

At the time the arrangements were made with the government for the resumption of through cattle shipments through Windsor, it was arranged that the salary of the inspector should be \$1,000 a year. This was considered ample payment for the service. Dr. Wright was immediately appointed at that salary. He, a short time afterwards made a demand for extra pay for Sunday work, which was allowed him. He is now getting paid at the rate of \$1,200 per annum.

Sometime ago he applied to have a telephone put in his office, so that he could be notified when he was wanted on the arrival of stock for inspection, and he agreed to pay one-half of the rent if the railroad would pay the other half; this I agreed to. When the rent became due, he, without denying his agreement to pay half the rent, refused to pay it at all, and after some little time when he still continued to refuse to pay, the telephone was taken out of his house.

About two weeks ago I was in Detroit and had a conversation with Mr. Reynolds, our agent there, and he represented to me that it would be a convenience to the company, and in fact a saving of money in sending messengers, if we would pay the entire cost of the telephone, and I, at length, agreed to do it.

I now send you a letter from Mr. Reynolds, dated 6th November, which shows pretty conclusively that Mr. Wright is determined to levy blackmail, and that he is going to have an increase of pay or fight with the company. The demands he makes for increased wages on such terms as he states, I feel satisfied, you will not submit to, and if it is brought to the notice of the government it is not at all likely they will approve his action.

In a letter which Mr. Reynolds wrote to me on the 27th September, attached, you will see that there was a suggestion that we should put up electric lights for the examination of stock, but that it could be avoided by paying him an increased salary.

It appears now that he has specified what this increase is to be, for in his letter to Mr. Reynolds, of November 5th, he says he will not allow the telephone to be put in his house unless the company agree to pay him \$500 per annum for the privilege of doing so; and in the letter of Mr. Reynolds, dated the 8th November, which I attach, he says he will for \$300 per annum and an annual pass over the Grand Trunk, allow the telephone to be put in and withdraw his demand for the electric lights. The statement made by Mr. Reynolds is certified to by Mr. Wright at the foot as being a correct intimation of what he means.

I presume that if he carries out his threat to publish his views on the transportation of stock through Canada, it would do some injury, and with the touchiness which the English people have about this cattle disease, it might lead to the shipments being again stopped, but in my opinion, it is a question whether we should submit to what must be considered blackmail, or whether the government will not be prepared to risk his threats, and put some other man in his place. I should think he had, by signing Mr. Reynolds' letter, dated 8th November, committed himself to such an extent that the government would have no hesitation in dispensing with his services.

The amount of business that we do at Detroit is so small that the salary which Dr. Wright gets will rate probably \$1.50 to \$2 per car; I certainly think that the salary is sufficient and more than sufficient for the work performed.

Mr. Reynolds' letters of the 27th September and 6th and 8th of November, and Dr. Wright's letter of the 5th November enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

CHAS. STIFF.

DETROIT, 8th November, 1883.

C. STIFF, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—Please notice that Dr. Wright has endorsed the attached by writing his name and "correct" on the bottom left hand corner.

I have read to him the letter I sent to you on the 6th instant, showing that he had increased his demands for electric lights from three to five, and he says it is correct.

Yours truly,

R. W. REYNOLDS.