

**Agricultural Intelligence.**

**The Cattle Plague in Britain.**

This terrible scourge has abated to such a degree that its further spread seems no longer to be dreaded. During the week ending Nov. 3rd, 1866, only two cases were reported, and the hope was expressed that no more weekly returns would be needed in reference to this dreadful visitation. This is a gratifying condition of affairs when it is remembered that so recently as during the month of February last 15,706 animals were attacked in one week, and that in the aggregate there have been 253,725 cases of the disease, or one in every nineteen of the estimated stock in the British Isles.

The following are the figures which Mr. Clode gives us as the aggregate result of the cattle plague up to October 27, so far as the facts have been reported to the Statistical Office:—

	Great Britain.	England.	Wales including Monmouth.	Scotland.	per cent.
Of the estimated Ordinary Stock of Cattle, the aggregate number of reported Attacks have been.....	6,141	6,966	1,437	4,835	
Of the Number of Cattle and Farms &c, where the disease has been reported to exist the aggregate number of Attacks have been.....	55,553	64,445	65,593	69,024	
Of the Total Number of Attacks have been reported, there were—					
Killed.....	35,024	40,917	14,584	13,900	
Died.....	61,210	47,695	71,610	62,337	
Recovered.....	13,766	11,385	13,806	23,763	
	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	

In the United States there are more pigs than human population. In England there is only one pig for every nine human inhabitants.

The plan of giving farm labourers shares in the general returns instead of monthly wages, is recommended by a correspondent of the *Country Gentleman*.

S. H. Cowles, of Norfolk, Conn., raised one and a half bushels of potatoes from one potato, planted in twelve hills with two pieces in a hill.

Mr. Bradley Harrington of Hudson, Mich., has presented the editor of the *Hudson Herald* with a beef weighing seven pounds and measuring 21½ inches in circumference.

The cattle disease has disappeared completely from Switzerland, and the prohibition decreed by the Italian Government against the importation of cattle has been removed.

The *Rinderpest* having broken out afresh in Austria, the Bavarian Government has refused to allow a large number of oxen intended for the English market to cross the frontier.

Lady Herbert, of Lea, at her rent audit, presented her tenants, the Misses Woody, with the whole of their rent back, as a compensation for the heavy losses they have had during the fearful rage of the cattle plague.

The *Farmer* (Scottish) of Nov. 14, 1866, says: What we trust will prove the last cattle plague return was issued on Thursday; it reports that last week there were but two attacks in England—one in Warwickshire and one in Yorkshire.

At a recent rent audit, the tenants on the estate of Mr. J. E. Heathcote, of Apedale Hall, were allowed 10s. in the pound upon the losses they have suffered from the cattle plague. This allowance is independent of what may have been received from the insurance association.

The total amount of the claims of the members on the funds of the Fifeshire Cattle Plague Association on account of cattle lost by the cattle plague before the passing of the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act exceeds £30,000, and the General Committee have declared an interim dividend of 3s. per £1.

**PROLIFIC OATS.**—Mr. Hutchison, of Contentibus, near Mid-Calder, got two ears of black oats from a crop on his farm this harvest on which there were 323 and 318 grains respectively. So says *The Farmer*, (Scottish.)

A worldly-wise exhibitor at a late agricultural fair in Connecticut divided a bushel of peaches, entering one half in his own name and the other in the name of a gentleman of some prominence in the vicinity. His own half was unnoticed, but the other half bushel took the prize, proving there is something in a name.

The plan of building cottages for farm labourers and employing married men who will occupy them has many advantages over the plan of hiring single men who must be boarded in the farmer's family. Generally this arrangement is more agreeable to both parties, is often less expensive to the employer, and better, more careful and contented men can be secured.—*Western Rural*.

The *Chester Chronicle* is sorry to announce that the old fatal disease, pleuro-pneumonia, has made its appearance again in the neighbourhood of Beeston Castle. Mr. Joseph Aston, of Brasscy Green, had a cow died of it last week. Several others of the neighbourhood have also lost cows from the disease, including Mr. Lewis, of Broxton, who had lost not less than nine.

Sir Thomas B. Hepburn, Bart., of Smeaton, East Lothian, has intimated to Mr. Pringle, who is about to begin a new lease of Harperdean farm, that he and his son will have the unrestricted privilege of killing both hares and rabbits on the lands. A similar liberty has been given by the hon. baronet to Mr. Aitchison, the new tenant of West Garleton; and it is said that the same privilege is to be extended to all the other tenants on the estate.

