

that it has had the above mentioned results, has also added to the revenue. The result of this year's proceedings is given elsewhere.

The Act "to provide against infectious or contagious diseases respecting animals" has also given general satisfaction, and through its instrumentality the country has both successfully protected its live stock from the introduction and spread of disease, and has secured a prolongation of the benefits accruing from the privileged position held by Canada in the markets of Great Britain.

## II.—ARTS AND AGRICULTURE.

### CATTLE TRADE.

The cattle trade with the British Isles was carried on during the past year with increased briskness, and with great advantages to shippers, their stock being free from the effects of the slaughtering clause of the Imperial Act. The numbers exported through Canadian ports during the year 1878, as given by Mr. C. U. Chandler of Montreal, were 690 horses and mules, 18,655 cattle, 41,250 sheep, and 2,027 swine, and that number included a very large proportion of American cattle bought by Canadian shippers, or shipped by American dealers.

The number exported through Canadian ports during the present year were cattle 24,682, sheep 79,085, and swine 4,745, comprising only Canadian cattle. In addition to these, Professor McEachran reports other shipments of Canadian cattle *via* Boston, making a total in all of 25,009 cattle, 80,332 sheep, and 5,385 swine, representing \$3,197,406 brought into Canada by this trade during the year. The horses and mules shipped in 1879 were 460.

The superior advantages of the St. Lawrence route for the shipment of live stock, which were plainly evident from the fact of a considerable portion of the voyage being performed in comparatively calm waters and through a channel where the extreme heat of the warm months is tempered by the cool breezes of the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, checking to a great extent the always heavy losses of the beginning of each voyage, are now confirmed by the result of experience. The losses of animals on board the Allan and Dominion Lines of Steamships have been on the whole considerably smaller than those by other routes. The figures furnished show that, counting all losses, from whatever cause, including the washing overboard of animals from the upper decks, the ratios of loss were a fraction over 8 per 1000 on cattle, a fraction over 5 per 1000 on horses and mules, and about 24 per 1000 on sheep, a very small percentage indeed on such ventures.

The various Orders in Council passed in England concerning the importation of cattle have rendered it necessary to be extremely watchful, in order that Canada might preserve the very enviable position of being placed in the exemption from the slaughter list in Britain, and for that purpose a series of Orders in Council were passed, to which I shall presently refer in the order in which they were promulgated