

P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, OTTAWA, 31st March, 1884.

Prof. ANDREW SMITH, Chief Inspector, Toronto.

DEAR SIR,—I have another letter from an M.P., who, however, does not wish me to give his name, to say that he is aware the inspection at the point of Detroit of the cattle passing in transit is of the most perfunctory and ineffective kind.

The statement is of such a nature that it should be seen to.

Believe me, &c., yours truly,

J. LOWE,

*Secretary of Department of Agriculture.*

P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, OTTAWA, 2nd April, 1884.

Prof. ANDREW SMITH, Chief Inspector, Toronto.

DEAR SIR,—You did not write to me in reference to the question of night inspection. Of course, if there is foot and mouth disease in the western states this could not be thought of, and I may say to you that Mr. McEachran's opinion is against it. There certainly is the question of detaining the trains at night, which would mean so much longer confinement of the animals.

I should also say to you, that when Mr. Pope left he told me to write to you at once in reference to the night inspection, with the view of discontinuing it. But this was on the understanding that foot and mouth disease actually existed in the western states. Please write to me, as soon as you get this, your views on the question.

Believe me, etc., yours truly,

J. LOWE,

*Secretary of Department of Agriculture.*

(Confidential.)

MONTREAL, 11th April, 1884.

DEAR MR. LOWE,—I got home last night, but will not have my report ready for a little yet.

The disease is foot and mouth disease beyond doubt, and an aggravated form of it, too. It is in a number of places in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois. Seeing that it is a very serious matter of national and international importance to that government, I have thought it best not to give any publicity to my opinions, but have told Governor Glick, of Kansas, who immediately commenced a stamping out process, also Mr. Sanders, of the treasury cattle commission, privately, and did advise certain experiments to prove its contagiousness, to be conducted by themselves. I also advised that Professor Law be sent for to investigate, and have promised so delay making my report till I hear the result of these experiments. My object in doing so is to throw the responsibility of giving it publicity on themselves. I trust this course will meet the approval of the minister, and that you will not permit the information herein contained to become public till I make my report in full, which may not be for a week or two, if I wait the result of experiments.

I have the honour to be, yours, etc.,

D. McEACHRAN.

MONTREAL, 11th April, 1884.

DEAR MR. LOWE,—Since writing you this morning I have received from Mr. Holcombe, state veterinarian, a telegram informing me that the six experimental animals which were placed in contact are ill with the disease (foot and mouth), also that it is beyond doubt on two other farms.