

## Department of Agriculture.

authorities at intervals in the last few years, and if that be the case, and if confirmation is forthcoming of the existence in Canada of a specific type of pleuro-pneumonia identical in morbid anatomy with pleuro-pneumonia among cattle in the United States, and differing only in unimportant characters from the European type of the disease, it is obvious that the discussion of the matter must proceed on altogether different lines than would be the case if no such disease can be traced."

The distinct and specific allegation in this letter of the Board, they are "given to understand on the highest authority" that cases of cattle disease have at intervals come before the Canadian authorities, having morbid appearances identical with those present in the lungs of animals of the "Brazilian" and "Lake Winnipeg," is of such a nature, and so clearly insinuates a charge of concealment, that in the opinion of the undersigned, it justifies a request, that the Canadian Government should be furnished with such authority.

The undersigned meets this allegation with a simple declaration that it is entirely devoid of any foundation in truth. The term "Canadian authorities" is understood to mean the Department of Agriculture and its staff, charged with the administration of all matters pertaining to animal diseases and animal quarantines, within the Dominion.

The undersigned calls the attention of Your Excellency to the consideration that the interests connected with the health of animals in Canada is of very great magnitude, and that the protection of Canadian herds from the inroads of contagious disease is out of all comparison greater than any question of market attaching to any export of fattened or surplus animal stock. It was found by the census of 1891 that the total number of neat cattle in Canada, of all kinds, was 4,120,584, the total value of which with the products therefrom, reached the figure of \$135,500,000. The interest, therefore, of protecting Canadian herds is first, and it has been the first in determining the administration of the Department in all matters connected with the health of animals in the Dominion.

The undersigned respectfully submits to Your Excellency, on a consideration of the information contained in this voluminous correspondence referred to him for his report, that:—

(a.) The conflict of professional opinion between the Veterinary Advisers of the Board of Agriculture and those called to assist the High Commissioner for Canada, is irreconcilable.

(b.) It is not shown there is any distinct type of contagious pleuro-pneumonia possessing characteristics different from those which are well known and accepted as the signs of that disease in the United Kingdom, in the continent of Europe, in Australasia and in the United States, where it has been found and diagnosed.

(c.) The conclusion of the Veterinary Advisers of the Board relating to the contagiousness of the disease they found is not sustained by the undoubted facts in respect to the animals the subject of this correspondence.

(d.) The absence of finding a single case, or even any serious suspicion, of the disease in question, in the Dominion of Canada, is sufficient reason for declaring the fact of its non-existence.

(e.) All the known and undoubted facts in relation to the animals, the subject of this correspondence, as well in respect to the conditions in those parts of the Dominion whence they were taken, as those incident to long railway and steamship transit, with close herding, fully account for and agree with the definitions in the reports of examinations of Professors McEachran and Adami; and establish the fact of the non-contagiousness of the disease with which they were found to be affected.

(f.) And all the reports of the Veterinary Officers of the Board and the Veterinarians consulted by the High Commissioner, together with the known facts connected with all the cases of disease the subject of this correspondence, are consistent with the definition, non-contagious "Transit pneumonia."

For all these reasons, based on the statements of facts set forth in this report, the undersigned respectfully submits to Your Excellency, that there exists no cause for continuing the Dominion of Canada in the Schedule, in the United Kingdom, of countries whence free importation is prohibited.