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Editorial.

ROOTS AND FRUITS.

UR readers are no doubt aware that Germany, and we may say the civilized world, have been startled lately by the vision of a frightful monster that has suddenly made its appearance, and which under the name of *Communism* threatens the complete destruction of lawful government and social order. Its aim is to upset all the governments of Europe, and to substitute in their place the government of the *Commune* under which there is no place for individual right to property, or wife or children, because all things belong to the State, or to the Commune.

As long as Communism was content to dream and talk and write, the German Government was disposed to treat the matter as a visionary project that would soon die out; but the attempt at assassinating the Emperor has stirred up Bismarck and his fellows to enquire, and the enquiry has led to the alarming conclusion that the German Empire is in imminent peril from Communism, and that it needs the very strongest measures by police and prison, by steel and iron, to keep this monster from over-running the land and laying in ruins the heritage that France could not conquer nor invade.

The police and the prison, the steel and the iron may now be necessary to fight Communism; but if the men of Germany had been wise in their generation it could have been fought long ago with other and more potent weapons. And it is well for us, even in Canada, where such a thing is now hardly known, to read, learn and