

Immigration and Inhumanity.

At the annual meeting of the National Board of Trade of the United States held last week at Washington we listened to much of discussion with reference to the regulation of immigration, and were impressed with the striking selfishness with which intelligent men can plead for limitations and restrictions concerning the landing on our shores of persons who may be unfortunate with reference to possessions or of qualifications giving assurance of ability to be earners of a livelihood. The humanitarian sentiment was set aside, even by men who would esteem it an offence to be spoken of as in any degree lacking in the elements of Christianity. As hard, and in some respects irrational, as our immigration laws are, some of these men would have them more severe, less merciful. And such a feeling, to our national disgrace, is apparently quite prevalent among the people of our country.

Under the heading, "Worse than a Tragedy," the Boston Herald relates an instance of the hardships imposed by our immigration laws as they are now enforced. That paper says:—

A family of Russian immigrants, consisting of seven members, brought into this port among their number a girl of 15 years of age, who was deaf, dumb and feeble minded. The law did not allow of her admission. The family had only enough money to pay their fare to Kansas, their destination, where they expected to meet a relative. They could not return with the girl, and they were not permitted to take her with them. There was no alternative but separation, and the throwing of the poor creature, unprotected and friendless, upon the charity of strangers at home. The parting is represented to have been a bitter one, the family appearing to be much attached to the deserted child. They left for the west, and she remained on the steamer. The child, mercifully, did not appear to realize what was transpiring, but of all the sorrows of real life it would be difficult to imagine one more heart-rending. Here was an opportunity for a philanthropist to interpose, had any been at hand; but there was none, and the unfortunate child was compelled to be left to her fate by the half-distracted relatives. The family, who were poor and ill-informed people, were probably ignorant of the necessity of separation when they left home, and there seems to have been no one there to warn them.

Laws that make it possible for the infliction of such an outrage upon fellow beings as is here related, and which is but an instance of the many cases of horrible distress for which they are responsible, are unworthy a people claiming the highest degree of enlightenment. They are simply damnable.—Cincinnati Price Current.

Irrigation Enterprises.

The Northwest Magazine, of St. Paul, referring to irrigation in the northwestern states, says: The history of northwestern development during the year just begun is going to be very largely a record of irrigation enterprises and of settlement on irrigated lands. We present in this issue a very clear and comprehensive account of the various canals now in progress of construction in the Yakima Valley, in the new State of Washington and of the remarkable successes in raising fruits, hops, grains and forage crops already achieved by farmers in that sunny region. A second article on this subject will appear in our next number. We also give in this number a sketch of the career of a prominent Montana promoter of irrigation and a brief description of a project in the northern part of that State with which he is associated. Our Washington exchanges bring us accounts of a large scheme still in embryo which contemplates a canal a hundred miles long in the valley of the Okanogan river. The Okanogan is a considerable stream, which rises in British Columbia and flowing nearly due south joins the Columbia on the northern

side of the big bend of that river. At the international boundary it is fed by a large lake called Ocoyos. This lake it is proposed to use as a reservoir. The valley is from one to eight miles wide and is rimmed with high mountains. A canal, estimated to cost \$500,000, would irrigate about 60,000 acres of highly fertile land which is now too dry for any use except grazing. The Okanogan Valley contains a number of producing mines of gold and silver which support small towns. Besides the miners the population consists of a few hundred cattle men. The climate is mild and healthful and both soil and climate are adapted to what is called extensive farming, the only lack being a sufficient rain fall. When this is remedied by an irrigation system the valley will support a large population and will be a good field for railway enterprise. At present the means of communication with the railway systems of the State are by boat from the mouth of the river to the point where the Great Northern crosses the Columbia, and by stage to Coules City, the terminus of the Central Washington branch of the Northern Pacific.

Montana Cattle.

Last year's run of cattle from Montana was 170,000. The prediction was made at the opening of this season that the run of cattle would not exceed 150,000 head. That figure has been passed, and no doubt with what has been shipped from Montana over the Burlington Road, the figure will reach up toward the 200,000 mark. In almost all respects the season of 1893 has been one of disappointment to cattle owners in Montana. The winter was severe, the spring long and cold, the summer drouthy, the water scarce, the grass short, and most aggravating of all, the financial panic caused the average price of beef for the season to be about \$1.00 per 100 lbs less than last year. Light cattle and light prices have prevailed all summer, but the necessity of having some money forced the shipment of cattle to market against the better judgment of the owners, and kept up the run when otherwise it would have dropped below the market for the previous year.—Stock Growers' Journal.

Montreal Corn Exchange.

