apprehend no trouble in case of fire. The department horses are not very bad yet, but should they become unable to haul the engines, any horses found on the streets will be pressed into service during a fire, and ropes will be provided, so that once again the boys can "run wid de machine."

### THE RAILROAD OMNIBUSES.

A fear prevailed that Parmelee's important contribution to the travelling aggregate would fail as the remainder had done, and that the hotels and their guests would be seriously incommoded. This contingency has fortunately been avoided. Parmelee's omnibuses were yesterday plying between depots and hotels without interruption, and visitors on pleasure or business need feel no discomfort on this score. Some of their horses are suffering, but they have been cared for, and the disease has only appeared in its mildest form. Those horses which have the disease are doing well, and with fine weather they will be ready to get to work again this week.

### IN THE WEST DIVISION.

At the Centre avenue stables, where the disease showed itself generally for the first time in the city, every horse is suffering, but only from the mildest possible attack of the disease. There are two really dangerously attacked, and one considered fatally, but even of this one, a sorrel mare, hopes are entertained by Dr. Whittle. The remainder cough occasionally, but show no symptoms of the disease otherwise. Of the 175, only four decline to eat heartily, the remainder enjoy their warm food, and swallow their cold medicine unhesitatingly. Their coats are smooth and shiny, their eyes bright, and their general behavior indicative of their feeling well. There are two barns, in one of which the disease appeared 24 hours earlier than in the other. The occupants of this one are convalescent, or nearly so, while the others have just passed the climax. This is interesting, as affording some information as to the general run of the disorder. Mr. Roberts is, as usual, cheerful and full of good humor about the matter, and feels confident of resuming business before any other stable in the city. The Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Company's horses are stabled here, and are doing well. The owners feel particularly satisfied with the results.

The mare whose condition is alluded to above is suffering from what is apparently lung fever, the result of being worked while suffering from the disease. It is justice to Mr. Roberts to state that her sickness was not discovered when she was sent out.

The West Division car stable, as will have been discovered by our readers from the absence of the cars, are entirely closed. All the horses in the four barns are sick, some slightly and others seriously. The cars would not have been withdrawn yesterday but for the rain, which has followed the arrival of the disease in Chicago as it has done elsewhere. The horses show symptoms of weakness in these barns which have not been noticed elsewhere. A Blue Island car made trips to Madison street, yesterday, drawn by men and boys.

Dwight's livery stable, on Sangamon street, which is better ventilated than almost any in the city, is not exempt. Every horse is sick, but none seriously. Two mules in the stable are also attacked, one severely.

Hass & Powell, who did not expect to find any

disease in their stables, have a large number on the sick list, but many could be used gently if any necessity for their services appeared.

Wright's stable also contains a large number of sick horses, none, however, suffering severely.

The towing-teams have all been withdrawn from the banks of the Illinois and Michigan Canal.

The West Side Stage Company have been unfortunate in the loss of most of their horses by fire, and the affection of the remainder with disease. They are rebuilding their barn on Western avenue, near Madison street, and will re-equip their line better than before. They will commence running again in a few weeks.

A gentleman who has a pair of nice horses, fed them on soft feed as soon as they were taken sick. When they appeared convalescent, he treated them to oats. The disease has returned worse than ever. Moral: "Don't anticipate the recovery of your horses."

### THE SOUTH SIDE.

Those of our South Side citizens who yesterday were forced to avail themselves of their nether limbs to reach their places of business or their homes are well able to understand at present the language of Richard III. at the battle of Bosworth, when offering a kingdom for a horse. They had suddenly come to perceive the value of equines, and in this conviction was forcibly carried to their mind by the exertions of their persons, how much more so must they have felt the absence of their horses, when taken from a business point of view. Wabash avenue, State, and other prominent streets on the South Side, resembled, if anything, a Sunday on which the sale of lager beer was permitted, and the street cars and omnibuses were prohibited from running. The vehicles seen in those streets were so few and far between that they were stared at as a curiosity, the horses drawing them receiving a due share of praise for their hardihood in braving the inclemency of the weather and the distemper that was apparent in their woebegone countenances. Very few horses indeed could be observed that did not show some symptoms of the disease, that had already overtaken three-fourths of the equines in the city. Among the few sprightly looking animals that still felt like kicking, was a handsome horse drawing the highly ornamented wagon belonging to the agency of the Liberty Tobacco Works of Detroit. It seems that the three pictures of the handsome Goddesses of Liberty, painted on the wagon, proved a talisman against the disease, and the esteemed ladies had their usual airing.

