

documents and valuable books will be properly protected, and Mr. Brymner will be there.

QUARANTINE.

Medical inspection, Quebec.....	\$1,600 00
Quarantine, Grosse Isle	7,666 00
do St John, N.B	2,600 00
do Pictou, N-S	800 00
do Halifax, N.S	3,400 00
do Charlottetown, P.E.I	1,000 00
do Victoria, B.C	1,500 00
do Sydney, N.S	1,400 00
50. Tracadie Lazaretto	3,200 00
To meet expenses of precautionary measures for Public Health:	
Public Health	\$5,000 00
Cattle Quarantine, Lévis	5,000 00
do West	3,000 00
do Halifax	5,000 00
	18,000 00
Pictou Cattle Disease (revote)	5,000 00

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I observe an item, Pictou Cattle Disease (Revote) \$5,000. What is the condition of matters in regard to that particular vote?

Mr. McLELAN. That was for the suppression of the disease, which existed in a certain portion of the county of Pictou. Steps were taken to stamp it out, and they have proved very satisfactory, according to the report of the officer in charge. In fact, it has almost ceased to exist. Only twenty-five cases were reported during last year, and only two cases during the last three months. Compensation was given for all cattle compulsorily slaughtered.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Is a regular staff kept at Point Edward, or is the sum taken to enable the Minister to obtain assistance in case of need?

Mr. McLELAN. A staff is maintained during the year at Point Edward, for the examination of cattle passing through the country.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. If these are permanent appointments, details should be given. Now, I should like to know what staff the hon. gentleman retains at these three points?

Mr. McLELAN. There is not a large staff maintained at any of these points. An inspector is kept at each station, and a permanent caretaker for the building, and if additional help is required, it is supplied.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. What salaries do the inspectors receive?

Mr. McLELAN. At Quebec the salary is \$1,000; at Point Edward \$1,200. The Inspector at Point Edward has some other duties in connection with the office.

Mr. LISTER. Who is the Inspector at Point Edward?

Mr. McLELAN. Mr. Orton.

Mr. LISTER. Is there a cattle quarantine at Quebec?

Mr. McLELAN. There is at Point Lévis.

Mr. LISTER. Is there any restriction upon cattle coming from Europe?

Mr. McLELAN. Yes; upon cattle coming into the Dominion from any point.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is a large number of cattle at Quebec, and it is a most interesting place to visit—there being 300 or 400 thorughbred cattle there at a time.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I notice here the item for the Lazaretto at Tracadie. Was that not introduced last year for the first time?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It has been there for several years.

Mr. WELDON. How many patients are there in it, and is the number increasing?

Mr. McLELAN. The number is not increasing, I am happy to say. The increase in the item is an increase of \$100 to the medical attendant.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Who used to pay the expenses of this institution?

Mr. McLELAN. The Local Government, until within three years ago.

Mr. WELDON. How many patients are there?

Mr. McLELAN. About twenty-three.

Mr. CHARLTON. Are all the leprosy cases confined there; are they isolated?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Yes; the Government were quite willing to take charge of it, because it is a disease which spreads most insidiously, and the causes why it originated there and continued there are mysterious. The Government thought it better, especially on a strong remonstrance being made by the Local Government that this was certainly a matter connected with the public health, that it should be maintained by the Dominion Government.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). I should like to have the Minister make some explanations with regard to a matter about which I have received several letters. There is a difficulty in the minds of many people as to the reasons why the quarantine law is so very strict. Parties desiring to import some highly bred cattle, find them ordered under quarantine, where they remain for three months. And they naturally think that some concession could be made on the assurance they give their members, and which we will give to the Department, as to their respectability, and as to their being positively sure that there is nothing wrong with the cattle. If I rightly comprehend the matter, the Government themselves are not at liberty to relax the regulations in this respect.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No.

Mr. PATERSON. I believe it is a matter of Treaty with Great Britain, as well as part of the Statute law, if I understand it aright. What I desire is that the Minister should give a clear statement upon this point, which would go to the country, so that the people might understand the matter.

Mr. McLELAN. This cattle trade is, of course, one of great and growing importance. In 1877 the number of cattle exported was 6,940, and this trade has grown to 64,625 in 1883. The number of sheep increased from 9,504, in 1877, to 114,352 last year. This trade is of such great importance to the country that every precaution is necessary in order to preserve and maintain it. The hon. gentleman is aware from what has become public, that it stands in a very critical condition, that cattle coming into England are watched very closely for fear of infection, and if it became known that infected cattle could get into this country, and spread disease amongst our own cattle, it would very greatly injure that trade in England. The hon. gentleman is also aware that there is now a difference in the treatment of Canadian cattle in England, from those coming from the United States, the latter being immediately slaughtered without being taken into the country, in consequence of the cattle disease existing in the United States, while those from Canada are not so treated. So long as it is believed in England that there is no disease existing here, our cattle are allowed to land and are worth \$20 or \$30 per head more than those slaughtered on the wharf. If we relaxed in any way our vigilance over imported cattle, those who are in-