

malady belonging to the class of true plagues or epizootics; it has a local origin, from cattle grazing on certain lands in Texas, and if you took cattle South and grazed them where the Texan steers enjoy perfect health, from being acclimatized and accustomed to peculiar pastures, you will find the cattle of the North dying in the South as they are doing at present in the State of Illinois.

It is not an uncommon circumstance for animals which are themselves healthy being the carriers of disease-producing elements, though there is something unusually virulent discharged by the Texan herds, and discharged only during the summer months.

This malady has been classed in Europe, by some authors, among the forms of anthrax or carbuncular fevers, which originate spontaneously where there is sufficient heat on ill-drained, retentive soils, and widely over the marsh lands of Central, Southern and Eastern Europe.

But, it is a consolation to know that there is not the slightest danger of any evil arising from the drinking of the milk of the sick cows, and I should have no scruples in eating the flesh. They are not poisoned by any specific virus calculated to do injury to men or animals, and in laying before you a theory of the origin of this disease I am strengthened by facts which I have gleaned during investigations of similar disorders in Europe.

About spring time and early summer, in all probability, the Texas cattle eat, as our own do, in some parts of Scotland, the young, succulent shoots of peculiar trees, highly charged with stringent principles. On unbroken ground, highly charged with moisture, and adjoining woodlands, there are, as the hot weather sets in, many things sprouting which animals will not touch later in the season; and in the motts of Texas there is the live oak which grows in the Gulf States, where, indeed, cattle are reared which have been known in times past to disseminate this disorder, for the cattle of Florida are as dangerous north of a certain line as the steers of Texas. From this peculiar food, therefore, the animals get their systems impregnated with materials which do not destroy the stock accustomed to a special living in a given latitude, but which, being thrown off in the urine and the excrement, include the "black water" or peculiar form of "enzootic hæmaturia" which is now killing the cattle of this and adjoining States.

Certain it is that Texas cattle imported here during the winter, from the 15th of September to the 15th of April, induce no disease; and while it is undoubtedly safe to have open season for the Texan cattle traffic, it is probable that in accordance with my suggestion we shall have a ready means of purifying stock on the frontier by keeping them for a while on a special food, administering medicines, and carefully disinfecting all the excreta they deposit. On this, however, we need further investigation. It is, however, satisfactory to know that we have to deal with a tolerably simple, though fatal disease, the nature of which can easily be unravelled, and which certainly, in accordance with my observations, does not depend upon any specific animal poison.

DUCASSE, CLAVEAU & CO'S MONTHLY PRICE CURRENT.

LONDON, 15th August, 1883.

TEA.—The market for Black Teas remains in the same dull state as during the past two months, and the continued absence of any extensive demand, either for export or the home trade, has resulted in a still further decline in Ceylons, the ordinary shipping quantities of which may now be quoted almost as low as at any period during the present year. Soucheys and Oolongs remain as previously quoted, but with a very limited business in either descriptions. An increased business has, on the other hand, been observable in Green Teas, and prices have undergone a slight improvement. A good enquiry exists for Young Hysons of the better qualities, which are very scarce, and anything offering at prices under 2s 6d per lb. is readily saleable. An improved demand has taken place in Uncoloured Japans and a good business has resulted, in prices ranging from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for common to medium qualities.

COFFEE.—Owing to the large quantities brought forward lately and the still further lots announced for sale, prices have, as generally anticipated, given way, and Plantation Ceylon may now be quoted 1s. to 2s. per cwt. below the corresponding rates of last month. Mocca, also, for a similar reason has sustained a further decline of 2s. per cwt.

SUGAR.—This market has been generally quiet since our last, and slightly easier rates have been reported. Refined kinds are in consequence lower, and prices now show a reduction of 6d. to 1s. per cwt.

FRUIT.—Little or nothing is doing in these markets, buyers awaiting the arrivals of new fruit, the first arrival of Valencia Raisins being due here about the 20th inst.

