

al in dairy stock; even the enormous price of butter last year had failed to make men invest in dairy property; and why? Because they or their friends a few years back had been nearly ruined by the distemper. It was stated to him that within a very few miles of the same place there was a frieze-coated farmer—he did not know his name, but that did not matter for the purpose—who had up to last November a dairy of thirty cows; he lost every cow he had; he was set on “his legs” again, and two of his cows fell sick; Dr. Barter went over to him and showed him how for the sum of £6 he could put up a rude Turkish bath, and in that bath he treated the remainder of his stock, and since then he has not lost a single cow, although they had been all attacked with distemper; and it was stated that the result in every case with regard to milch cows was the same—that after such treatment they were again in milk in the course of ten days. That statement, he thought, was worthy of consideration. A committee was appointed to go to Blarney and other places to collect evidence, and make a short report to the council, with a view to enabling parties interested to bring the matter forward in the show yard at Cork, where Dr. Barter would himself put up a booth and show the working of the system.

### The Massachusetts Cattle Disease.

We copy the following letter, urging the importance of adopting immediate measures to prevent the introduction of the cattle disease into this country, from the *Montreal Herald* of June 27th. The farmers of Canada, as well as the ruling powers, provincial and municipal, cannot be too soon or too fully advised of the devastating character of the disease, so that when occasion requires there shall be no time lost in taking the requisite precautionary measures. We learn that the attention of government has been directed to the subject, and that the Bureau of Agriculture, and the Boards of Upper and Lower Canada, have been called upon to report it. We request the attention of our readers to the following letter and the other articles which have appeared in the *Agriculturist* on the subject:—

MR. EDITOR.—Our land is threatened with a danger—save the loss of human life—more terrible than war, more disastrous than famine—a calamity the relief of which the resources of the Legislature will be inadequate to reach; a scourge which will depopulate the rural districts, and in its reaction will impoverish many of our merchants and land owners. Even now

the danger is at our doors, and a single week may render it almost impossible. I refer to the cattle disease now raging in many parts of the States. So great is this calamity that an extra session of the Massachusetts Legislature was considered necessary to devise means to arrest its progress. Assemblies of Agriculturists have frequently met to endeavour to remedy the evil, and the counsels of the most eminent men have been evoked to consider the nature of the disease and its treatment. In Europe where this disease has prevailed for many years, the most despotic measures were adopted to prevent the spread of the contagion. Notwithstanding which, hundreds of thousands of cattle have perished, spreading ruin and dismay through whole districts. This disease was introduced to this continent by the importation of one animal from Europe to Massachusetts, from which State it is rapidly extending to others. It is found to be highly contagious, being communicated not only by contact with the diseased animal, but by any portion of animal matter: the hide, horn, offal, or even the very rope with which the diseased animal is tied, seems capable of conveying the contagion. The stable in which the animal is confined or the car or boat in which he is conveyed, seems capable of communicating the disease to healthy animals, which may follow confined in the same space.

Such being its contagious nature, I ask is there no danger of its introduction into Canada? Apart from the liability to its introduction across our borders, let a car load of market cattle be exposed to the contagion and nothing could prevent its spread through the country.—Animals conveyed by rail during the hot season suffer exceedingly, they are bruised and injured, deprived of rest, often without food and water, and are in the worst possible condition to be exposed to disease. Now is the time to prevent this calamity from reaching us. Let a “cordon sanitaire” be at once established along our borders. Let no cattle be brought from the infected districts. Let no cattle train pass the line without being thoroughly purified with disinfectants. Let full information be given in regard to the disease, the danger to which we are exposed, and the best treatment of the disease. Let the officers of every Agricultural Society be a Committee of Vigilance, and exercise the greatest caution to prevent the introduction of animals from abroad. Let there be no exhibition of animals until every trace of the disease has left the country.—More attention should be given to the subject in Lower Canada, because we are nearer to the infected districts, and because the communication with the States is easy, while in Upper Canada the rivers and the lakes form the boundary, and the introduction of animals may easily be prevented. Whatever is to be done should be done at once, before it is too late. To show the danger to which the country is exposed, and the widespread ruin which follows the introduction of