

our power to make the investigation now proceeding effective.

G. F. FRANKLAND,
Chairman.

The following is a copy of a circular letter of instructions sent to each inspector :

Owing to a cow which was landed in Scotland from ss. 'Monkseaton' being suspected of pleuro-pneumonia, it is necessary to trace the animal to the farm from whence she came. From information received, it would appear that some of the cattle came from your district.

That was sent to our veterinary inspectors all over, and to prove my good faith I shall give a few of the names. Among others they were sent to Mr. McClure, veterinary inspector at Woodstock, Prof. Andrew Smith, the veterinary inspector for the province of Ontario, Prof. Couture, of Quebec, Messrs. Baker & McEachren, of Montreal, W. Gowan, V.S., of Galt, Ont., J. H. Wilson, V.S., of London, Ont., D. H. McFadden, V.S. of Emerson, Man. There are many others whose names I shall not take up the time of the House by reading, and to show the good faith of the cattlemen, I might add that they assisted these veterinary surgeons in every way possible in their effort to ascertain whether there was ever any disease in this country or not. After the most thorough investigation possible and inquiries covering the entire Dominion of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, no cattle diseases could be traced in this country except on one occasion, and that was a case over which the House will admit we had no control. On one occasion there was a shipment brought from Scotland to the quarantine station at Quebec, in 1886. This was the only time the disease was ever traced as having got into Canada, and I will show that it never got beyond the limits of the quarantine station at Quebec. It was promptly stamped out within the limits of the quarantine inclosure, not a trace of it being allowed to pass these limits, every hoof even suspected of possible contact being slaughtered and cremated. Not only did we have the cattle slaughtered and cremated, but the buildings were destroyed, the whole wood work burnt, and new buildings put up. The efficiency of the quarantine by which imported animals are allowed to enter Canada further warrants me in asserting that pleuro-pneumonia could not and has not entered Canada through them except on that one occasion. We have at St. John, N.B., Halifax, N.S. and Point Lévis, Que., quarantine stations, which secure the most perfect isolation from native stock, and where imported animals are detained 90 days, under the close daily observation of the local veterinary inspector. At Point Edward, near Sarnia, in Ontario, and Emerson, Man., similar quarantines are maintained and the regulations most rigidly carried out. Canada is in fact entirely free from that destructive plague, and there is therefore no

reason why any embargo should be put by the Canadian authorities or Canadian cattle. Why that embargo is maintained is no doubt due to political reasons and a desire to protect English cattle.

If any argument were required to prove that no good grounds for placing or maintaining this unjust embargo on the healthiest cattle in the world, it is to be found in the fact that during the past few years between two and three million cattle have been exported from Canada to Great Britain and the United States without one single case of contagious pleuro-pneumonia having been established. Canada is to-day, as she always has been, entirely free from this destructive plague, and the British Board of Agriculture knows that well, yet for reasons that we know to be protection, the embargo is allowed to remain. Pleuro-pneumonia is a disease unknown in Canada. It has never existed, and does not exist at the present time.

There may be, and probably is, some undisclosed political reason influencing the British government in maintaining this purely protectional restriction against the exportation of Canadian cattle, otherwise it is difficult to understand it. But, let the political influence be what it may, it is difficult for Canadians to imagine any political consideration which could influence the imperial parliament to refuse a direct request of loyal Canada to abolish restrictions which are hurtful to our financial interests and offensive to our imperial sentiments. They appear to forget that Canada is no foreign country; we claim to be and we are, an integral part of the British empire, loyal to the core, with whole-hearted sympathy, with British aspirations. But, is it not like destroying our birthright, to steal our good name and to brand us as having within our borders cattle that are not fit to go to Great Britain or any other country?

I would like to add just a few words to show the importance of this trade to this country before I take my seat. Not long ago our men were in South Africa valiantly fighting to maintain the supremacy of Britain in that country. And I have never heard a single case where these men did not receive the greatest possible praise. Well, Sir, at the very time when our boys were fighting for the British flag and the maintenance of British power in South Africa, the British War Office called for tenders for a supply of beef, and a clause was inserted in the specifications that would have excluded Canadian beef from competition. And it was only after our Minister of Agriculture had put his foot down—and, I understand, put it down pretty firmly—that that condition was removed from these specifications.

Now, let me give a few figures—only a few—to show the importance of this trade. I have already spoken of 1892 as the stocker year. That was the year when the embargo