

the disease, have enabled me to understand what used to appear mysterious. I shall cite an illustration. The notion is very generally entertained that the disease is carried from farm to farm through the air. I shall briefly state a few facts which show that if carried at all in the air, the range of its power of transmission is very small.

I have at Glansnevin, for educational purposes, three farms—one of 5½ acres, one of 25 acres, and one of 140 acres; each of which is worked independently of the others. I have taken all possible precautions to protect the animals on these several farms from infectious diseases. For example, where a piece of pasture adjoins the public road I have erected barricades to prevent the cattle from coming in contact with diseased animals which may pass along this road. Notwithstanding these precautions, and that no new purchase had been made for months, foot and mouth disease appeared last month in one of the animals on the 140-acre farm. It seemed to some of my neighbours and pupils to be a case of spontaneous generation. But it was easy to trace the outbreak to an infected lot of cattle on the opposite side of the road. Those animals had access to a brook which supplies water to the cattle on our 140-acre farm. As soon as the disease broke out I took steps for preventing intercourse between this farm and the two smaller farms. I further directed that as soon as an animal should show any signs of disorder it should be withdrawn from the herd and placed in an hospital. On this farm there are 53 head of cattle of all ages. Of these 22 got the disease, and it has already disappeared. On the 25-acre farm there are ten milch cows and two calves. These animals grazed in a field which is within 28 yards of the field of the 140-acre farm in which the disease broke out, and within 70 yards of the shed used as an hospital, yet none of these got the disease.

Last year also I had this disease at Glansnevin. It appeared first on the 140-acre farm and in a cow bought at the fair of Drogheda, where she came into contact with diseased animals. Last year it spread to the 25-acre farm, and on diligent enquiry I was able to trace the transmission of the infection to the use of a bucket taken by a thoughtless boy from the diseased to the healthy cattle.

These facts show the value of isolation as well as the importance of preventing the movement of cattle during the prevalence of foot and mouth disease. The same holds good with regard to that insidious plague pleuro-pneumonia. Many stockowners are ignorant of the nature of infection, and do not understand the advantage of imposing restrictions on the movement of cattle. The best way of overcoming their prejudices, and of arriving at a knowledge of the principles by which legislation on these infectious diseases ought to be governed, is by instituting a rigid inquiry into the mode by which they

are propagated, if the initiative were taken by any central competent body, such as the Royal Agricultural Society. I fully believe the landed gentry and farmers would contribute funds to prosecute the inquiry. I also feel assured that the stock owners of Ireland, who are a wealthy class, and suffer from infectious diseases an annual loss equal to the whole of the local taxation of their country, would not be slow in coming forward to support such an effort to serve them.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
THOMAS BALDWIN.

Albert Model Farm, Glansnevin,  
Dublin, Aug., 18.

### The Booth Short-Horns and the Herefords.

We copy the following excellent reviews on the Short-Horn and Hereford prizetakers in England this year from *Bell's Weekly Messenger*. We take special pleasure in giving this long article a place in our columns, in that, from them we particularly learn that the old Booth blood as shewn especially in Killerby or Warlabby strains still holds its own in the Royal and other large English shows.

#### SHORT-HORNS AT CARDIFF.

It is important from year to year to follow the awards of the Royal Agricultural Society's judges with a view to the blood which produces the winners, and curious as well as instructive to watch the rise and maintained excellence, or on the other hand the decline, of families and tribes of short-horns. Some new names will crop out for a season or two, families unheard of before coming into the foremost ranks and then disappearing, the progeny, whether from unsuitable alliances, atavism ("breeding back") or other causes, never again taking a position of note. Sometimes a new family (or we may rather say a branch of an old sort grafted and growing upon a fresh stock, or old materials mixed in a manner unfamiliar) will come forward creditably, and maintain a creditable standing; and still through all the vicissitudes of family there are good old tribes that can always show animals second to none when forced to the test. They may retire for a time (so far as regards showyard honors) in consequence of the temporary lack of members, of age and in condition for the show; or their owners from various reasons may decline to exhibit them or train them for exhibition; but so surely as they remain in good hands will they be heard of again, and again though either their legitimate representatives or the offspring of their males in herds of other blood. On the latest occasion, the recent national meeting at Cardiff, the colors of Warlabby were borne to the front by Mr. Outhwaite's Royal Windsor, the premier bull of the year, Mr. Linton's Lord Irwin, the second winner, Mr. Bowstead's Flag of Britain, third prize-taker, and Mr. Cooke's

St. Ringan, the reserve number bull in the same class. Mr. Brierly's third among the two-year old bulls, Prince Charlie, is a son of the pure Booth bull Prince of the Realm, from a dam by Mr. Chaloner's Fugleman, a son of Warlabby Hopewell. Mr. Linton's Leeman and Mr. A. H. Brown's Duke of Aosta, first and second prize yearlings, have each a preponderance of Booth blood; and Lady Pigot's first prize bull calf, Rapid, is of Booth descent on both sides of his pedigree. The first prize cow, Mr. Brown's Primrose, is by a sire of chiefly Booth blood; and the second prize two-year old heifer, Mr. H. F. Smith's Lamwath Violet, is full of Booth. To these might be added several prize and commended animals owning lesser proportions of the Killerby or Warlabby element, but those already mentioned (a fair number of winners for one strain of blood to contribute to a Royal show) sufficiently prove that Booth short-horns are still formidable competitors in the ring. If it were not so, if the Warlabby type had disappeared or suffered marked deterioration, a loss incalculable and probably irreparable, would have befallen the short-horn race—a loss which would be the more keenly appreciated as symmetrical samples of the short-horn breed become more scarce. We hope to see the truly moulded form, the well-set heads, broad level backs, straight underlines, arched ribs and prime flesh of the grand old sort still reproduced in specimens of successive generations, proceeding both from Warlabby itself and from the dependencies of Warlabby, the herds owning the influence of Warlabby sires.

\* \* \* to return to the first class of bulls:—Royal Windsor (29890), white, was bred by Mr. Willis of Carperby, and was by Windsor Fitz-Windsor (of the Killerby Mantahni and Warlabby Broughton or Bliss families combined), from a dam by Mr. Richard Booth's Fitz-Clarence, the son of that most exquisitely lovely cow Nectarine Blossom. Lord Irwin, also white, bred by his exhibitor, was by Lady Pigot's pure Booth bull British Hope, his dam having the blood of Cricklank's Magnus Troil (14280) combined by in-and-in breeding. Magnus Troil had the Warlabby and Wiseton blood through his sire The Baron Flag of Britain was bred by Mr. Torr, whose success in reproducing the Warlabby type in his herd may be described almost as more than commensurate with his extensive use of Warlabby bulls, since it was partly owing to the consummate judgment displayed in their appropriate selection. A less skilful man might have done much less with equally good materials. Flag of Britain, like many other Aylesby short-horns, is several generations deep in Booth blood upon the well-known family of Flower Girl by Londesboro'. The three immediate sires in his pedigree are Breastplate, British Prince, and Vanguard, containing some of Warlabby's choicest and most valuable families. Mr. Lamb's Ignoramus (28887), first among the two-year-old