The Chicago City Railway Company, owing to the sudden attack of their horses on Friday evening with the disease, took the cars off from the various lines; their horses are under the treatment of Dr. Withers, and are doing quite well; and the officers of the company think they can turn out about half their cars to-day should the weather be pleasant and clear, but should that not be the case, and the horses become worse, then people must continue to walk. They will run two dummies on State street next Tuesday or Wednesday. The dummy on the Hyde Park road is too heavy to be run over the city tracks. The company have ninety-nine cart in use on their different lines.

The horses at the American Merchants' Union Express Company's stables, as well as those at the United States Express stables, are all down with the disease, and are under the treatment of Dr. J. A. Bovett. The employees of these companies were "playing horse" yesterday, dragging wagons around town and receiving and delivering goods as far as possible. The stables of J. V. Farwell & Co. and Field & Leiter resemble horse hospitals, all the drivers acting as nurses, and it is astonishing to see the dexterity and skill they display in bandaging the sick animals. Parmelee is still driving some of his sick horses, and several of them are down quite severely. Not a single public stable could be found on the South Side where the disease does not prevail. In those stables where the horses are well taken care of the disease is of very mild type, while in others where the animals are neglected, they are down with the disease very severely.

Dr. Bovett says that the epizootic in many such cases has already run into pneumonia, and unless people will use their horses with great care, many deaths will occur.

W. H. Sharp, the Secretary of the Humane Society, says over three hundred horses were ordered off the streets yesterday. He is very enthusiastic in his praise of all the corporations, and proprietors of stables, as well as of private individuals, for treating their animals so humanely, and bestowing so much care upon them, but he severely denounced the express wagon sharks, who will run their horses as long as there is life in them. The Society had several of these latter fellows arrested. Some of these human vultures are taking advantage of the misfortune of this community, as they did at the time of the great fire, and are charging as much as \$3 and \$5 a load, and in some instances \$10 a load has been charged and received by them.

The Managers of the United States bonded warehouse had their horses in use yesterday, though they were quite sick at the time, and refused to take them back into their stable when requested to do so by the agents of the Humane Society.

Bakers, butchers, milkmen, and grocers will not be interfered with, provided they use their animals carefully, and keep them covered with woollen blankets. The Society has tried a new disinfectant, namely, carbolic acid mixed with chloride of lime, and recommend it as the best and most powerful in use.

Deaths have, as yet, not occurred on the South Side, although the evening papers reported that Avery Bros. had lost three or four horses. These gentlemen lost a valuable mare, worth a thousand dollars, day before yesterday, which died of lung fever, and not the epizootic. The horses at the stable of Avery Bros. are doing as well as the horses elsewhere.

Dr. Rauch, the Sanitary Superintendent, expresses great satisfaction that the public have so willingly complied with orders, and are so well taking care of their horses. He has given orders to have all deaths reported at his office.

### HOW IT AFFECTS THE MAILS.

Postmaster Eastman yesterday promulgated the following important order:

Owing to the prevailing horse epidemic, and during its continuance, all mails despatched from this office will close 15 minutes earlier than the usual time. The collection of mail matter at the West Side Station will close at 3 instead of 3:45 p. m., and at 5:45 instead of 6 p. m., as heretofore. F. A. EASTMAN, P. M.