**NEW MANURE.**—We learn from *Valignani's Messenger* that MM. Blanchard and Chateau by mixing acid phosphate of iron and magnesia with nightsoil, have succeeded in fixing its volatile principles. Acid phosphate of magnesia and iron is cheap, and, moreover, an excellent disinfecting substance, and it appears from the experiments which the city of Paris has made on a large scale, that both as an agricultural and a sanitary agent, this phosphate will render great service to society.

**MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.**—The *Springfield Republican* thus records the action of the trustees of the State Agricultural College, at a special meeting lately held at Amherst, in regard to buildings: "Abandoning their former favourite idea of a single grand and expensive structure, which would use up all their money, they assumed that favoured by the late President, Judge French, and by Mr. Oimsted, the landscape architect, of various small buildings, each with a special purpose, and voted to erect between now and September 1, 1867, — 1, a brick edifice on the chestnut-tree ridge and south of the glen, with dormitory accommodations for 50 students, and four recitation rooms, surmounted by a tower with a clock; 2, a chemical laboratory of wood, on the western slope of the ridge, and also south of the glen; 3, a boarding house of wood, north of the glen, with dining hall for 50 students; 4, a model barn of wood, 100 feet by 40, like the last, north of the glen; and 5, on the hill, between the old and new highways, a dwelling house of wood, for the President, which shall front to the west and overlook the other buildings. The cost of all these edifices is calculated at \$65,000, and Mr. Richards, architect, of Boston, is employed to make plans and detached estimates for the same.

**Miscellaneous.**

**FARMERS' BOYS.**—It is said to be a fact that the farm boys in some sections of New England have left the farms to such an extent as to seriously depreciate the price of farm land, owing to such quantities of land being offered by aged farmers desiring to rid themselves of the cares of the farm, their children having gone West or into the city. Is it going to be better at the West? Boys, here, seem to have the same Quixotic desire for "dressed up labour." The farm has lost its charm—home its attractions. Ledgers, business successes, hopes, etc., are alone talked of. It used to take a lifetime to get rich—they try hard now to be rich at thirty—break-go on—fall—recover, and so on. How shall we raise our boys so that when they are men they will be farmers?—*G. in R. N. Yorker*

**EFFECTUAL THOUGH ECCENTRIC.**—The *Journal of Horticulture* says:—"A correspondent," probably a schoolmaster, writes to us thus—

"I have no fault to find with the working abilities of a jollying gardener whom I employ, but I do complain of his orthography, notation, and making a hoo an interjection! For a week's work, some Lobelias, and his boy's help, he charged 22s. after this fashion—

"Wan wick..... 15  
Lubblers..... 5  
Sun's oblig..... 2  
22"

We sympathize with our correspondent, but his pain may be assuaged by finding that another gentleman, an American, had his love of the correct still more grossly outraged by the following account being sent to him:—

"Aosafada..... 1 50  
atacinomomagin..... 50  
Fade, Josef Jahn..... 2 00

The items of that bill are not apothecaries' articles, as might be supposed, but merely, 'A horse half a day and a taking of him home again,'"

The correspondent we have quoted from, concludes with this backhander to parochial seminaries: "My man was a national school scholar." The only just inference from the fact is, he did not make good use of his advantage. Not so, a co-labourer, who is said to have sent the following to his employer:—

Grantham, Oct 6.  
Mr. W..... To W. W.....  
Five days work at digging Docks,  
Piling Bean stalks into cocks,  
Dr. wing Leeks and trimming ditto,  
(Easy work that I could sit to),  
Lugging Carrot tops away,  
To be burnt another day,  
Turning manure with a stick up,  
Irish Apricots to pick up,  
Many other trifles also,  
Work that Hand will hardly call so,  
But I think, as I hope to thrive,  
There's quantum suff for shillings five.

**Advertisements.**

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I HEREBY give notice that I now offer a prize of a

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To the party who shall cut the most hardwood, 2 feet long, in four hours, with Drag Sawing Machines of my manufacture.

N. B.—Parties competing for the above prize will have to furnish me with their names, township and post office address, also the names of the parties present who can prove to the quantity cut inside the four hours, on or before the first day of February, 1867.

Bradford Foundry, Dec. 27, 1866.

v4-1-11

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