

JULY.

CATTLE DISEASE.

We have deemed it to be our duty to direct the special attention of our Readers to this all-engrossing topic. Why have we no Cattle Insurance Companies in this country, on such a scale as to afford the necessary protection—to equalize the risk—and thus to prevent the overwhelming ruin of industrious individuals in infected localities. Prevention is ever better than cure. The following extracts from a respectable contemporary and its Boston Correspondent, will furnish some interesting remarks, with the requirements of the Laws just passed for the protection of the agricultural public.

“We return to this subject because we are deeply convinced that it is of the highest importance for the whole country. We republished yesterday an article from a contemporary in which it was urged that the Government should notify the different Agricultural Societies throughout the country not to hold any cattle shows during the present year, and prevent altogether, if possible, the importation of cattle from the diseased districts. The former suggestion is quite new and it would be a prudent precaution to act upon it. The latter has been previously discussed. The Attorney General West, stated in answer to Mr. Modougal in the House, that the Government have the power, without further legislation, to prevent importations from diseased districts. If so they should at once exercise it. The State of Maine has put in force such prohibition. It were madness to lock the door after the steed is stolen; and the precautions which are of no use are those which are taken too late. The information which has from time to time appeared in these columns has shown that the disease has steadily, for some weeks past, made its way in this direction from the locality in Massachusetts, whence it first spread terror and dismay and ruin. And it has we cannot too often repeat, been established the evil was first brought to this continent by diseased importations. The fact suggests that a *cordon sanitaire* should be established around the districts where it is known to exist. Very little satisfactory information appears to have been so far obtained respecting the nature of disease called pleuro-pneumonia. The only facts established are that it is epidemic and contagious. It was therefore with alarm that we heard the other day of what was supposed to be its presence at Huntingdon, L. C., causing the death of four cattle. We do not wish to point out to the Provincial Agricultural Association their duties in this matter. They ought to be the best judges of the responsibility devolving upon them. But we do say there is a very grave responsibility resting somewhere; and it appears to us the members or officers of the Provincial Agricultural Association, ought to be the first to take means of precaution. While there is death at the door, while week by week we see a disease steadily approaching which may carry wide spread ruin over the whole country, it does seem to us to be something like trifling or inexcusable ignorance for the Agricultural