

opinion of veterinary surgeons of the highest standing, that the incubation of certain contagious diseases affecting animals may extend over a period of nearly three months, the said Order-in-Council enacted that whilst the enactment of the Orders-in-Council of April, 1876, and of the 4th October, 1879, were maintained, all neat cattle coming from Europe should be subject, on entering the Ports of Quebec, Halifax and St. John, to a probationary Quarantine of 90 days before being allowed to come in contact with Canadian cattle, or exported to any other country.

Some months before the passing of the last Order in Council, the United States authorities had been communicated with, soliciting joint action in the matter, and asking information as to the intentions and requirements of that country on the important question of our relations in view of stamping out contagious disease where it existed among animals, and of preventing its extension to localities as yet free from it. The quarantines established long before were such as at any time to be available or protection against the importation of diseased animals through the seaports. Until a prohibitory enactment was passed by the United States authorities against the importation into that country of Canadian cattle, Canada had been successfully defended from the introduction of disease by the cattle quarantines as they existed; but, on the appearance of the above prohibition, an Order in Council was passed prescribing a probationary quarantine of 90 days, in order to leave no ground for the maintenance of a prohibition which could not have had Canadian cattle in view, inasmuch as no contagious disease existed at any time up to the present moment among Canadian stock.

The proceedings of quarantine and inspection of animals will be found in the annexed Appendices, being the Report of Professor McEachran, and Messrs. McFatrige, and Buntin, in charge of this service.

Owing to all these measures, Canada has been able to maintain the privilege of exemption from slaughter on the English market, and what is a result far superior in value even to that great interest, to protect the cattle of this country from diseases which have inflicted incalculable losses elsewhere.

RUSSIAN PLAGUE.

On the 27th April last, on being informed of the possibility of some danger occurring from intercourse with vessels coming from Russian Ports, where contagious diseases existed to an extent that had created much alarm in the United Kingdom, an Order in Council was passed subjecting *ipso facto* to the Quarantine Regulations then in force in the Dominion, "all vessels coming from the Baltic, the Black Sea or Sea of Azof, or the Sea of Marmora, or from, or having touched at any place in, or any place the passage from which is by or through any of the said seas as vessels being