

Agriculture and Colonization.

Mr. Gilbert, the Poultry Manager of the farm, showed in his evidence the very great value of the poultry interest of the Dominion. He reports on the several kinds of fowls, and points out those most profitable, both for eggs and marketing, and gives the conditions necessary for successful results.

IMPERIAL QUARANTINE AGAINST CANADIAN CATTLE.

On the cattle quarantines, the committee have had before them Mr. Lowe, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Professor McEachran, of Montreal, the chief inspector of stock in Canada. The action taken by the department and the government in the Dominion, as well as by the High Commissioner and the Canadian Ministers in England, at the end of October and beginning of November last, is fully set forth in the evidence hereunto appended.

Three animals in Scotland, in October last, alleged to have come from Canada by the steamers "Monkseaton" and "Huronion" were diagnosed by the veterinary officers of the Imperial Board of Agriculture, as being affected with pleuro-pneumonia, and the law officers of the Crown thereupon advised the board that there was no other course open than to place Canada on the schedule of countries from which importations of animals must be slaughtered on arrival.

The committee are satisfied from a consideration of the facts laid before them, in evidence, that there is not, nor ever has been, any pleuro-pneumonia among Canadian herds; and they are, therefore, of opinion that there must have been error in the diagnosis by the Imperial veterinary officers if there were none as respects the identity of the three animals in which it was alleged to have been found.

The committee are satisfied that the government have made every possible representation in the circumstances, to have the Dominion reinstated in its former position as respects the freedom from restriction in the export of animals to the United Kingdom.

EXTENSION OF CATTLE QUARANTINE TO WESTERN CANADA.

The committee were informed that the government on February 18th last, withdrew the privilege, in the North-west, of allowing the entry of settlers' cattle from contiguous territory, in the same conditions of climate and country, where no contagious disease had been known, without a quarantine of 90 days, for the purpose of satisfying an Imperial requirement. The committee was further informed that, on a joint report of the Ministers of Agriculture, the Interior and President of the Council, the services of the Mounted Police are to be very largely utilized for the protection of the frontier, the keeping of the quarantines, and affording all possible facilities for the care of settlers' cattle, which have now to be detained in quarantine 90 days.

The disease of tuberculosis, which is known to prevail to some extent among cattle in Canada, as well as in those of the United States and the whole of Europe, and which was inquired into and reported on by a former Committee of Agriculture and Colonization, in the opinion of this committee, calls for the serious consideration of the government, with a view of taking the necessary measures for its extirpation.