

yet before us. Should it arise as a practical matter, we do not hesitate to recommend the instant slaughter of all animals affected with the disease, and the complete and perfect isolation from other cattle, of all animals reasonably suspected of having been exposed to the contagion.

Massachusetts is wide awake. Her efforts to save herself and sister States from an unparalleled calamity, are worthy of the highest praise. The only regret is, that the efforts at extirpation were not commenced earlier. Had the Legislation been more prompt, and the first appropriation (\$10,000) been made a month sooner, it would in all probability have sufficed to extirpate the disease utterly. As it is, \$25,000 have been expended, and it is now proposed to use \$100,000 more if needed."

Pleuro-Pneumonia in N. Y. State Six Years Ago.

The following is the important letter of E. P. Prentice, Esq., of Mount Hope, near Albany, N. Y., addressed to the *Country Gentleman*, to which we referred in the *Agriculturist* of July 16.

Messrs. Editors—I notice that a good deal of alarm is felt in different parts of the country about what is called the cattle disease.

From the diagnosis given in the papers, I have no doubt this is Pleuro-Pneumonia, with which I had some acquaintance a few years ago. If it is the same, my observation and experience may be of some service to those suffering now.

It was introduced into my stock in the fall of 1853, by one of my own cows, which in the spring of that year I had sent down to my brother in Brooklyn, to be used during the summer for milk. She was kept entirely isolated throughout the summer, and in November was sent up by the boat. There were no other cattle on the boat at the time, nor could I learn that she had come in contact with any in passing through the streets on her way to the boat, and she certainly did not after leaving it, until she mingled again with her old companions, all of whom were then and long afterwards perfectly healthy. After she had been home about two weeks we noticed that her appetite failed, and her milk fell off; she seemed dull and stupid, stood with her head down, and manifested a considerable degree of languor.

Soon her breathing became somewhat hurried and with a very decided catch in it; she ground her teeth, continued standing, or if she laid down it was only to jump up again instantly. Her cough increased, and so too a purulent and now bloody discharge of mucus from her mouth and nostrils. The excrement was fetid, black and hard.

In this case we twice administered half a pound of epsom salts, and afterwards a bottle

of castor oil. Very little but a temporary relief was produced by these doses.

The symptoms all increased in intensity strength diminished, limbs were drawn together belly tucked up, &c., until the eighth day, when she partly layed and partly fell down, and rose again. In a post-mortem examination, lungs proved to be gorged with black, &c. blood, the substance of them to be thick, soft and pulpy. The pleura and diaphragm showed a good deal of disease and some adhesion.

This cow on her arrival here was put into a usual place in the stable, between others. She remained there for two or three days after she was taken sick, before we removed her to hospital.

In about three weeks from the time she died one and then the other of those standing either side of her were attacked in the same way, and with but two days between. This certainly looks very much like contagion, but attention had not before been called to this peculiar disease, and to suppose inflammatory congestion of the lungs contagious, was opposed to my pre-conceived notions that I did even then admit it, and these animals were forced to remain with the others until their comfort seemed to require the greater liberty of open pens.

One of them was early and copiously bled, while epsom salts were administered by the stomach and with the injective process. The other we endeavored to keep warm with ipecacuanha, and at the same time to open her bowels open by cathartic medicines, but proved to be of no avail. They both died, one in ten and the other in thirteen days. Before these died, however, others were taken. And thus later I had eight sick at one time.

The leading symptoms in all were the same with minor differences, and so too was the appearance after death on examination.

Of all that were taken sick (sixteen) but one recovered, and they were among those who were the least for; after we had become discouraged about trying to cure them. In all the last we made no effort at all, but to keep them comfortable as we could.

In one case the acute character of the disease changed to a chronic, and the animal lived for eight weeks, until the whole texture of the lungs had become destroyed. She had become much emaciated, and finally died with the ordinary consumption.

At the time the first case appeared I had a herd of thirty-one animals, all valuable shires, in fine condition and health. In five or six cases I had a veterinary surgeon of considerable celebrity and experience, and an ordinary approved mode of treatment resorted to and persevered in. The last case before intimated, we only strove to make comfortable.

After I paid the third or fourth forfeit, I began to wake up to the idea that the disease was