WINE AND SPIRITS.—Business in these articles is still of a restricted nature, the excessive heat continuing to prevent any demand, more particularly in Brandy and Rums, the latter being quite neglected. Geneva has, however, again advanced.

MONEY MARKET.

MONEY still abundant, though there is rather more demand for bank accommodation than previously. Sterling Exchange is quiet, with sales of round amounts at 109 for Bank 60-day bills on London. Private may be quoted 108½ to 109. In New York best bills on London at 60-day's sight are quoted 109½, although gold is still being remitted to a greater or less extent. Gold drafts are quoted at par, without much demand.

GOLD in New York has fluctuated considerably between 144 and 146, closing at 144½. Greenbacks are worth 68½c. to 69c.

SILVER is in good supply, but with active demand. Buyers at 4½ to 4½, and sellers at 4½ per cent. dis.

The following are the latest quotations of Sterling Exchange, &c.—

Bank on London, 60 days sight	109½
Priv. do. " 60 days sight	108½ to 109
Bank on New York, 60 days sight	109½
Gold Drafts on New York	Par
Gold in New York	144½
Silver, large	4½ to 4½ dis.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

SINCE our last report, the general tone of our grocery market has considerably improved, though buyers are still chary of supplying their wants in full. The improved feeling is evident, more from increased inquiry for goods, but as yet few merchants from the West have been buyers, and we do not expect them to make their appearance for two or three weeks to come.

TEAS.—Of nearly all grades have improved in demand, and prices are still, though so far we cannot change quotations. In Japans and medium Young Hysons, considerable operations have taken place for the Western trade. Japans are now scarce, and for the high grades full prices are readily obtained. Really fine samples cannot be had less than 60c. High grades of Greens are not so well enquired for, but low Young Hysons and Twankays are in first-rate request. The former are held firmly at somewhat advanced rates, though we cannot alter our quotations. Oolongs have had some enquiry, and really good samples are scarce, say at from 55c to 60c. Blacks are in ordinary demand.

COFFEE.—Has been neglected in view of the unsettled state of the New York market, the expectation of large arrivals in United States ports having considerably affected that market, though prices have not altered. Attention in this city has been confined chiefly to Laguayra and Maracaibo, of which, however, only small sales have been made.

SUGAR.—Has met with less attention, especially for raw. The refineries, however, have done a fair business in yellows, chiefly of the lower grades. Meantime, holders of raws will not name prices, and transactions being only of a retail nature, our quotations may be looked upon as nominal.

MOLASSES.—Have had good attention, the sales during the past week footing up about 500 puns. Really good Clayed has been sold at from 53c to 57c; ordinary, 52c to 53c. Centrifugal and First Runs have been sold at 22c to 26c. Stocks are large, but with present good demand full prices are readily obtained. Bright Muscovado and Clayed, in barrels, are extremely scarce, and much wanted. Sugar-house Syrups are less enquired for, and are offered outside on somewhat better terms than by the refineries.

FRUIT.—Has met a fair enquiry, particularly for Lays and Valencia Raisins, the former becoming very scarce, and prices consequently firmly maintained. Holders look for a slight advance on last week's quotations. In Valentias, we notice some small arrivals by steamer from London, which have been sold at 8½c, a decline of ½c. from last week. Any further decline we consider improbable at present. Bunch Mascatsels and M. R.'s, in consequence of the scarcity of Lays, are more enquired for, and prices are firm. Currants, a good fruit of last fall are held at 4c. to 5c. for round lots, and are scarce. Of inferior grade, there is also but little in market. Nuts of all kinds have but little enquiry.

FISH.—Dry Table Codfish has experienced good demand. The small lots already brought forward have been disposed of at full rates, say from \$4 50 to \$4 75, the former price being for unbandled. They are now held in the market in second hands for \$5. Hake scarce, and held for \$3 to \$3 25. No good herrings in the market.