

Tremble, ye Oppressors! Quake, ye Financial Pirates!

Your day is at hand, for there is a man loose in Canada!

A man to break through your illegal labyrinths, A Theseus to cope with your corporate Minotaurs, A Hercules to clean out your Augean stables of grafters,

A man who moves stones from the path of his fellows!

And makes smooth the way of the Worker!

And such a man may move you! Tremble, I say!

Helping With a Tax.

Describing a visit to South America, Joseph E. Wing told a Missouri audience how it cost the ship which carried him \$2,000 to enter the port of Buenos Ayres. "It only costs \$50 to enter New York harbor; why does it cost \$2,000 to enter Buenos Ayres?" he asked the captain. "It is because of the difference in the Spanish custom," the officer replied. Mr. Wing then went on to explain that the Spanish people get their custom from the Moors; they always held up the ships coming into the harbor. "That's where we get our word 'tariff'—from the people living in Tariffa. The Spanish people charge every big ship that comes in \$2,000, not realizing that the estanciero (rancher) is the man who really pays the bill. That shows the different conception of the way of helping the country in North America and South America."

Different, forsooth! Where is the difference? In North America we bonus steamship lines, it is true, but then tax the cargoes that they deliver at our ports. In South America they collect a lump tax on the entry of the ship. That plan has the advantage of simplicity. Mr. Wing is a clever man but, even with such a clear illustration before him, which he quite correctly explained, he still failed to perceive the monumental joke of the American import tariff which helps people by taxing them. It is so much easier to see the incongruity in other people's actions than in our own.

The difference between one and three dollars a barrel for apples is very largely the difference between good fruit and poor; between enterprising methods and the old-fashioned way of picking and packing; between a reliable, well-proven reputation and none; between well-informed business sagacity and lack of information, begetting an easy susceptibility to the buyer's "line of talk." The up-to-date, business-like fruit-grower demands and secures the value of his product. The other fellow takes what he can get or does worse.

A few weeks ago we complacently remarked that Western Ontario had nothing to fear from a late grain harvest. In the light of this season's experience we want to take that back. When oat harvest runs on into September, with the shocks drenched almost daily in the field, never becoming dry enough to store more than one tier deep, the situation assumes a different aspect.

HORSES.

The Danger from Nails.

"If the humane societies would direct some of their energies to having nails kept out of alleys and streets, they would be doing more good than by watching with all eyes to see whether a driver touches his team with a whip or whether a dray horse has a pimple under the collar," said the manager of a cartage company to "The Farmer's Advocate." "We have more horses ruined through nails in their feet than from all other causes combined, and the pain from such an injury is excruciating. The way nails are swept out into back yards and alleys by careless clerks and janitors is shameful, and all the care of our drivers cannot prevent accidents. Such action should be a criminal offence indictable by law. Of course, ignorance of the danger caused is largely responsible, but the danger exists, and should be guarded against by the combined efforts of policemen and humane-society officers." The hint would not be out of place on some farms.

Drouth Kills Kansas Horses.

Acting Secretary of Agriculture Willet M. Hays gives out the results of the U. S. Department's investigation into the cause of a disease which has proved fatal to horses in Western Kansas. The trouble is a form of forage poisoning, due to drouth and to short feed in pastures. The disease is not contagious, and no effort to stamp it out will be necessary, as many horses recover when removed from dried pastures to feed lots with abundant supplies of green alfalfa or other green feed.

LIVE STOCK.

Foot-and-Mouth History in England.

From the report of the Veterinary Department of the British Board of Agriculture, our English contemporary, the Live Stock Journal, gleams a few historical particulars concerning foot-and-mouth disease. The act of 1896 required that all animals (the importation of which was not already prohibited) should be slaughtered at the port of landing. Although this Act has proved thoroughly effective as against cattle plague and pleuro-pneumonia, it has not afforded the same security against that insidious foreign pest foot-and-mouth disease. There were outbreaks in 1900, 1901, and 1902, and then up to 1907 the country was free. That is to say, from 1896 to 1907 the disease was absent during eight years and present to a limited extent during three, the Veterinary Department suppressing these outbreaks very rapidly. Altogether there were thirty-four outbreaks in the eleven years up to 1907. Since 1908, when the Edinburgh outbreak occurred, there has been more trouble, especially last year, when there were six outbreaks, and, of course, the conditions are now very much worse, with sixty outbreaks.

