

were sent from Myrtle. There were also eleven cars of stock for Buffalo and five for Portland.

Now, Sir, although I hold it would be a benefit to have every animal we raise fattened for the market in this country, yet we have a large number of farmers who are not in a position to fatten their stock and who are compelled to sell. I hold that the quarantine regulations that have been entered into between the Government of Canada and that of the United States, have been a great benefit to that class of farmers. When the McKinley Bill came into force between 30,000 and 40,000 head of stockers went annually to the States, and we know that the McKinley Bill stopped that trade. I believe that the quarantine regulations are such, that if the disease appears in any locality the Government can at once enforce these regulations. Our cattle breeders have held for a long time, that it was necessary that animals for breeding purposes should be allowed to come to Canada from the United States free from quarantine regulations, so long as a certificate was given that the animal imported was free from disease and that no disease existed in the locality whence it came. The Order in Council had hardly been passed when the buyers from the United States were scouring Ontario to purchase cattle there, and take them to the States. It is a benefit to the breeders of the province of Ontario to get animals from the United States to mix with their stock, because there is some excellent stock in the States. I hold that the late Government was very negligent with respect to the quarantine regulations and also with respect to the complaints about scab in sheep. I myself rose in this House and warned the late Government that unless a very strict system of inspection was put in force, our sheep would soon be scheduled. But they paid no attention to it until the disease came into the country from the United States, and then got to Great Britain. If the regulations had been enforced properly, we would not have had our sheep scheduled as they have been. The late Government was unwise in its generation, and they did not lock the stable door until after the horse was stolen. I believe that the present regulations will be of great benefit to the people of this country even suppose the American tariff increases the duty on animals and prevents us shipping stockers or beef cattle. The free interchange of animals for breeding purposes would benefit both Canada and the United States. The new arrangement made by the present Government enables us not only to ship from Portland, but also from Boston and New York to the British market, and this will prevent the grievances the farmers laboured under in having to pay higher rates from Canadian than from American ports. That benefit will continue to us even though a higher tariff is enforced

ed against us by the United States. The present Minister of Agriculture has done a great benefit to the farmers and stock-breeders of this country, and he has succeeded in doing more than was done by the late Government for many years. To say that there is no thanks due to the Minister of Agriculture for negotiating this arrangement at Washington, is not a correct statement to make. The farmers in this House knew their wants and knew what would benefit them and they unsuccessfully urged on the late Government to take measures to bring this arrangement about. The conduct of the late Government is another evidence of the rank folly of having a Minister of Agriculture who did not understand the business, and who did not understand the needs of the cattle shippers and farmers of this country.

Mr. MONTAGUE. May I be allowed just a personal explanation. My hon. friend (Mr. McMillan) and myself, are, I am afraid, upon the same side of the question, and if the hon. gentleman (Mr. McMillan) had listened to the hon. member for West Lambton (Mr. Lister) he would have understood so. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Lister) stated, and stated properly, that the negotiations which finally resulted in the removal of the vexatious quarantine between the two countries were started by myself, and in consequence, the hon. gentleman (Mr. McMillan) can have no fault to find with me on that score. What I did say was this: That the late Government only considered it a question of discussion for the removal of these quarantine regulations, when we had absolutely abandoned the hope of securing the removal of the British embargo. I am sure the hon. gentleman from Huron (Mr. McMillan) agrees with me in that conclusion.

Mr. McMULLEN. There is one point in connection with this discussion which we should make clear. The ex-Minister of Finance has said, that the action of the present Government, entering into an arrangement with the United States for the betterment of the quarantine regulations, is an evidence that they have dropped all hope of the removal of the embargo on cattle from England. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Montague) knows, if he is a close reader of what has taken place in England, that the embargo occupies a very different position to-day from what it did when he was Minister of Agriculture, and when his party were in power. He knows that then the embargo only took the shape of a schedule order by the Minister of Agriculture suspending the admission of our cattle. He knows that since then, and before the present Government came into power, it took the shape of a statutory enactment, and occupies that position to-day. Now, during the time that there was any hope at all of removing that embargo, and when a vigorous and active