Bowdler Sharpe Collection

40 rue Laffitte
Paris dec 16. 1889

My dear Bowdler Sharpe

Can you obtain for the exact facts about the enclosed statement.? If it is as stated in the Herald, I will make it a public case on behalf of the poor tortured creatures.

Kindest regards & best wishes of the season

From

Yours always

H. Herman

"Speaking of astrakan, are you selling much of it this winter?"

"Oh, dear yes, particularly the kind where the wool is closely curled. Few people who wear it know that they are gratifying their vanity at the expense of horrible suffering to a poor lamb."

"What do you mean?"

"Bring me an astrakan skin, James," he said to an assistant. "There," he continued, spreading out the desired object, "this is the skin of an unborn lamb. That surprises you, no doubt, but it is a fact. Notice how small it is, a little over a foot long the whole thing. These Astrakan lambs bred in Persia, and naturally the wool is straight and glossy as you see it in one or two places in this skin. But fashion wants curly astrakan, and someone found that if a mother lamb is killed in a particular way before the little one is born, the wool of the latter is, during the death agony, curled in a most beautiful manner. The consequence is that a regular trade has sprung up based upon this cruel process. Now, you can understand why collars and cuffs in real astrakan are so expensive.

"Here is another illustration of what seems a cruel caprice of fashion. The lining of this overcoat we are now at work on cost the lives of nearly 3,000 squirrels, each one of whom contributed about two square inches of the soft fur at its throat to warm a single man, who was already, perhaps, quite warm enough. You see the pieces are all carefully stitched together like a patchwork quilt. How much will it cost? Oh, not a great deal, squirrels are cheap you know, perhaps 2,500fr."

sse and, Director of Agriculture at the inistry of that department; Douillet, esident of the Butchers' Syndicate; enant, representing the Prefect of the ine; and a number of invited guests. After the inevitable "Marseillaise," M. pin rose, and having eulogized the ulptors, spoke of commercial questions interest to butchers. He stated that e Government was about taking mea- res to ensure better facilities and re- ced rates for the railway transportation meat and was also going to take action garding reciprocal Customs duties. Other speakers discussed similar ques- ns, and the meeting adjourned until e evening when representatives of the ational and City Governments as- mbled at a grand banquet.

Regarding the two bronze groups, L'Elevage" represents a robust Normand asant girl in local costume leading to sture a cow followed by its calf. "L'A- tage" shows a splendid ox, over whose ad a butcher poises the death dealing e. Both are very imposing and do full stice to the talents of the artists.

THE MURDERED HUISSIER.

Another complication has arisen in the ysterious case of M. Gouffé, the issier, whose murdered body was con- aled in a trunk. On the evening of ly 26 last summer M. Gouffé was at e Café Véron about dinner time in the mpany of three of his friends. ose testimony is that at 7.10 P.M. ey all four left the café and separated. ace that moment all trace of the miss- officer has been lost.

Now comes the complication. Hither- all conjectures as to M. Gouffé's dis- pearance have been made on the assump- that this triple testimony was true