

## Stock.

## United States Stock Disease.

We extract the following from the New York Tribune, contributed by Prof. James Law, of Cornell University:—

## MALIGNANT ANTHRAX—PRECAUTIONS.

Mr. Tallman C. Bookhouf, Delaware County, N. Y., reports the loss of 11 members of his dairy herd from May 27 to December 4, ranging in age from seven months to nine years; all in milk except the calves, and all in better than average condition. The details he supplies pretty fully, as follows:

The first one died before turning to pasture. Each had four quarts daily of oats, buckwheat, corn, barley and wheat shorts, mixed, with what good hay they could eat three times a day. Stock turned out June 1; grain left off June 10; September and October fed sowed corn twice a day; fed green stalks until frost, and cured stalks until December 1. Pasture is high ground, most of it dry; has been seeded mostly within thirteen years; has three living springs with troughs; there is some wet and swampy ground along the stream flowing from one of the springs; would not exceed three-quarters of an acre; grass and hay mostly clover and timothy. The symptoms of those that died, and those that recovered, are as follows: In the early stages of the disease, some uneasiness (very little), lifting up of feet, lying down and remaining some time in that position, breathing more hard than usual, drawing up of the abdomen at times; at other times stretching, curbing the head and neck, drawing the back down, abdomen up; they will eat, chew cud, drink, to within a short time of death. There is heat at top of head, and along the spine, also near end of tail—tail down between legs; a slight discharge of mucous from the nostrils, saliva in mouth, swallow often, raise wind from stomach. When lying down, rest nose on manger, breathe hard, nostrils stopped up, make water frequently, little at a time; manure hard and dry, and other times thin with some slime mixed with blood; death always follows in short time after this appearance, generally in two hours. Cows all hold out their milk till last stage of disease; have had cows die with udder full, and others would dry up in a day. Carcass after death looks healthy, paunch full of undigested food, manifold full and dry, last stomach contains a watery fluid, and in a high state of inflammation; gall full of thick brown bile; spleen in every case was the same; in cutting open spleen the contents would run; lungs had some red blotches on them, also the wind-pipe; along the back over the lungs there were also bloody places. There was bloody fluid inside of carcass. The flesh about the stomach was clotted with blood; there was a sickening smell coming from inside of carcass; a bloody discharge from nostrils shortly after death. The intestines were full of a sort of putrid slime, watery and bloody.

The cattle evidently suffered from malignant anthrax, either imported into the pastures from other stock, or, what is much more probable, developed in connection with the general plethora of the subjects—the rich, but swampy ground, drying out in summer, and the excessive heat of the past vernal season. Mr. Bookhouf should thoroughly wash with chloride of lime solution every part of his premises in contact with which any of the sick animals have been, fence around the wet, swampy parts of the pasture, and the graves, so that no cattle can approach them, and should not even use the hay from such places for some years to come. It may even be needful to seclude the whole of the pasture from cattle and to cultivate the same, taking a succession of other crops before it is again laid down for grass.

The following is an extract from the Michigan Farmer:—

## BLACK LEG, BLACK QUARTER.

J. A. Morill, of Brockway Centre, Michigan, writes:

"Will you please inform me through the columns of the Farmer how to prevent and cure the disease known as the Black-leg? A good many cattle here, principally yearlings, have it; they are taken generally by being stiff in the limbs; the blood will seem to settle in one quarter

of the animal and go through all the flesh; by passing the hand over the parts it feels like a pumice; they only live from 12 to 24 hours after being taken."

Answer.—This disease is known by several names, as black quarter, quarter evil, joint murrain, bloods triking, shoot of blood, etc. Young stock in full condition are particularly subject to those attacks, in consequence of the feverish condition of their system. The premonitory symptoms of this disease are very obscure, hence frequently overlooked. The pulse is full and hard, increased to 60 or 70 pulsations per minute, showing the congested condition of the capillaries, in some remote part. Respiration disturbed, tongue somewhat swollen, muzzle dry, breath hot, neck extended, eyes full and bulging, horns hot, with coma or stupor, unwillingness to move, and when forced to do so has a staggering gait, loss of appetite, etc. Rapid debility follows and the animal dies. Prevention, give the following: One pound epsom salts, one ounce of Jamaica ginger, not pulverized, mix well, and divide into six powders, one to be given morning, noon and night dissolved in half a pint of warm water; between each dose give one of the following powders every two hours on the tongue, gentian root pulverized, hyposulphite of soda (not hyposulphate) pulverized, of each two ounces, cinchona bark and Jamaica ginger root pulverized, of each half an ounce; mix all together and divide into ten powders. As a preventative seatons in the dewlaps have been used with seeming advantage. When great debility is present, the liquor ammonia acetates, in two to four ounce doses, has been used with good effect. If there is a regular veterinary surgeon in your neighborhood we would advise you to consult him, as this disease will not admit of any mistake.

Black-leg or black quarter has been known in Canada, but it is not of the contagious or dangerous character as the other diseases that are now spreading in the States.

