

advising measures for its suppression, and, until that should be accomplished, for preventing its spread. The result was, that nothing was done, no commission was appointed, and Congress was allowed to adjourn without an appropriation being made for the purpose of getting rid of this terrible disease. Shall the interests of the agricultural portion of this country be unheeded, and shall no adequate measures be taken to protect them?

There is no public question at this moment of greater importance to the people of this country than the extirpation of contagious pleuro-pneumonia. The legislature of the State of New-York, at their last session, made an appropriation of \$35,000 towards this object; a rigid system of quarantine has been instituted, and by the able and efficient officers appointed by the State Government much has been done. But no more State legislation and expenditure will do the work. There must be Congressional legislation and a large appropriation by Congress, or all other merely local efforts will fail. The Order of the Treasury Department, issued on the 19th of July, 1879, falls far short of what is necessary. To the quarantine of ninety days there is the exception: "Where State or municipal laws provide for the quarantine of such cattle; and in such cases collectors will permit them to quarantine them in such manner as the State or municipal authorities require." The "Order" or law should be made to apply to every State in the Union alike. The matter is national in its character, and the laws or orders relating to it should be national in their character, otherwise there can be no certainty as to the suppression or exclusion of the disease. We have a signal illustration of this in the case of an importation of cattle which arrived in New-York during the week before last. I quote from the *Country Gentleman* of October 23d: "We observe by the papers that the contemplated importation of Channel Islands cattle, by Mr. P. H. Fowler, Watford, Eng., was landed at New-York last week by the steamship Cornwall, and from thence they were transferred by rail to the Messrs. Harkness & Co.'s Bazaar, Philadelphia. Although in a healthy condition, they will be subjected to rigorous quarantine regulations, and until released will be in charge of Thomas I. Edge, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture and State Commissioner, and Dr. Bridge, Veterinary Inspector. The stock comprises 38 Jersey cows and calves, and two Guernsey bulls.

Now, mark what follows: "Since the foregoing was in type, Messrs. Harkness & Co., of Philadelphia, sent the announcement of the sale of these cattle, which appears on our first page. *It will take place on Thursday morning, November 6th.*" The advertisement referred to states that the cattle were "*direct from the Channel Islands, via Bristol, Eng., to New-York, per steamer Cornwall, and thence by rail to Philadelphia.*" Could there be a stronger illustration of the utter inefficiency of the "Treasury Order" to prevent the importation and spread of the disease? From anything known to anyone, these cattle may all be diseased. The period for the incubation of the disease may not have expired, and although apparently healthy, they may have contracted it, and thus be the means of carrying contagious pleuro-pneumonia into the very heart of the country; for, be it observed, they came from an infected county, and in passing from New-York to Philadelphia they were carried through a country where disease exists. It is pleasing to observe that at a meeting of the United-States Veterinary Medical Association, held in New-York, on the 16th of September, 1879, a committee was appointed to take action in the matter, and, "to draw up a set of resolutions to be presented to Congress in relation to the investigation and prevention of contagious diseases of domestic animals." I beg to recommend the appointment of a similar committee by this Association.

I have pleasure in stating my belief that the Government of Canada will co-operate heartily with the Government of the United-States in the adoption of measures calculated to prevent the importation of the disease.

**PURCHASE OF DEVON CATTLE FOR THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.**—We are very much pleased to learn that Mr. Ivan Wotherspoon has decided to introduce the breeding of Devons into this Province. He has purchased for his farm at St. Ann's the following valuable animals from Mr. George Radd, of Guelph, Ontario:

"Tecumseh," a magnificent Bull, eighteen months old—

which was awarded first prize in his class at the Dominion Exhibition at Ottawa.

"Meadow Flower," three years old, also winner of first prize at Ottawa.

"Flora Nelson" winner of the 2d prize at Ottawa.

All of them were shown in the herd which took the premium at the same exhibition.

The cows are both in calf to imported bulls of pure Devon blood.

That the Devons are a valuable breed is well known, and that they will do well in this Province we have no doubt. They are hardy, mature early, make excellent beef, and are unequalled for working cattle.—For the butcher they furnish superior cuts. By attention to milking strains they are capable of being developed into good milkers. We wish Mr. Wotherspoon success with his new venture.

### Feeding Horses.

In our last we made a few suggestions on this important subject, and now we present a very commonsense article on the same subject taken from the pages of the *English Live-Stock Journal*.

Every good groom knows that sound oats and beans, in due proportion and at least a year old, are the very best food for a galloping horse—the only food on which it is possible to get the very best condition out of a race-horse or a hunter. It has also recently become known that horses do slow work and become fat—indeed, too fat—on maize (Indian corn), which is frequently one-third cheaper than the best oats. In the East, horses are fed on barley, and it is a popular idea with English officers who have lived in Persia and Syria, that the change of food from barley to oats often, when imported, produces blindness in Arab horses.

Now, although no men understand better, or so well, how to get blood horses into galloping condition as English grooms, they do not, and few of their masters do, know the reason why oats and beans are the best food for putting muscular flesh on a horse. The agricultural chemist steps in here, makes the matter very plain, and shows that if you want pace, Indian corn, although nominally cheaper, is not cheap at all. According to Dr. Voelcker's and other chemists' analyses, we find in round numbers, in oats, beans, barley, and maize, the following constituents:

	Oats	Beans	Barley	Maize.
Water.....	14.3	14.5	14.3	14.4
Nitrogenous or muscle-producing compounds.....	12.0	25.5	9.5	10.5
Starch and other non-nitrogenous heat and fat-producing compounds....	54.4	43.0	64.1	61.0
Oil, as ready-made fat.....	8.0	2.0	2.5	7.0
Indigestible woody fibre.....	10.0	11.5	7.0	5.0
Mineral matter (ash).....	3.0	3.0	2.6	2.1
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

It was a common saying in Leicestershire, before deep draining, clean-cut fences, and increased sheep-feeding had improved agriculture at the expense of fox hunting, after one of those five-and-forty minute runs at best pace, that are now so rare, "it found out the horse that eat old beans and best oats." In fact, they made experiments they did not understand, which it was left for the modern chemist to explain.

When we feed a bullock, a sheep, or a pig for sale, after it has passed the store stage, we want to make it fat as quickly, and as cheaply as possible; but with a horse for work the object is, give him muscle—in common language, hard flesh. There are times when it is profitable to make a horse fat, as, for instance, when he is going up for sale after a severe hunting season. For this purpose, an addition of about a pound and a half of oil-cake to his ordinary food has a good effect. It is especially useful when a horse that has been closely clipped or singed is in low condition. It helps on the change to the new coat by making him fat. A