

that name has been given to it, and it is a disease which has been long well known in Europe, from which it appears to have been exported. It has prevailed extensively in Holland, in England, Scotland, and Ireland, in France, Spain, and the Cape of Good Hope, and in all these countries has entailed the most serious losses on the agriculturists. The disease may be recognized as in the human subject by the stethoscope, this instrument affording all the ordinary signs of inflammation of the lungs and their investing membrane; and independently of the epidemic character which it undoubtedly possesses, it is at the same time highly contagious or infectious, a single infected animal, introduced among a healthy herd, shortly infecting a very large number. In the State of Massachusetts a great deal of alarm exists in regard to its prevalence, and the rapidity of its extension. It has been the subject of legislative consideration. Means have been devised to check its progress, and a large sum of money has been already appropriated to recompense owners for the loss of animals ordered to be killed by a commission appointed for the purpose. The amount thus appropriated has been found inadequate, and a private subscription has fully doubled it. But all legislative influence is useless, unless the farmers themselves co-operate. We regret to say that from selfish motives, or the love of filthy lucre, the farmers have been endeavouring to get rid of their infected stock, by selling it to their unsuspecting neighbours, and in many instances the disease has been propagated in this manner, and has become of course more widely diffused. To check this as far as possible the legislature has ordered under penalties, all animals suspected to be diseased to be branded with the letter P. This may arrest the exportation, and tend to confine the disease to narrower limits, but it is doubtful if it will stop the traffic. Looking to ourselves, we certainly agree with a local political journal, the *Commercial Advertiser*, that it is time that our executive government should interfere in the matter, and adopt measures to prevent the introduction of the disease into this Province, by preventing the importation of neat cattle in toto, for a time at least. An ounce of preventive, the old adage says, is worth a pound of cure. If once the disease is imported, the extent of its injury, or the amount of its ravages, cannot be predetermined.

What strikes us as somewhat singular is the inefficacy of all modes of relief hitherto adopted. We have often thought that the treatment of the diseases of horses, &c., &c., or, in other words, that veterinary practice, is based upon no sound principle whatever. Much requires to be done in it before it can take its place as a science, a position to which it is deservedly entitled, on account of the importance to our social interests of the subjects on which it treats.—Not only in other diseases, but in the one under consideration we have seen most extraordinary remedies proposed; the last, sanctioned by good names, is its treatment by arsenic. This treatment advises the exhibition of arsenic in six grain doses intimately mixed with sugar. Arsenic is a Tonic and Antiperiodic, and we are certainly at a loss to assign a rationale to any curative influence which can be effected by it in this disease. This treatment has been tried in Scotland and, as we might have a priori expected, it failed. Inoculation with matter taken from a diseased lung has also been had recourse to, but without any bene-