### EQUINE VS. HOMOEOPATHY.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

SIR: For the benefit of those friends and supporters of Homoeopathy who would prefer the "little pill" treatment for their steeds we would suggest the following, which remedies are giving entire satisfaction in mitigating the sufferings of the afflicted horse. The proprietors of one of the West Side liveryies stated that their horses are receiving almost immediate relief from this treatment, and this alone. They are administering the following remedies: Tinct. Aconite, 3 drops, every two or three hours during the primary or febrile stage, which is characterized by alternate chills and heat (general coldness of extremities), accompanied with cough, and soon followed with a fluent coryza or nasal discharge, they then alternate with arsenicum. 2d Decimal Trituration—at the same intervals as when giving the aconite alone. The dose of arsenicum is equivalent to that quantity which would cover a nickel. Each night and morning after the discharge commences 10 grains of hypsulphite of soda is given, dissolved in water. This being chemically changed within the stomach, sets free sulphurous acid, which is quite detrimental to germ life, besides having the apparent action of a sedative, it quieting the cough *instantly* in many cases. Aconite, according to the Homoeopathic Drug Proving, embraces every symptom of the Horse Influenza. DR. T. D. WILLIAMS.

### CANADIAN RECIPROCITY.

Remedies innumerable have been printed in THE TRIBUNE, but little attention has been paid to the first great cause. It is well known that the Canadians have for the past five years been using every effort to secure a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty. Smuggling, more or less, has been going on since the abrogation of the commercial compact, but the wholesale work in this line has now been performed by the Canucks in importing without duty across the borders this troublesome equine complaint. This may, perhaps, be considered by our neighbors as an entering wedge, whereby the long-sought reciprocal trade relations are to be obtained.

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The horses used for hauling the freight of the Michigan Central Railroad Company, are all sick. The General Freight Agent, Mr. Skinner, has telegraphed to the stations along the route to send in no more heavy freight, such as lumber and grain.

At the Union Stock Yards yesterday morning, three out of 360 horses were sick, none seriously. The remainder will probably be down to-day.

Some of our great mercantile houses are admirably situated to lessen the evils of the epidemic. Hall, Kimbark & Co., and Hale, Ayer & Co., the leading iron merchants in the city, whose stores have one front on the tracks of the Michigan Central, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, and Illinois Central Railroads, have made arrangements to continue during the prevalence of the horse disease, with Mr. Thomas Hoops, the general freight agent of the former road, to receive freights at their own doors for all railroads entering the city.

The firm of McCann, Fitch & Converse, paper dealers, yesterday afternoon purchased a yoke of

oxen at the Stock Yards for their own use in hauling goods.

The North Side cars were all withdrawn on Friday night. The Company will run their two Graceland and Lake View dummies on the Clark street line on Monday, if the Council concludes to grant them permission.

We are informed that some of the retail grocers have put up their prices from 10 to 25 per cent in consequence of the difficulty and increased cost of delivering goods.

Even the venders of the lacteal fluid have evinced their possession of the "milk of human kindness," and have, as a rule, allowed their horses the shelter of their stable, rather than run the risk of the animals catching the distemper. Numerous instances were observed of a canvas-covered wagon, with the dairy sign upon it, being drawn by the usual can-carrier, assisted by two or three boys. Progress was, of course, slow, under the circumstances, but the customer is glad to receive his daily supply even by this tardy process.

A team of goats, attached to a light wagon, attracted considerable attention on Wabash avenue yesterday afternoon. The driver, a full grown man, was the most satisfied looking individual in town, as he whirled along at a spanking rate of speed.

Hay was a scarce commodity in Chicago yesterday, the farmers' horses having "gone back" on their owners just like city animals.

The theatres were comparatively empty yesterday afternoon and evening, owing to the impossibility of people getting to and from places of amusement. Mr. McVicker's receipts fell off a thousand dollars on Saturday.

People who have failed to lay in their winter supplies of coal and wood are in a "fix," all the horses of the coal companies having taken sick yesterday.

A yoke of oxen, owned by Field, Leiter & Co., were heartily cheered as they were driven up to the door of that firm yesterday evening.

The hackmen, as a general rule, failed to give their animals a rest. Last evening, fully twenty-five hacks were on duty at the corner of Madison and Clinton streets.