## WHAT AILS MY HOGS?

A. W. A., of Mundy, Genessee county, writes: "I write to obtain some information as to what ails my hogs? They are lame in the forefeet, one foot at a time; this foot seems to be somewhat feverish just at the edge of the hoof and hair. I have thought sometimes that it was a founder, but suppose that it would be in both feet at once? The hogs run out in my yard all the time, not on any floor. They are last spring's pigs, of the Poland-China breed. I got one of them from Anderson in the fall, and it was lame when I got him? They have been lame for five or six weeks, first in one foot and then in the other. If you can tell me what is the matter I shall be much obliged, as I am a subscriber and mean to remain one."

Answer.—Diseases of the feet have attacked all classes of animals, more especially cattle, sheep and swine, the result of inflammation of the feet. Particularly is this the case where the animals are turned upon meadow lands. The symptoms as above described are more of a rheumatic character. Treatment: Separate the animals affected, and give half drachm doses of pulverized stramonium seeds in the feed night and morning.

In previous issues we have spoken of Texan cattle fever, pleuro-pneumonia, hog cholera, trichina in pork, and foot and mouth disease. We feel satisfied that the voice of every real Canadian farmer will support us in asking our Government to use every proper means to prevent the spread of any of these diseases in any part of this Dominion. We believe the first steps taken by our Government are in the right direction. We hope to see hogs and poultry prohibited from being shipped into this Dominion from where diseases exist. We cannot tell what inestimable damage may be done if our stock should become contaminated. Diseased food affects man. Perhaps the cause of the plague in Russia, which is sweeping whole districts to eternity, may be traced to bad meat. If we can keep our stock healthy we shall be able to command a higher price for meat than those nations which have diseased stock. John Bull will not complain of price, but he must have the purest and most healthy meat, butter and cheese that this world can produce.

## A Hot-bed of Pleuro-pneumonia.

In Moore's Rural New Yorker we have a sketch of what is justly called "A Hot-bed of Pleuro-pneumonia," at Belleville, a village in Long Island, N. Y. In connection with a large distillery there are wooden buildings, cow-stables, containing between 700 and 800 cows, fed exclusively on swill. The attention of the Brooklyn Board of Health was some weeks ago directed to the condition of the cows by reports of pleuro-pneumonia among them, and by an unusually high rate of mortality among the children of the city, which was attributed to their use of milk from the diseased animals. We quote the following:

"The cows are tied in opposite rows of stalls varying in width from 37 to 42 inches, the ropes being barely long enough to let them lie down. Between the rows of heads facing each other is just sufficient room to allow one to pass, but behind the animals are wider spaces from which the fast accumulating excrement and urine are swept away once a day. Evacuations are almost constant, as the nature of the food stimulates the kidneys so as largely to increase their secretions, besides rendering the faeces very abundant and almost liquid. The only provisions for light and air are the doors. When these are closed the interior is dark and the air noisome. The cows never stir from the place. From the moment they first enter it until they cease to give milk in satisfactory quantity, and are fattened for the butcher, they take no exercise beyond these three-by-ten-foot stalls, get no change of food from that unwholesome swill, and breathe over again that filth-reeking atmosphere, until the lungs become diseased, the body feverish, and the udder dry or nearly so. Small wonder that the wretched victims of cruelty and greed have become a source of sickness in the community, of possible infection among other herds, and of danger to our live-stock export trade. For right here is the most notorious hot-bed of pleuro-pneumonia in the country. A few days ago we visited the stables ourselves, and although permission to examine the animals was refused, we saw and learned enough of the condition and surroundings of the inmates of the buildings to enable us to guarantee the correctness of the above account of the matter."

The German Government are taking active measures to prevent the spread of the rinderpest, which is causing fearful havoc in the agricultural districts of the Empire. The imperial authorities have established quite a cordon of gens d'armes and police along the whole frontier of Russia, with strict orders to prevent any import of cattle from Muscovy. France, too, is on the alert, for an official decree was published on the 14th ult. prohibiting the importation into or transit through that country of sheep and horned cattle from Germany and Luxembourg.

An Australian paper states that at the annual sale, Aug. 20th, at Victoria, of the Canowie sheep (Australian), twenty Merino rams sold for \$11,180, or about \$555 each. Prices ranged from \$1,000 downwards, while the average is the highest hitherto known in South Australia. These rams are reported as having good frames, fine constitutions, their wool being long and staple, of excellent quality and heavy in weight. The average weight of the wool on the Canowie estate last year, from 52,997 sheep, was 8 pounds 15½ ounces for each sheep and 4 pounds 5½ ounces for each lamb. These sheep are grass fed, and endure a change of climate and food remarkably well.

A Canadian correspondent of the London Times says: "There are some 250,000 head of cattle and 500,000 sheep at present being stall fed in the Province of Ontario for shipment to British ports in the spring. Exporting firms intend to dispatch one vessel a day laden with sheep and cattle from Montreal and Quebec as soon navigation opens. A Toronto firm is at present in negotiation with the British Government for supplying the troops stationed at Cyprus and Gibraltar with beef and mutton after next spring."

Occasional feeding of salt is very important to the health and vigor of animals. One-half of the ash of animal blood consists of salt, without which the vital fluid cannot be in a natural or healthy state.