

Canadian Cattle Trade With England.

A very determined attempt is being made to so regulate the shipment of live cattle to England that the animals will be more comfortable and the chances of injury and death on the voyage be reduced to a minimum.

It is charged against the steamship companies that the cattle are not only crowded in transport but that they have not sufficient shelter from the elements. The British Board of Agriculture has taken the matter up and appointed a committee to take evidence in the matter. In the meantime Mr. Plimsoll has arrived in Canada in the same connection. The Canadian shippers at Montreal are up in arms determined to fight any innovation which would seem likely to curtail their profits. They are, however, unnecessarily alarmed, as the evident intention of the Board of Agriculture is to encourage and foster the Canadian cattle trade by correcting the abuses complained of. It is astonishing how men will close their eyes to the abuse of dumb brutes for slaughter for the sake of gain. We have laws here for the punishment of persons found guilty of ill-treating cattle on the farm, but they seldom require to be enforced, partly owing to the fact that the ill-treatment of growing or producing animals generally proves a boomerang; and mainly, we hope, because "a merciful man is merciful to his beast." Our sympathies are with the cattle.

At the weekly meeting of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, £2,800 was voted for the purpose of extending the accommodation to the trade in foreign animals not subject to slaughter, and £3,300 will be asked for next week for the same purpose. This trade is now concentrated at the Birkenhead Docks, and accommodation is required to allow a steamer carrying 600 or 700 head of cattle to land them without going into the docks. One member objected, on the ground that he had heard that this trade was likely to diminish; but it was replied that any alteration that might take place would perhaps be in limiting the number of live cattle a vessel should carry. There would be no decrease in the total number imported, especially from Canada.—Express.

The Canadian cattle exporters are much excited at the action of the British Board of Agriculture in declaring that certain steamers are unfit to carry cattle; and also of what they term the evident desire of the British farmer to deprive Canadian cattle of the right of free entry to the British market. At a large meeting of shippers held at Montreal protests

were made against any action being taken until the shippers had been given a chance of being heard, and resolutions were passed demanding that the Canadian Government should send a chief veterinary inspector to England to help Sir Charles Tupper, the High Commissioner for Canada, to explain that there was no cattle disease in the Dominion, and that precautions were taken by the shippers to prevent loss at sea. The meeting also resolved to ask the Canadian Government to urge the British Board of Agriculture to allow representative shippers to state their side of the case. Attempts have been made to get the British Government to reimburse shippers for the losses incurred by them through the detention of cargoes. This outcry by the exporters appears to be perfectly unnecessary. The Board of Agriculture has forbidden only one steamer to carry cattle; and instead of hampering the trade, the Board is doing everything possible to foster and encourage it.—Journal of Commerce.

Mr. Stavely Hill, M. P., an extensive ranche holder says the value at his ranche of a two year old animal is \$25 to \$30 and of a three-year old animal is \$35 to \$40. The journey to be accomplished from the ranche to Montreal is 2,264 miles and from that port to Liverpool, 2,832 miles—that is, the cattle have to cover a total of 5,096 miles before they can be put into the English markets. The total time required to do this, including the railway and steamboat journeys, and the time allowed for feeding en route, is from three weeks to a month. The whole cost of feeding and transit, came to about \$25 for small cattle and for \$30 for large. Adding these sums to the value of the cattle at the ranche brings up the cost of the cattle landed to about \$65 to \$70.

Bulls.

Don't trust the bull, no matter how gentle he seems to be. You seldom hear of anyone getting hurt by a bull known to be cross, because nobody trusts a cross bull but on the contrary are very cautious to not only have them well secured but to have a care when they go about them. It is always the gentle bull that "a child can handle" which does all the harm. A bull is always dangerous after he is three or four years old. The writer has handled cross and gentle bulls from one year old to ten years old and never had an accident, but it was not the bulls fault.

Nobody throws stones at a tree with no fruit on it.

A Complete Photographic Establishment.

The Messrs. Swann & Weldon, late with H. C. Martin & Co., have recently opened up a photographic establishment, complete in every respect, at 23 Carleton street this city. This building was lately occupied by Mr. Scholl a well known Philadelphia photographer. The writer had the pleasure of recently going through the studios, accompanied by Mr. Swann, who explained the details of the business. On the right of the front entrance is a suite of rooms consisting of a reception room, wherein are displayed some gems of art, several of which, especially the pastels deserve mention. There are two of them, being pictures of Miss Dora Nicholson of this city and Miss Helen Thornton of Portland. This kind of portrait painting is in vogue in New York, Paris and London, but Mr. Swann was the first to introduce it into this country. An order from the Boston Pilot Publishing Co. was recently executed by this firm, which is a life sized pastel portrait of John Boyle O'Reilly. In this apartment may be also seen some beautiful porcelain painting, one of which represents the well known Boston singer Mrs. Bennett Osgood. Next in order comes a picture gallery, a dressing apartment and then the rooms where the nerves of those who are desirous of having their photographs taken are tested. The light is good, and the artificial backgrounds and scenery all that can be desired. On the next flat may be seen the great solar camera used for enlarging photos. It is the only one of its kind in the maritime provinces. By its use a small photo can be converted into a life sized picture. To the back of this is Mr. Swann's sanctum, where by magic touches, known only to the initiated, he transforms bad pictures into good ones. On this flat also are situated the tanks where the pictures are washed in chemical liquids. The front of the top story is used for gathering the sun's rays for the perfecting of the negatives, and the rear is devoted to the storage of those materials required in the business. The building is commodious, the work on exhibition excellent and the proprietors are genial and painstaking. Orders from Boston, New York and even Mexico have been received. Three diplomas were received for work shown in black and white porcelain at the last St. John exhibition. Those of our readers contemplating visiting this city would do well to give this firm a call, and persuade their friends who cannot accompany them, to send in their orders. An advertisement of Messrs. Swann and Weldon may be seen in one of our advertising columns.