

Agricultural.

THE INDEPENDENT FARMER.

BY W. W. FOSDICK.

Let sailors sing of the windy deep,
Let soldiers praise their armor,
But in my heart this toast I'll keep,
The Independent Farmer.

While the dreaded cholera is making its way steadily and relentlessly from its Oriental home to the countries of the West, another pestilence, apparently one of the plagues of Ancient Egypt, "the murrain of cattle," is preceding it, apparently to "prepare the way and make the paths straight."

The English dairymen name the new epidemic the "Russian murrain," because its first appearance in Europe was noticed in the autocrat's dominions, and it was conveyed thence to Great Britain. Like the Russian plague, which so alarmed Western Europe a few months since, it is a species of typhus of very malignant character.

"The first symptoms of pneumonia pecorum epidemic (typhus) was noticed in the animals standing with their heads hanging down; their ears pendulous, their eyes fixed. The inner skin of the nose is pale, the inner part of the mouth slimy; the body, horns, ears and legs are cool, the skin is dry, and the hair rough and bristly.

Such murrains have occurred over and over again in Europe, and an infectious distemper is supposed to prevail permanently among the vast herds which are pastured in Siberia and on the steppes of Asia.

In 1745 it prevailed in Zealand; in 1770 Holland lost in one year 375,441 of her horned cattle; and in 1794 it followed Napoleon into Italy, and Piedmont alone paid for his march with 3,500,000 head. Faust, in the *Feuille du Cultivateur*, estimates the loss to France and Belgium, between 1713 and 1796, at the enormous total of 10,000,000 animals.

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Every good farmer knows that any domestic animal is a good clock—that it knows, almost to a minute, when the regular feeding time has arrived. If it has been accustomed to be fed with accuracy at the appointed period, it will not fret till that period arrives; after which it becomes very restless and uneasy until its food comes. If it has been fed irregularly, it will begin to fret when the earliest period arrives. Hence, this fretting may be entirely avoided, by strict punctuality; but it cannot be otherwise. The very moment the animal begins to worry, that moment it begins to lose flesh; but the rate of this loss has never been ascertained—it is certainly worthy an investigation—and can only be determined by trying the two modes punctually and irregularly, side by side, under similar circumstances, and with the same amount of food, for some weeks or months together.

There is one precaution to be observed in connection with regular feeding, where some judgment is needed. Animals eat more in sharp or frosty, than in warm and damp weather. Hence, if the same amount by weight is given at every feeding, they will not have enough when the weather is cold, and will be surfeited when it is warm and damp. Both of these evils must be avoided, while a little attention and observation will enable the farmer to do it.

Last year this disease was raging at the same time in Europe, at the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. In Victoria, where it

was very bad, the government took wholesale measures and killed the diseased animals right and left, in addition to stringent precautions.

Still the disease spread. In South Australia the government, directly they heard the disease was in a neighboring colony, took prompt measures to stop all cattle crossing the Victorian borders. Still, like the cholera, the disease advanced, and in a few weeks penetrated hundreds of miles into the heart of the colony.

A letter from Alexandria says that—"The cattle distemper raged in the country the last year. In the course of a few months there died in Egypt 800,000 oxen, and as many sheep, goats, camels, &c.—Three fourths of these animals were thrown into the Nile whose water is here the only drink; for, with the exception of the Fountain of Moses, there is not a single spring in Egypt. In the month of October last the dogs of Damietta could cross the Nile without wetting their paws, or a bridge formed by the corpses of cattle. Agents of the Isthmus Suez Company have assured me that they found it impossible to prevent the fellahs from choking their fresh water canal with dead animals. The Egyptian Government not having itself taken any measures in this respect, their authority was paralyzed, and the fellahs preferred occasionally receiving a few blows to digging a hole for the burial of animals that died of disease."

A correspondent of the *London Times*, writing from Vienna, says that about the beginning of May a great many oxen were purchased in Moravia, Bohemia and Silesia and sent by rail to Hamburgh. When the oxen were bought, the sellers were told they were for the London market. The murrain had not long been prevalent in Austria, and therefore it was not unlikely that the above mentioned cattle introduced the malady which the correspondent describes appear to be slightly different from the disease which has broken out in England.

