

officers at Halifax, and Chatham, and St. John, N.B., and other points to put the buildings in repair, and the proper appliances are being got ready to put them in order during the present month, so that should cholera happen—though I hope it will not—to be brought to Canada next spring we will be prepared to meet it at all outlying ports, east and west. In addition to those steam disinfectors we are making smaller ones. We may not require large ones at all the different ports, but we think at Grosse Isle and British Columbia they are really necessary, and perhaps at St. John, though there is no great number of immigrants coming in there, but we will not require as large a steam disinfecter as at Grosse Isle at Pictou, nor at Charlottetown, P.E.I., nor at Chatham, N.B. All those different points are being looked into at the present time, with a view of having them put in a thorough condition by next spring, and there is no hesitation on the part of the Government to provide means to put them in proper condition. They have given full power and authority to spend whatever is necessary to put them in the condition they should be in. I do not think I have anything more to say to you at the present time. I shall only be too glad to answer any questions that may be put to me. As you will see, we have issued a proclamation to quarantine our inland ports along the frontier. Our good friends, the Americans, a short time ago talked of calling out fifty thousand soldiers to guard the frontier against cholera, which they expected would be introduced from the great Dominion of Canada. I think if there is to be any calling out of soldiers, we will have to call them out in this country to prevent cholera being brought into Canada from the United States. We have taken, and are taking, all the precautions that we can. A proclamation has just been issued to all our Custom House officers along the frontier appointing them quarantine officials, with authority to call in medical aid at every one of these ports when required, and to do all they can to prevent cholera coming into Canada. What has been done in the maritime ports has been done at the inland ports, and not only in Ontario and Quebec but all along the lines from the Atlantic to the Pacific, wherever railways come in and wherever there are Custom House officers, and we have a good many all the way from Victoria in the west to Sydney in the east, we are taking