

on Sundays and at nights, by giving him an increase of salary, in order to facilitate the despatch of trains.

We, in the circumstances, certified the monthly accounts at the rate agreed, saying we had no objection to his working on Sundays or holidays if he desired, but we gave no official sanction to the night work. We did, however, resolve not to take any notice of it so long as we knew there was no disease, retaining the position of being able to prevent it if any disease should come; for the reason that we were not satisfied of the efficiency of any possible inspection in the night.

Mr. Broughton, however, instead of putting in practice the somewhat adroit action of your people, kept writing to the department to ask us to give him permission to have inspections done at night. The only course open to us was to uniformly tell him it was impossible; nor could we, especially in view of the representations which I had personally made to Mr. Peel and Professor Brown at the office of the privy council in Whitehall, afford him any indication as to how he might get out of the difficulty.

Eventually, however, and very recently, he discovered the mode, and again, not with the view of avoiding departmental responsibility, but keeping ourselves free to act if required to do so we referred the matter to Dr. Smith, of Toronto, our general veterinary inspector in Ontario, and he gave the required permission.

With this explanation, which I could not make shorter to make it clear, I leave you to act as you think it well in relation to Mr. Wright's demand to be paid the same as Mr. Westell for the same kind of service. I will certify the larger amount if you desire it under the arrangement, but I cannot ask you to give it as a payment for night service, nor to do anything more than to be simply officially blind to the fact of such service. I think you had better let some of your officers arrange with him. He was appointed, you remember, by us.

Believe me, &c.,

Yours truly,

J. LOWE,

*Secretary of Department of Agriculture.*

WINDSOR, 30th December, 1882.

Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 21st instant in reference to the charge of \$66.67 for Sunday and night service, in my monthly account, I beg leave to say that after the Great Western Railway became a part of the Grand Trunk, I learned that the Grand Trunk Railway Company were paying the inspector at Point Edward at the rate of \$1,800 per annum, or \$66.67 for Sunday and night service. I went immediately to Toronto and enquired of Professor Smith if he knew it to be a fact. He told me that he did, and said that he would write the railway officials and suggest that I should be paid the same, and further suggested that I should see the inspector at Point Edward and find out from him if the government had certified to his account for that amount, which I did, and learn from him that his accounts have been regularly certified to for that amount. I immediately notified the Grand Trunk Railway officials that the arrangements which I had previously made with Mr. Stiff on behalf of the Great Western Railway Company would cease on November 30th, and that in future I would render my account for the same as allowed the inspector at Point Edward, but they made me no reply. I would further say that the arrangements I made with Mr. Stiff were for Sunday service only; subsequently, upon the suggestion of Professor Smith, inspection has been made at night by the aid of electric light, and as much work has to be done at night as by day, which we were not required by the government in the first instance to do. And I also learn from the Canada Southern Railway authorities since Professor Smith permitted inspection to be made at night, that they have paid Dr. Matthews, their inspector, at the above rate, therefore I return the account to be certified to as originally made out.

Yours respectfully

J. B. WRIGHT.