

Stock.

Long-Horned Cattle.

When at the Royal Agricultural Exhibition, in Bristol, last year, we noticed particularly the old English long-horned cattle—more closely, perhaps, as we never have seen any of this class of cattle in America. We engaged an artist to sketch the head of one animal, which we have previously published, also the hind quarters of another animal, the tail of which was imbedded in fat, as you see in this, the correct representation. We do not pretend to claim that the long-horned cattle are as valuable stock for us as the Shorthorn, or as the Herefords, for beef and beauty; but the long-horned cattle have, and most probably will continue to retain, their admirers, especially in the old "Stately Homes of England," where people may see many hundreds of deer in one park, scores of buffaloes in another, and rabbits, hares, and pheasants by the thousand, on many of these fine old estates.

Contagious Diseases of American Cattle.

We take the following extracts from an address to the American Agricultural Congress, Rochester, N. Y., by N. N. Paren, M.D., V.S., Chicago, Ill.:

GLANDERS AND FARCY.

Glanders and farcy have prevailed, and prevail to some extent here and there in all of the western States and Territories, among horses and mules; more so than is generally known or suspected. The importance of stringent legislation for the extinction of these twin diseases, is evident to any one at all acquainted with the dangers attending their unlimited spread, and their total incurability.

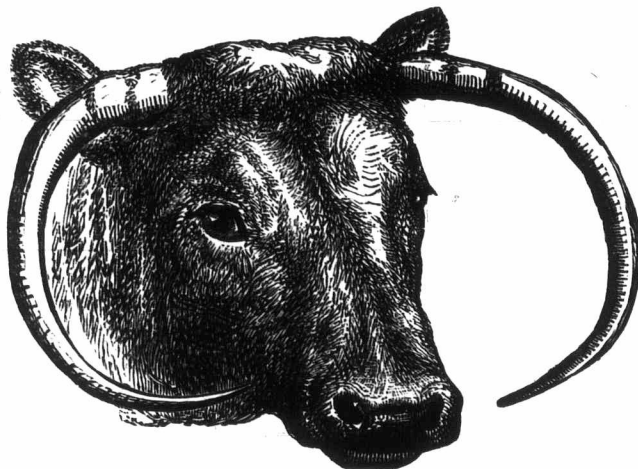
PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

Among horned cattle, the contagious pleuro-pneumonia has, during the past year, thanks to the British Government, received a *forced consideration* by our Government, and some headway has been made towards its extinction; but, as yet, no laws have been enacted by Congress for the purpose of preventing its spread from one State to another, or over the whole United States. This disease has been in our country a considerable number of years. If proper means had been adopted at the time of its incipency, we should never have seen it again, except by new importation; and until proper measures are taken, or Congress enacts laws in relation to trade and traffic between the States of the Union, we shall continue to suffer from it. One of the greatest sources of the spread of this disease is the unrestricted trade and traffic in cattle. Were proper precautions adopted in this direction, within certain limits, and within each State, and a thorough stamping-out process inaugurated, we should soon cease to hear of the contagious pleuro-pneumonia. The invasion of a district or country by pleuro-pneumonia contagiosa is insidious. The disease commonly escapes observation as it steals into a farm or country, and is consequently perhaps more destructive than any other known epizootic disease. Wherever the diseased animals have been slaughtered early, as in some European countries, the disease has not spread; but where months have elapsed before measures have been adopted, it has insinuated itself into many parts of the country, and has proved most destructive.

I feel constrained to repeat that the immense losses among live stock in this country is greatly to be accounted for in the absence of a sufficient number of men who have been thoroughly and scientifically educated in this branch of medical science. That the great multitude of intelligent farmers and live-stock owners in America should be obliged to contend with quacks and charlatans of the lowest description, while all other civilized nations, (some of them as far back as a hundred years ago,) have been provided by their Governments with amply endowed veterinary colleges, is beyond all sound reasoning—is, in fact, nothing less than a national disgrace, and justly merits the derision of other nations.

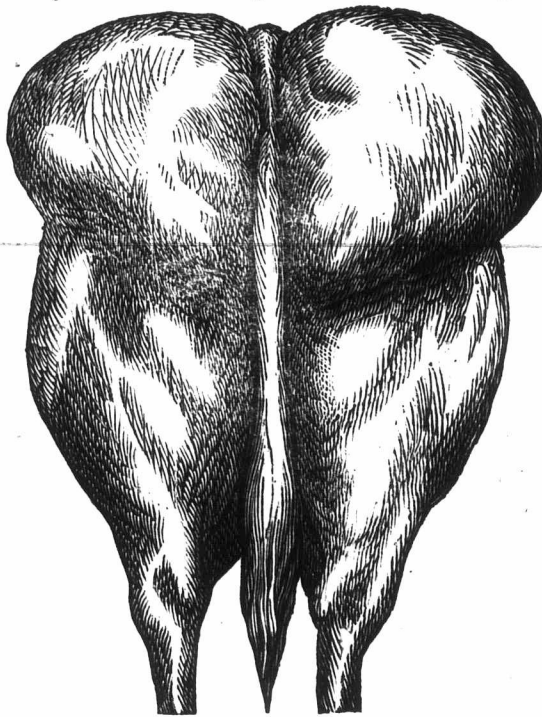
Pampered Sires Produce Puny Offspring.

