

COPY of CORRESPONDENCE with the CANADIAN GOVERNMENT relative to the Operation of CLAUSE 3 of The CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT, 1884.

— No. 1. —

LETTER from the Clerk of the Council to the Colonial Office.

Agricultural Department, Privy Council Office,  
44, Parliament-street, Westminster, S.W.,  
5 August 1884.

Sir,

I AM desired by the Lords of the Council to request that you will have the goodness to move the Earl of Derby to call the attention of the Canadian Government to a proposition submitted to their Lordships by Mr. Moreton Frewen on behalf of a deputation on the 25th ultimo.

This proposition was to the effect that, whereas according to the statements made, contagious pleuro-pneumonia has never been introduced into the Western States of America and the sanitary condition of animals therein is generally satisfactory, cattle from Wyoming Territory, Montana, and Dakota might, under certain conditions, safely be imported into Great Britain by the Lake Route through Canada, and landed in this country without being subject to slaughter.

It appears to their Lordships that if this scheme after full consideration should appear to be practicable it could be most conveniently carried into effect by a modification of the arrangements at present in force between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Dominion.

Lord Derby is aware that, in order to enable the Privy Council to continue to except Canadian animals from slaughter, when that exception was withdrawn in the case of animals from the United States, the Canadian Government were required to prohibit the importation into Canada of animals from the United States, and an Order of the Canadian Privy Council to that effect is still in force, the only exception being that animals are allowed under certain conditions to pass through Canada in bond from one part of the United States territory to another.

If Mr. Moreton Frewen's proposal should be entertained, the animals admitted under it would practically become Canadian animals so far as this country is concerned, and the consent and co-operation of the Canadian Government would evidently be necessary to the success of the undertaking.

I am, therefore, to request that you will move Lord Derby to ascertain whether the Dominion Government would be disposed to give their favourable consideration to such a proposition, if the Privy Council were so far satisfied with the securities offered as to be of opinion that the admission into Canada of cattle from certain specified districts in the Western States of America was consistent with the maintenance of the existing arrangements under which Canadian animals are admitted into this country without being subject to slaughter at the port of landing.

I am, &c.  
(signed) C. L. Peel.

The Under Secretary of State,  
&c. &c. &c.,  
Colonial Office.