The annual meeting of the Corn Exchange Association was held recently. D. A. McPherson, in moving the adoption of the annual report, stated that the attempt to establish a call board had proved a failure. This was to be regretted, as it was thought it would have increased business. The question of grain shortages had been taken up by the committee of management, and the railway companies had been communicated with to try and get the matter into such a shape as would be satisfactory to both shipper and receiver. In conclusion, he referred to the increased shipment of grain from Montreal, notwithstanding the increased harbor charges, and said that it went to show that if the Government only treated this port as it should be treated, a much larger trade would follow.

The election of officers resulted as under:—President, David G. Thompson; treasurer, Wm. Stewart. Committee of Management—Jos. Robbllard, W. A. Hastings, A. G. Thompson, R. Peddie, James Allan, R. M. Esdaile and E. F. Craig. Board of Review—G. M. Kinghorn, chairman; F. A. Crane, John Dillon, C. H. Gould, J. O. Lafreuiere and Stewart Munn.

A meeting of iron men of Ontario and Quebec was held in Montreal recently, when there was a general expression of opinion, to the effect that the present duty on wrought scrap iron should remain as it is, namely, at \$2 per ton. It was held that if the duty was so altered as to compel bar iron manufacturers to buy Canadian puddled bars, the Nova Scotia concern could not supply the wants of the trade, which would necessitate the bringing in of English puddled bars, and manufacturers would have to do business at a loss.

An Iron Monopoly.

A New York paper says: John D. Rockefeller has obtained absolute control of the most important iron mines of the United States. By a deal that was closed on Friday he absorbed all the Lake Superior iron mines and all the big ones in Cuba. This places him in the same position toward the iron producing business as he has long held toward that of oil. There is not a single mine in the Lake Superior region or in Cuba that he does not control to-day. To do this has only cost him between \$9,000,000 and \$10,000,000. He was able to accomplish this because of the recent financial crisis. The owners of these mines had been developing them at such a rapid rate that they had not enough cash to carry them through the hard times. Mr. Rockefeller seized the opportunity to buy everything in sight. On the 1 o'clock train for the west yesterday wore Mr. Gates, Mr. Rockefeller's confidential man, and a party of trusted employees, together with several members of the Merritt family. They are on their way to Duluth to take charge of the mines, docks and railroad in the name of John D. Rockefeller.

Toronto Leather Prices.

Prices are rather easy owing to the decline in hides. Sole, slaughtered, medium heavy per lb, 23 to 25c; Spanish No 1, per lb 20 to 25c; Spanish, No 2, per lb, 22 to 24c; Spanish, No 3, per lb, 18 to 20c; calfskin, Canadian, light, 65 to 75c; calfskin, Canadian, medium, 70 to 73c; calfskin, Canadian heavy, 65 to 70; calfskin; French, \$1.05 to 1.30, upper, light, medium, 30 to 32c; split, 15 to 23c; harness, prime, per lb, 24 to 26c; harness, light, per lb, 22 to 24c; buff, 14 to 16c; pebble, 14 to 15c; oak harness, American, 45 to 50c; oak harness, English, 70 to 80c; cordovan vamps, No 1, \$3.50 to \$6; cordovan vamps, No 2, \$5 to 5.50; cordovan golo-shes, 11 to 12c; cordovan sides, No 1, 16c; cordovan sides, No 2, 13c; cordovan sides, No 3, 11 to 12c; oak cup soles, \$4.50 to \$8; hemlock taps, \$3 to 3.75; cod oil, per gal, 40 to 45; degrass, per lb, 3 3/4 to 4c; hemlock extract, 3 1/2c; lampblack, 20 to 25c; sumac, per ton, 75c; roundings, white oak, 18c; roundings, black, 18c; roundings, hemlock, 15c.

The British Grain Trade.

The London cable review, for the week ended Feb. 3, says:—The weather has been fair for wheat, which has been green and promising, and farm work is progressing. The wheat market has been dull and rather dependent, though a fair business has been done. La Plata wheat and a few cargoes of white wheat have been sold; otherwise the week has been without feature. United Kingdom stocks have been reduced, and exports have been lighter, but this has had no effect upon the market. France has ceased to buy, and prices are unchanged. The parcel trade has been moderate. Spot business has been quiet and steady. California prompt was quoted at 26 1/2 3d; red winter parcel, February and March, 24 1/2 6d. Flour was dull and slow at 3d lower.

Harvesting all the Year.

Every one knows who knows anything about wheat, that it is harvested every month in the year. Australia, Argentine Republic and Chili harvest in January; India and upper Egypt harvest in February and March; lower Egypt, Syria, Cyprus, Persia, Asia Minor and Mexico in April; Algeria, Central Asia, China, Japan, Morocco and Texas in May; and Turkey, Italy, Spain, Greece, Portugal, south of France, California, Oregon, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Kansas and Missouri in June.