The disease has been very bad in the vicinity of Maidenhead, and a meeting was held where it was determined to present petitions on the subject to the Privy Council and Lord Palmerston. The loss of the London dairymen has been estimated at \$150,000. Two thousand cows perished in a single month. Arthur Helps, clerk of the Privy Council, thus describes the matter:—"There has lately appeared in some of the dairies in and near London a disease among the cattle closely analogous to, if not the same, as that which has of late years prevailed extensively in Russia, Austria, and the eastern parts of Europe, called the cattle plague, being a species of typhoid fever. The loss of animals caused by it in those countries has been very serious. Returns have been furnished to this office by which it appears that in 1864, 159,476 cattle were attacked by this disease in Russia, out of which 104,714 died. It is of the first importance that all farmers, cowkeepers, or dealers in cattle, when purchasing new stock should for several days, not less than twelve or fourteen, keep their cattle apart from the rest of their stock, until, in fact, there is room to think that the new purchases are free from this disease.

If a farmer, cowkeeper or salesman should be desirous to get rid of any animal suffering from the disease in question, or any which may have been in close contact with animals suffering from that disease, it should be impressed upon him as a public duty, that at the present juncture he should not send them to markets or other places they would be brought into contact with other animals, but should cause them to be slaughtered at once, and thus do what he can to prevent the spreading of the disease. Particular attention should be paid to the cleansing of all yards, sheds, and other places where cattle are kept; and this cleansing should be especially attended upon where there has been any manifestation of this disease. These places should be disinfected by the free use of chloride of lime, or allied compounds. It is also of great importance that all diseased animals should be as quickly as possible removed to as great a distance from the healthy as circumstances will allow."

A certain number of tools and some skill in their use, will often save the farmer much time and labor, and save him some expense in paying him. Every farmer should be able to make small repairs on his wagons, gates, buildings, &c. A room, or a portion of a room, should be devoted to keeping these tools; a pin or nail should be inserted for each one to hang on, and the name of each tool written or painted under the pin, that it may be promptly returned to its place, and any missing one detected. Keep every tool in its place—do not wait for a more convenient season, but return every one to its pin the moment it is done with. If left out of place a minute, it will be likely to remain a week, and cause a loss of time in looking for it, a hundred times greater than in replacing it promptly. Keeping everything in its place is a habit, costing nothing when formed.—The tools should be, hammer, saw, auger, brace and bits, gimlets, screw driver, wrench, two planes, chisels, mallet, files, rasp, saw-set, trowel, and a box with compartments for different sized nails, screws, nuts, bolts, &c. Common farm implements and tools, such as hoes, spades, shovels, forks, rakes, scythes, &c., may, in the same manner, be kept in their place, and the same precautions taken to keep every one in its place.—*Tucker's Rural Affairs.*

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GOOD NEWS. REBELLION ENDED!

The best stock of good, well made clothing ever brought to this market is now open for inspection at the STORE OF R. W. EDDY.

Bought since the fall of Gold and the Rebellion, which will enable him to give his customers the benefit of very low prices, and the decline in prices. My goods are as usual as stylish, and I receive no second rate shoddy goods, every article guaranteed as represented or no sale. My goods are all

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Rail-Roads.

TIME TABLE—WAVERLY STATION, NEW YORK AND ERIE RAIL-ROAD.

Change of hours commencing Monday, May 15, 1865. Trains will leave Waverly Station at the following hours, viz:

Train No. 2, New York Express, 11:43 a. m.

Train No. 1, Buffalo Express, 5:25 p. m.

Train No. 3, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 4, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 5, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 6, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 7, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 8, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 9, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 10, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 11, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 12, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 13, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 14, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 15, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 16, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 17, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 18, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 19, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 20, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 21, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 22, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 23, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 24, Erie Express, 1:40 p. m.

Cards.

THOMAS J. INGHAM, ATTORNEY AT LAW, LAPORETT, Sullivan County, Pa.

DREH. MASON, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, offers his professional services to the people of Towanda and vicinity.

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MERCUR & MORROW, Attorneys at Law, Towanda, Penna.

EDWARD T. ELLIOTT, Attorney at Law, Towanda, Pa.

E. L. ANDRUS, Licensed Auctioneer, Canton, Bradford County, Pa.

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NEW ARRANGEMENT! A MAMMOTH FURNITURE STORE, TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PENNA.

JAMES O. FROST would respectfully announce to the people of the State and the adjoining counties, that he has purchased the Store on the south side of the Public Square, and is now permanently occupied by CHESTER WELLS, and is now as a Grocery Store, and having connected with the store the largest and best Furniture Warehouse in this part of the State.

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