

localities on the coasts of Massachusetts. In order to prevent, if possible, its spreading, a law has been passed authorising the civil authorities to order the immediate slaughter of suspected animals, the State making good to the owners the value of the stock. There is great risk of the disease, like most things of that nature, whether in the animal or vegetable kingdom, extending westward, so that we in Canada cannot help feeling personally anxious about the matter. It has been very troublesome for several years past in the eastern part of England, and serious losses have been sustained by many individuals. The diseased Cattle were imported from Holland, Denmark, &c. No specific cure has yet been discovered.

We take the following account of the history of the disease from the *Ohio Farmer*, taken from advanced sheets of the Ohio Agricultural Report for 1859, from the pen of Mr. Klippart, the corresponding Secretary:—

Pleuro-pneumonia is a contagious disease of cattle, which originates spontaneously among the cattle in the vast Russian steppes, more especially in the southern and eastern provinces of Russia. It disseminates itself very rapidly, by means of a virus, which infects all races, sexes, ages and conditions of cattle, but which infects neither man nor any other animal. For a period of upwards of fifteen hundred years, this disease has at times spread desolation beyond the steppes; more especially has it followed in the wake of war and destroyed entire herds, in the several European countries. The first account which we have of it, dates back to the fourth century; in this instance, it was undoubtedly carried westward by emigrants from the East, or Russian provinces. From Panonia, it swept westward through Moldavia, Galicia, Moravia, Bohemia, into Belgium, on the northern route; and through Transylvania, Wallachia, Hungary, Slavonia, Styria, Illyria, into Austria and Tyrol. On account of the great destruction of cattle, it was at that time called the "*Pest.*" During the wars of Charles the Great, in the Ninth Century, this plague broke out and destroyed almost all the cattle that grazed in the Imperial States. About the middle of the same century, it literally swept away

all the cattle of France; after a lapse of twenty years, it again visited France with unabated fury, and afterwards visited the countries on the Rhine, and raged throughout Germany. Towards the middle of the tenth century, it was very disastrous in Austria and Italy. From this last period, until the thirteenth century, there are no accessible records of its operations. During the first half of the thirteenth century it broke out in Hungary, and spread over nearly all the western States of Europe, but was especially destructive in Austria, Moravia and Elsz. Towards the close of the sixteenth century, it was very wide spread, and unusually destructive in Italy and Germany. Its most remarkable advent, however, was during the eighteenth century; during this period it visited every portion of Europe, not excepting isolated England, and some portions twice or thrice; destroying in the aggregate, many millions of cattle, and is known in veterinary history as the period of the great cattle plague. In 1723, it proved more destructive in Brandenburg than elsewhere; and indeed throughout the entire continuance of the seven year's war, it proved itself an inseparable companion, and followed irresistibly in the footsteps of the army, causing great destruction of cattle in Pomerania, Saxony, Prussia and Livonia. From 1793 until 1815, it followed the armies in all the wars which France waged against the eastern European States, and in which Russian steppean cattle accompanied the armies for the purpose of being slaughtered. During this period, Littlehausen, Prussia, Chur and Silesia suffered most, more especially in 1806, by the retreat of the French army, and the pursuit of the "allied powers," being followed by the cattle plague, from the steppean cattle which followed the army, and which communicated the contagion so that it was disseminated far and wide. Even as late as 1815 and 1816, it was not fully extirpated in portions of France and Germany. But from this period, until the declaration of the Russian-Turkish war in 1828, it was not heard of outside the Russian steppes. Immediately after the first battle of the war, the plague raged among the cattle with all its unabated mortality, and swept with terrible destructiveness throughout Austria proper, Galicia and Silesia, but was checked on the Prussian borders by rigid municipal regulations, which were enforced on the most non-intercourse principle. Since the wars of 1814 and 1815, Prussia has escaped with now and then an isolated case, on the Russian Polish borders, which was introduced