

ing to C. P. Huntington, where there were some "bad cases," had an examination. Mr. Huntington had previously lost eleven cows by pneumonia, and the Committee killed three more, diminishing his stock to eleven head. Dr. Bates immediately entered the stable and began the laborious process of examination by percussion, while the appraisers estimated the value of the stock. Two cows were found diseased, and the rest had been so much exposed to infection, that it was decided to kill them also. In the first one examined, they found a strong adhesion of the lungs to the diaphragm, and acute disease of the right lung. The second case also exhibited adhesion, accompanied by indurated lung tissue, and sloughing of the left lung. Cases were observed in the course of the day where the sloughing business had proceeded so far that there was very little healthy lung left. And yet, so insidious is the progress of the disease, that the farmer stoutly declares his cow has never been sick, and will not be convinced that there is anything the matter with her till the proof is laid before his eyes.

From North Brookfield the Commissioners proceeded to New Braintree and visited the farm of Alden W. Woodis. At this point the medical force was much increased. The disease was introduced upon the farm of Mr. W., by the temporary presence of an ox, from the "Stoddard" farm, Mr. Stoddard having purchased cattle from Mr. Chenery, at Belmont, who imported the infected stock. The disease being revealed, eighteen head, the entire herd of Mr. Woodis, were slaughtered and buried.

The next farm visited was that of Chas. Needham, also in New Braintree, where the Committee had three cows killed before. Mr. Needham had exchanged cattle with Curtis Stoddard. The doctors found a great deal of water in the left chest of the third cow examined, and only a few healthy spots in the lung. Twenty-eight cattle were killed, completely emptying the barn.

Following that of Mr. Needham came the farm of Leonard Stoddard. The doctors made their examination, and every hoof in the barn, numbering forty-nine, including ten pairs of fine oxen, was condemned to die in the morning. Next in order came the stables of W. W. Chenery, whose residence is in Belmont. It is several months since Mr. C. lost an animal, and he felt quite confident that the malady had entirely left his herd. To render assurance doubly sure, three cattle were chosen for the knife, one a cow that had been sick, but was deemed nearly well, with two heifers, one

having shown no signs of disease and the other but slight, such as were indicated by a slight cough, and they all proved to be diseased—one of the lungs of one of the heifers being filled with pus. After an examination of the animals slaughtered, the Commissioners returned to the barn and submitted the entire herd to a professional inspection. The stock consists of about forty head, and all but three or four proved diseased, some of them very bad—the symptoms and indications of the disease being unmistakable. The mode of examination was by sounding the chest of an animal over the lungs, by slight raps—the tone of the resonance, or reverberation of the sound thereof being the test.

Cases similar to the foregoing, might be multiplied did space permit."

Before the end of April about 400 head of cattle in North Brookfield were said to be infected with the disease. It was found to extend over a greater area, and to be more formidable than the commissioners had anticipated. Still they hoped to be able to extirpate it if afforded sufficient money assistance. At that time the disease was confined to a territory about 12 miles square, a territory abounding in cattle. In a memorial of the commissioners, asking for further aid, addressed to the State Board of Agriculture and dated May 15th, they say:—

"In spite of all obstacles, the Commissioners have not hesitated to go to the fullest extent of their powers in the discharge of their duty. They have placed an injunction on every suspected herd. They have destroyed all that gave the slightest appearance of disease, from the poor man's single cow, to the large and choice collections of the most extensive farmers. They have explored every spot which has been brought to their notice as having been in any way exposed, and have endeavoured to ascertain the limits beyond which it seems impossible that the disease can have progressed.

The central point of the infected district, it is well known, is North Brookfield, the farm of Leonard Stoddard, into which the disease was thoughtlessly and innocently introduced, and from which it has been carelessly allowed to go out. Around this spot the destruction is complete; but few animals, indeed, being left in the unfortunate town. The disease has been discovered in the north, in those parts of new Brain-