

## FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.

The appearance of this disease among the cattle in various places throughout the United States naturally gave rise to much alarm in Canada. This disease has not visited this country since 1876. The last appearance of the disease in the United States was the Massachusetts epidemic of 1903.

The mortality among cattle as a rule is not high, but epidemics in Europe vary very much in this regard. In man few deaths occur, though the young and the delicate may succumb.

The germ has not yet been discovered. Serum taken from infected sores and filtered through the finest Berkefeld filter retain the power of imparting the infection. This shows that the germ is an ultra microscopic one. The germ retains its vitality for a long time, many months, if in a cool, moist place. Heat to 60° and drying soon destroy it.

If an animal is put into a stable where the disease had existed many months previously it speedily becomes infected. The disease can only be stamped out by the rigorous measures of destroying infected animals and disinfecting contaminated premises.

The disease is manifested by mucous patches in the month and by vesicles between the toes. There is marked fever and prostration. Man may carry the disease from one part of the country to another and communicate it to cattle without being affected himself.

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LIFE AND DEATH.

These subjects have been causes of much discussion. Many have written on the origin of life, and even a larger number on how to prolong it. One of the most recent writers on the problems of life is Dr. Charles Minot, of Harvard.

He points out that the size of the body does not determine the length of life, as some insects live for many years, while others of the same size may only live a few months. A parrot may live to be one hundred years old, and a dog is old at 15 years. There are very many exceptions to the general belief that the largest animals live longest.

Nor does it appear that the cessation of the reproductive power is a measure of the duration of life. Many animals live for a long time after the power of reproduction has ceased. Of course it is true that animals should live long enough to reproduce their kind; but it does not follow that this ended life should cease.

The theory has often been advanced that death is due to the fact that the body wears out, and that the more active species wear