

from being brought to that country. On a previous occasion, when the rinderpest existed in England, the Government of Canada gave authority to certain gentlemen in this country to land sheep at a Canadian port without being quarantined, on the assumption that sheep would not convey the rinderpest. I took the matter up then in the interest of the country, and from evidence that I adduced I so satisfied the Government of the danger that the Order in Council was rescinded; they were shorn of their wool, and the wool was destroyed, because the authority that I then produced were so unquestionable on that point that there could not be any doubt that sheep, while they themselves were not subject to rinderpest, would convey it to other animals. It is proved in this manner: A number of cattle belonging to the Prince of Wales, that were very carefully attended and could not come in contact with other cattle, took the rinderpest. The investigation that was made discovered the fact that in the next field, with only a wire fence between them, sheep had been brought from Smithfield and pastured. The veterinarians concluded that the sheep had conveyed the disease to the cattle, because the cattle had not been near any highway and were isolated from all others. We all recollect the great losses that English agriculturists sustained from this disease. A friend of mine I know had his whole herd swept away with it, though he had taken great pains with them. They all died from this disease. The rinderpest was first brought to England by a shipment of 300 cattle from a port on the Black Sea, and it was only stamped out after the utmost vigilance. Now, we are brought face to face with another disease—pleuropneumonia. This disease exists in other countries as well as in England, and it is our duty to see that we do not bring it from England or any other country into Canada—that we most carefully quarantine any cattle brought into this country from all other countries for our own safety. According to the last census in this country there were of—

Working oxen.....	132,593
Cows.....	1,595,800
Other horned cattle.....	1,786,596
Total.....	<u>3,514,989</u>

The vast importance of this question can be readily seen. According to the law of

natural increase, at the present time we may conclude that we have at least five million head of cattle in this country, and we know that they are absolutely free from infectious diseases. It is of the utmost importance to us that we should continue the same vigilance that we have heretofore exercised. When it was proposed to bring in cattle through our ports by those who are interested in the shipping of them to Europe, I believe the Government refused to allow it. Recently it has been proposed that the Government should allow cattle to be brought in from the United States to be slaughtered in Canada and the products shipped to foreign countries. That I object to, because disease may be brought in by that means, and I think that I can prove, before I sit down, that it is likely to be detrimental to the interests of the agriculturists of the country. When we see the enormous strides we have made in the exports of animals and their products, it will be readily seen how important it is that we should protect that industry. I have before me the British Statistical Report, giving a schedule of the importation of live cattle into England. For a considerable time every country was allowed to send cattle into England under certain conditions, but now cattle disease exists to such an extent that from Germany, France, Belgium and Holland the importation of cattle into England is entirely prohibited. Holland has no disease, but they are told they are contiguous to Germany, where disease exists, and consequently their cattle are prohibited from being imported into England. From Schleswig-Holstein, Portugal, the Netherlands and the United States cattle are allowed to be brought in and slaughtered at the port of entry within ten days after landing. From Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Channel Islands and Canada, cattle can be landed and sent to local markets for sale and slaughter. That advantage to us to-day is fully 20 per cent. on the value of the animal when the producer has to sell it. When we come to consider that 20 per cent. is a fair profit we can easily see that if we are not alive to our own interests, that if we do not do every thing in our power to keep disease from amongst us, we will very soon find that Canada, like the United States, will be scheduled in British ports, and especially when the evidence goes to show that