

ordinary usage, was yet no proof of skill, and might serve to hide defects. It is evident that the amount of excellence was not confined to one point only, but to several, for instance—

1. The time of making.
2. The levelness of the shoe.
3. The situation of nail holes and the fullering.

4. The proper and even seating of the shoe.
5. The preparation of the foot, such as the removal of ragged parts, which only harbored filth, without cutting away the bars or too much of the frog and sole.

6. The fitting of the shoe so that the wall or crust might have a firm and even bearing, the shoe not projecting at the sides or too much so at the heels. The shoes to rest very slightly on the heels, and the sole and seat of corns particularly being secured from pressure.

7. The nailing on so that each nail should have a firm holding the first time it is driven, so that the crust may not be injured by drawing the nails and paring the horn uselessly. The nails not to be too numerous nor too near together, nor the heads to be so large as to project much beyond the shoe, and above all to be placed at some distance from the heels, particularly for the inside heel, so that there may be no impediment to the foot's expansion.

8. The time taken by each competitor to perform these various operations in a proper manner.

It will be seen by reference to these various points that the judgement was by no means trivial, as it had to take all these points into consideration. One of the best workmen failed to get a prize in consequence of too great haste both in making and putting on; whilst another skilful maker of a shoe wanted experience in fitting it to the foot and putting on.

The prizes were respectively 3 guineas, 2 guineas, and 1 guinea—time occupied by the winners:

	Making & fitting.	Putting on.
First prize.....	26 minutes.	7 minutes.
Second " .....	32 do	4½ do.
Third " .....	25 do	5 do.
Highly commended	30 do.	7 do.

### The Cattle Murrain.

The citizens of Massachusetts and the adjoining States are sorely troubled by the spreading of that fearful infection among the cattle known as pleuro-pneumonia. To such an extent has the malady progressed that an extra session of the Massachusetts Legislature has been called for the purpose of devising measures to circumscribe the evil. The session will commence on Wednesday, May 30, and money appropriations will be called for, so that prompt and decisive action may be taken. Reference is made to the endeavors made by the English Government, now more than a century since, when a similar

disease presented itself, and which were effective in arresting the course and shortening the stay of the malady. It appears that in 1744 a farm residing at Poplar, near London, imported 10 calves from Holland which were affected with the disease. Starting from this point, slowly at first, but more rapidly as more means for propagation were offered, it spread over the length and breadth of the land, destroying hundreds of thousands of cattle, and continuing a devastating effect with almost unmitigated severity, down to 1754-5. Notwithstanding the deep and painful interest which this disease excited, and the efforts made by the government to stop its ravages, it was ascertained by one of the Commissioners appointed to investigate the matter, that in Nottinghamshire alone 40,000 head of cattle perished in six months, and in Cheshire upwards of 30,000 in the same space of time. By a special act of Parliament orders were given:

- 1st. For the killing of all the infected animals, and burying them entire with the skins 'slashed from head to tail,' that they might be used for the purposes of the manufacture.
- 2nd. For the burning of all the hay and straw used about the animals.
- 3rd. For the cleaning and fumigating of the sheds, etc., and for sound cattle to be put into them for two months after the removal of the diseased.
- 4th. For a recovered animal to be allowed to go near other for a month after its convalescence.
- 5th. No diseased cattle to be driven to fairs or markets, nor for the flesh to be used for dogs.
- 6th. For no healthy cattle to be removed from a farm where the disease had prevailed, in less than a month after its disappearance; and, lastly, orders were given for the notice of an outbreak to be immediately sent by the farmer to the proper authorities.

In one year, the third of the existence of the disease, £135,000 were paid out of the public treasury as a recompense for the cattle killed according to the prescribed orders. During the year, 80,000 head of cattle were killed, be they more or less affected, and nearly double the number died of the disease. There have been several cases, we learn, of a similar kind in Canada, though not to such an extent as yet to attract very general attention. But, in order that the country might be spared the terrible infliction it would be well if all cattle which may be seized, should be either killed at once or so disposed entirely to themselves as to prevent the contagion from spreading. Indeed, it might be well if the Canadian Government were to take prompt action in the matter, and by circulating regulations respecting the disorder, and causing supervision to be exercised over all cattle to be imported, arrest the spread of the disease through Canada. Just at this time, when the country is recovering from the recent depression, and when everything promises an abundant harvest, nothing could be more calamitous than the spreading of a disease which would d-