

infected with this fatal disease, they would have died some days before the arrival of the steamship conveying them to this port. We, yesterday, published a letter from Prof. Lawson, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, on the subject, which ought to be sufficient to remove any doubts or misgivings that may exist in the minds of the farmers, or others, on the subject. We do not think there is the least cause for any alarm. The Secretary, in his letter, tells the public that, after the fullest inquiry, he ascertained that there was not the least ground for the statement put forth in some quarters, that the sheep were infected. It appears that five of the animals died on the passage across the Atlantic; but these losses are attributed by Mr. Plumb, who brought out the stock, to the confinement on board, and the nature of the fodder that was supplied, and not to any kind of distemper, whatever. Although the officers of the society entertain no apprehension about the matter, they have adopted the very judicious course of keeping these animals apart from all others for some time to come, thereby preventing all possibility of contagion, even if these sheep be infected.

We observe that the authorities in Great Britain have given special instructions to the collectors at the various outposts to exert the greatest possible care in the examination of all cattle which may be brought into the country, and in the event of any disease being discovered, to adopt all necessary measures to prevent its introduction and diffusion. In London all persons having possession of cattle laboring under any infectious disorder are required to give notice thereof under a penalty of £20. At first the disease was considered incurable, but we see it stated in a London paper of the 23rd ult., that many cases of the distemper have been cured, and it is thought that a remedy may be found which will effectually eradicate the disease.—*M. Chronicle, 7th Sep.*

The symptoms and course of the disease are described by the *Medical Times* as follows:—"The cow, previously quite healthy, is suddenly seized with trembling or rigors; in an hour or two purging of thin fecal matter occurs, soon followed by purging of a thin, watery, brown, serous fluid, sometimes accompanied with a little blood. Of course, the milk is at once suppressed. Soon after a serous discharge takes place from the nose, and the mucous membrane of the nose and vagina are observed to become denuded of epithelium. Sometimes there is tympanitis. Prostration and collapse follow, the extremities become cold, and subcutaneous emphysema is observed in the loins. Death usually results in a period of from twelve hours to seven days."

THE GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.*

We watch with interest the progress of Agriculture in other countries, and we should strive to profit by the hints thereby afforded. Naturally the great agricultural movements in our fatherland have for us a peculiar interest. It is seldom, however, that Agricultural Journals on this side of the Atlantic take much trouble to record the sayings and doings of English and Scotch and Irish farmers, whence so many of our agriculturists would be willing to draw information. We, therefore, devote this month, as much of our space as can be spared to a report of the Great Annual Exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, which was held this year at PLYMOUTH, during the second and third weeks of July. Our report is a selection as comprehensive as possible, from the *Agricultural Gazette* and other English Journals.

IMPLEMENTS.

The meeting commenced on Wednesday 12th July, with a preliminary trial of Reaping Machines, on the grounds at Woodford Farm, Plympton St. Mary, about four miles from Plymouth.—There are here some 80 acres of land in four large fields, made ready with crops of Rye and Winter Oats, Clover and Rye-Grass, and bare fallow respectively for reapers, mowers, horse-rakes, bay tedders, drills, manure distributors, carriages, and horse-hoes, the classes of tools which this year come under the inspection of the Society's judges.

The collection of Agricultural Machinery, as of Implements of more strictly domestic use, which has latterly been so large a feature in the Society's shows, is extensive. There are upwards of 4000 entries on 275 stands, arranged in two divisions, one of which comprises the machinery in motion.

It appears that a bad choice of fields had been made for the operation of the mowers; the work of the combined mowers and reapers was better than of mowers alone.

THE SHOW YARDS:

The show-yards are very conveniently situated, occupying 35 acres of upland near the Saltash Road—the summit of which, as seen from the higher part of the town, appears as if covered with a cloud of canvass. The show is as extensive, and will be as instructive and useful, as ever, though it was not to be expected it would attract so large a number of spectators as during a time of less public excitement it would have done. [The election, were going on in England.] No

* This Article was crowded out last month.

less than 3000 yard in length of shedding are provided for machinery, and about a mile in length for live stock. And the strictly agricultural show, which is thus good and large, has the advantage of being this year held in a place full of unusual local attractions. There has never yet been a show-yard which has commanded so magnificent a landscape, one fuller of points of national interest.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Exhibition, and on that occasion there was an immense influx of visitors.

It is remarked that there was this year a much fairer interchange of agricultural advantage between visitors and natives than at some previous meetings. On the whole, whether successful financially or not the Plymouth meeting has been a great success in all that ought to enter into our estimate of the achievements of the Society. It has successfully brought all the agricultural energies of the country to bear upon a new district.

THE CATTLE YARD.

Short Horns were generally short in point of numbers. Of old bulls, Lord Chancellor, bred by Jonas Webb, stood first. 2nd Prize, Mr. Bolitho, for a roan, just over three years, somewhat light in his hind-quarters and coarse in front, but better in the middle than at either end. 3rd Prize, Mr. Covyton, with a roan of beautiful quality, but of light hind-quarters and somewhat flat sided.

The Younger Class of bulls includes half a dozen, among which there was no difficulty in selecting the 1st place for Mr Ford's red and white Duke of Devonshire, a very evenly covered and well-formed beast, and first-rate forwards; the surface smooth over a very symmetrical frame; the early morning sun casting no shadow from hummock or patch, as 'it did more or less over all the others.—Mr. Charlesworth's (Dewsbury) white Lull, of great length, and particularly good over the loin, but with rather short hind quarters, took the 2nd place; and Mr. Claydon's roan Knight of North Essex, hardly of full size, with good twist, and barring a lump on her back, very good and, even throughout, takes the 3rd prize.

The Yearling Bulls are a larger and better class than their predecessors. The 1st prize goes to a massive roan bull by Mr. Fawkes, of Otley, with quite as much beef on him as, coming from such a herd, he ought to have. He has a long symmetrical barrel of great depth, and particularly good over the loin. Beside him stands Lord Walsingham's white bull of great width forward, crested neck, and masculine appearance, which is somewhat lacking in the 2d prize animal shown by Mr. Booth. This is a light roan, rather slightly built animal, of beau-