Besides the ordinary inspection and quarantine proceedings, there have been several visits paid to localities where rumour alleged that disease had broken out amongst cattle. Every case to which attention was called was found on investigation to be either mere rumour, or some ordinary disease due to common causes. The only exception was a form of disease existing in the County of Pictou, Nova Scotia, for a number of years, but an inspection of the locality, examination of the animals, post mortem, and other investigations held have failed so far to clearly establish the true character of the disease. It does not belong to any of the known types of contagious or infectious diseases, and has been purely local in its extent. I purpose following up the matter, and, with the concurrence of the local authorities, endeavour to discover both the cause and a remedy if possible. I, however, would here repeat that there is no danger whatever of infection, as the disease has invariably remained localized within a narrow limit.

I cannot too thoroughly impress upon all Canadian feeders and shippers of cattle the great importance of exporting none but first-class animals. Much has already been done to improve the breed of cattle, but there still remains much to be done in this direction.

To obtain the breed best adapted for feeding, with the view of making Canadian beef occupy the first place in European markets, rests with the Canadian farmer. All in this trade should ship none but well fed-cattle, and take every precaution to see that they are well and properly eared for, both in the shipping-yards and on the railway, prior to being placed on board the vessel. On the latter, the means of proper and systematic ventilation should be well looked after, and, with the exercise of care and attention to their wants during the voyage, cattle should arrive in Liverpool, or any other port for which they are destined, in as good or even better condition than when leaving the port of embarkation. As it is largely to the interest of our Canadian shippers that their beef should be, from its quality, the first in demand on the European markets, I would again impress the desirability of shipping none but beef-cattle of the best quality. There is another matter of especial interest and import to the Canadian farmer in the feeding of cattle before shipment; that is, the benefit that must accrue to the land when the manure from such an operation is restored to it, and on our partially worn-out and exhausted soils, the result of over-cropping and constant getting of cereals from the land is only too apparent. Where this system has been carried on, and the want of manure is felt to replenish the elements abstracted from the soil, the cvil has become too marked to pass by. The facilities for cropping, and the diminished labour attending that branch of farming, together with the former low price of meat, as compared with stock raising, have contributed to this evil, and the time has now arrived when the proper remedy can be provided, which is afforded by the English markets so readily taking our supply of cattle. I feel that this subject cannot be too freely impressed on our agriculturists generally.

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