The present report of the Veterinary Department deals only with the year 1911. The Chief Veterinary Officer writes: "On six different occasions, with considerable intervals between each, the disease appeared in separate parts of the country, and no connection whatever could be established between these initial outbreaks. It seems impossible to escape from the conclusion that on each occasion the virus which started the initial outbreak was imported directly through some medium. The past history of outbreaks in foot-and-mouth disease in the country has established the fact that whenever the disease exists as a veritable epizootic in the nearer Continental countries, Great Britain is liable to be invaded by occasional outbreaks from virus which has been imported in some ways other than by the agency of farm animals, which are of course excluded."

Stockowners have cherished the hope that the British Islands form "A fortress built by Nature for herself against infection." The Acts of Parliament are largely founded upon the opinion that by excluding living animals from infected countries foreign diseases can, except in rare cases, be kept out. Of course, there is always a risk that such an actively infectious complaint as foot-and-mouth disease can be carried by mediate contagion, but the cases in which it can escape should be very exceptional.

No doubt, too, there are in modern times new sources of danger which will call for careful investigation, in view of the discoveries some years ago by the United States authorities. The extended use of foreign cultures for inoculation and inspection may, in addition to the other possible sources of infection, enumerated in the report of the Departmental Committee, very probably be hidden dangers.

In the meantime, it is satisfactory to find that the efforts of the Department were successful in

1911 in limiting the outbreaks, and it is hoped that they will again be able soon to stamp out the disease, so that Great Britain may once more secure a clean bill of health for its live stock.

Favors the Auction Mart.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Further to "D. L.'s" letter, "An Auction Mart in Scotland," in your issue of August 29th, I have been connected with auction marts both in the North of England and South Wales for ten years, before coming to this country, and am in a position to endorse everything "D. L." has said concerning the practical side of his letter.

The practice of buying and selling various commodities by public auction has, in a large majority of cases, after most detailed proofs, been found to be the most satisfactory between vendor and purchaser.

There are one or two remarks I should like to add to "D. L.'s" letter. The first and foremost is that of convenience. One cannot but be struck by the convenience an auction mart gives both vendor and purchaser—the one, to dispose of the whole of his surplus portion of his stock; the other, to find his necessary trade commodity or deal profitably to himself by his purchases.

How many butchers and dealers, at great inconvenience to themselves, have to range the country around for their cattle, sheep, etc., for either killing or dealing? How much more convenient, businesslike and methodical it would be to have, as "D. L." suggests, a centrally-situated stock market, where the butcher or dealer sees his purchase, has a chance of comparing it alongside of other animals, and has an opportunity of greater choice and selection for his own taste of purchase, or that of his customer.

Again, the farmer, under a public auction, can generally rely upon getting his stock sold at fair market value.

There is stock at such a place to suit all classes of purchasers, and there are purchasers there to clear all classes of stock. What more can a person connected with the live-stock trade want?

As regards the professional part played by the Auction Mart Co., the company would act as an arbitrator or third party in all disputes between vendor and purchaser. How many a farmer or butcher would have avoided being "fleeced" or perhaps saved costs spent in endless litigation if he had only had a third party there to witness his transaction! This is another reason why auction marts, where once tried, increase numerically.

"D. L." has not mentioned that stock coming from a distance to an auction mart such as he describes is loaded on to cars by the remitter of such stock at his nearest railway station, and is met by men employed by the Auction Mart Co. at their railway station, and pastured for the night at a very reasonable cost per head for cattle, and per score for sheep. Or, if the farmer cares to drive his stock in to the mart the day before the sale, he can see that such stock is well pastured for the night previous to the sale for himself.

The same applies to stock which has to be driven or taken away a distance by rail the next



An Elgin County Dairy Barn.

Two rows of cattle facing, with central feed passage between. Silo at each end. Milk-house on south side.