Although often ignored, it is impossible for stock breeders to set aside the axiom that "like produces like." Not only does the healthy form, vigorous constitution and temper appear in the progeny, but faulty shapes, weakness, and disease are also notoriously hereditary. A great deal of preventable disease is reproduced and distributed by the use of unhealthy parents. Among high-bred animals of valuable strains it is often a serious sacrifice to consign to the butcher an animal which has shown faulty points or delicacy of constitution. Time, flesh and condition are vainly



HEAD OF LONG-HORNED OX, EXHIBITED AT ROYAL AG'L EXHIB'N, 1878.

expected to remedy the mischief. Being a mere chance inferior outcome of perhaps a fairly vigorous race, the scrub, it is urged, may nevertheless produce sound stock. The exception does, however, but prove the rule. The conservative powers of nature are fortunately great. There is a strong tendency to revert to the normal type. Inferior or superior specimens, especially of an old-established sort, do not mark all their progeny with either their shortcomings or their excellencies. But with the increasing cost of stock-breeding it



HIND QUARTERS OF FAT BEAST AT SAME EXHIBITION.

becomes more and more important to produce a maximum of shapely, sound, vigorous animals. These are not the times in which farmers can afford tediously to rear weakly animals, to waste good food on thriftless doers, to have the stables, yards or folds occupied with inferior, unprofitable, or diseased specimens.

Not only must breeding stock be themselves vigorous, profitable, free from disease, and descended from a race which have possessed these

desirable qualities; they must, moreover, be kept in conditions which will enable them to maintain and reproduce these good qualities. Many animals, and especially males, are reared too artificially; they are unduly pampered; fat is developed at the expense of muscle, insufficient exercise interferes with healthy vigor, and inborn tendency to disease is fostered. The colt may have had a gallon of milk daily until he necessarily "fills the eye," but the promise he seems to afford of size, power and stamina are not always realized. Many young bulls of crack breeds, when early forced, show to advantage, but turn out shy breeders, or produce puny, stunted, delicate calves. Fat rams are notoriously disappointing in many ways, and often beget weakly anemic lambs. Mr. Robinson, of Kelso, in an admirable paper on joint diseases of young stock, read last December at the Scottish

Metropolitan Veterinary Medical Association, recognizes this increasing cause of weakness and loss. He wisely says: "It is not, however, entirely through the medium of the breeding and pregnant animal that faulty dietary seems to operate in the production of defective and ill-elaborated tissue formation in the young. There seems good reason for believing that a like train of influences are imparted to our male stock animals by want of a correct appreciation of the dietetic conditions necessary for the development and maintenance of perfectly healthy animal existence."

To remedy these evils, young stock, whether of aristocratic or plebeian descent, should be reared more naturally, with free space and abundance of exercise, neither on the one hand over-forced, nor on the other starved or stunted. Male animals, if expected to do their work satisfactorily, should have their food properly regulated; should not, as is too common with bulls, be kept closely tied up, but be daily led out. The American system of stud paddocks ensures more effective service, and the production of sounder and more vigorous offspring.

In purchasing sheep it is judicious to select those that have been fed on soil inferior to that for which they are designed; and the best symptoms of a healthy condition are redness of the gums and of the skin at the brisket, whiteness and evenness of the teeth, firmness of the wool, sweetness of breath and coolness of feet.

The steamer from Summerside, P. E. I., brought an unusually large cargo to Point du Chene last week. There were four car loads of sheep en route to Quebec, for shipment to England, and nearly a thousand barrels of oysters for various markets.

Farm horses should, whenever the day is warm enough to bring out sweat, be allowed to wallow and scratch their sides and backs on the ground. They will get much more comfort in this way than you can give them with the curry-comb. Many rely on the curry-comb to keep their horse in order. It is the greatest nonsense one can practice. Clean, sweet hay and grain, and a clean, soft bed to sleep on, with a proper place to wallow, will insure a fine coat of hair and a strong, muscular body. Nothing else can. As a general rule, those not tutored in the management of horses will do well to consult the horse and treat him accordingly.—Ex.

In all parts of the United States tuberculosis is steadily on the increase among our cattle, and especially among the Shorthorns. Various forms of anthrax disease, especially the so-called black-leg and splenic apoplexy have prevailed among young cattle. In various parts of Texas, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois cattle have been affected with enzootic ophthalmia. Among sheep the prevailing diseases have been foot-rot and scab. Some restrictive laws are wanting to prevent the trade and traffic in such diseased sheep.

There have been several instances of severe losses among cattle in the State of Illinois, from the Texan cattle fever, occasioned by the transportation of cattle from the Gulf States, in defiance of the laws forbidding such transportation between the months of March and October.

On one point we may settle with a certainty of being right:—We must begin now to feed well. No matter what the cost is, cattle must be well fed from this time to midwinter, or there will be loss. The very worst policy is to permit them to fall off now. If there is to be scant feeding let it be as late as possible.—Pres. Elmira Farmers' Club.