

removal of the British embargo, the question was a debatable one, and there were arguments to be used on both sides. There are arguments to be advanced for the removal of the quarantine, and there are arguments for its maintenance; but so far as any credit due to the Government is concerned, I repeat that this is a question with which the late Government might easily have dealt, if we had not looked at the broader question of securing the British market for our cattle exports. I desire to refer to a statement made by the hon. member for Lambton as to the importance the American market has proved itself to be for Canadian farmers. I have no doubt when these new regulations came into force a considerable number of cattle were taken to the other side of the line; but it is my information that the trade did not pay, and that if the hon. gentleman will follow the inquiry into recent months and recent weeks he will find that what promised to be a very flourishing trade has proved exceedingly disappointing to those who engaged in it. There is another phase of this question to which I desire to refer for a moment. When the hon. leader of the Government visited the county of Brant he said to the people there: See what we have done; we have only been in power an exceedingly short time, and yet we have given you free trade between Canada and the United States. I know it was a lapsus linguae, that the hon. gentleman did not mean that he had secured the removal of customs duties on either side, because he knows that quarantine regulations and tariff regulations are two different things; and I am pleased that the hon. gentleman was in error in that regard, for I am justified in supposing that it was not a shadow which told of coming events by the candid manner in which the hon. member assured the hon. member for Western Assiniboia (Mr. Davin) that while the quarantine regulations were off, the duty was still on, and hence there was no ruinous competition in the cattle-raising business in the North-west Territories of Canada. I hope that the little utterance of the member for West Lambton is correct, and that even if the quarantine regulations are permanently removed, we will at least have the protection of our own market for our farmers in regard to this line of the product of the farm. I can only say in conclusion that the removal of the sheep quarantine will be a disadvantage. I can only hope that the removal of the cattle quarantine will not be an injury. The hon. member for West Lambton says no injury has been done. I tell the hon. member that sufficient time has not elapsed to discover whether any injury has been done. The future will tell whether the health of our herds is affected; but, personally, it seems to me that the maintenance of the sheep quarantine in the North-west would be exceedingly advantageous to the people there.

Mr. MONTAGUE.

Mr. McMILLAN. I desire to say a few words on this question. The hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat has forgotten that the Government of which he was a member was the first to relax quarantine regulations with respect to cattle. They removed the quarantine regulations so that cattle could come in from the United States to our North-west. It was owing to the action of the late Government in not enforcing quarantine regulations against American cattle, but allowing them to come into the North-west during a number of years that, in my estimation, was the cause of our cattle being scheduled in the British market. That was known to the Government, and, in fact, known to every one in the trade, and we have suffered on that account. This Government undoubtedly deserves great credit for what they have so far done for the farmers. They have accomplished more. They have secured the settlement of the quarantine question and, at the same time, they have ensured adequate protection to the health of our cattle. Let me read to the House the regulation under which cattle now come into Canada, that is, fat cattle and cattle for feeding, including range cattle for stocking ranches:

This class of animals shall be accompanied by a certificate of inspection, signed by an official veterinarian, showing that the animals are free from contagious disease and that no contagious disease of cattle (excepting tuberculosis and actinomycosis) exists in the district whence they came.

Therefore, with the exception of these two diseases, our cattle are free from every other disease, pleuro-pneumonia included, because of which the British Government scheduled our cattle. If I have been correctly informed, and I think I have been, it has been a benefit to the people of the North-west, because large numbers of even beef cattle have gone to the States from Manitoba and the Territories. Our settlers who go into the North-west will be very much benefited because they can go to the United States and purchase stockers for their farms. They have been coming all the way to Ontario for these cattle, and they have been put to the expense of getting them to the ranches from such a great distance. This arrangement will relieve the settlers in the North-west from a good deal of expense, and more especially the young settlers who want a few ranch cattle. We have been very much benefited in Ontario indeed as will be shown by the following statement:—

The total value of the live stock exported from Toronto during March was \$110,643. For the same month, last year, not a dollar's worth of live stock was exported from here. The exports were divided between Portland and Buffalo, the latter point, however, taking the bulk of this stock. On Saturday, fourteen cars of stock were sent over the Grand Trunk to Iowa, several cars containing calves for feeding purposes. These