

Pleuro-Pneumonia.

The annual report of the Privy Council Veterinary Department is noticed by the whole world. Every week the public press give the new outbreaks and number of infected animals in Great Britain.

The efforts of the British Government to stamp out Pleuro have been crowned with success, after nearly fifty years' constant battle, and they are now determined to insist on really effective measures being carried out by those countries desirous of sending cattle to English ports.

It must be remembered that the United States veterinary surgeons deny that cattle affected with contagious Pleuro are exported from their country; indeed, the manifesto issued by Mr. Rusk, the late chief, declared that they were entirely free from that disease. That was dated Sept. 26th, 1882. Then comes the following remarkable piece of buncombe: The seaboard and *frontier inspection*, and all necessary cattle quarantine, will be strictly enforced; and there being no possibility of the occurrence of contagious pleuro-pneumonia, "save by its introduction from foreign countries," the country may congratulate itself upon the removal of all apprehension for its cattle interest on the score of contagious pleuro-pneumonia. After this comes the challenge to veterinary surgeons in Great Britain.

The disease has not found entrance into the current of the beef cattle trade of this country, and there is good reason for believing that it never will.

This has been positively asserted and re-asserted, and yet the English veterinarians have openly disbelieved us, and, to prove that we are either incompetent or dishonest, have persisted in finding contagious pleuro-pneumonia among our export cattle landed on their shores, and stoutly maintained the correctness of their opinion against our assertion—*vide* "Mr. Rusk's report and proclamation."

The very week that this proclamation was issued there were six animals condemned at Deptford by Mr. Holman, M. R. C. V. S., for pleuro.

To show what enormous proportions the trade in dead meat and cattle is to America, during the week ending Dec. 24th, 1882, twelve steamers landed cattle and fresh meat at the port of Liverpool from American ports, 3,861 cattle—12,840 quarters of beef. When we come to consider the enormous quantity, nearly 4,000 head of live cattle, no wonder they are desirous of traducing the character of Canadian cattle to get their own landed for feeding purposes inland.

For many years Canada will have to export her stock, and the Scotch farmers will have them if they can, and we see no sort of blessing, disguised or otherwise, in the scheduling of Canadian stock by the English Government. The hypocritical reproduction of the quarantine order by the American Government is what we expected. They have been trying for years to get their cattle landed in Great Britain. They have maintained for some years three veterinarians at the principal ports, who do nothing else but inspect and report to their Government the number of cattle and condition on arrival, so that we can have no difficulty in finding the source of the late trouble.

There is only one good thing that will come of the quarantine: we shall be obliged to ship our cattle entirely through Canada and in Canadian ships. We can then point with pride, and say, as we have hitherto done, Canada is, and has been, free from all contagious diseases; more than this, we would not permit any arrivals to come into Canada, bonded or not.

We must not forget that the British Government have only these last few months been able to say, We have at last got rid of this disease, after fifty years' constant residence. And we should, on the other hand, be at least fair, and say we are convinced that you are mistaken; we do not know this disease, and the fact that it appeared in the Canadian stocker is inexplicable to us. It may, or may not be, a fact that the veterinary inspectors have made a mistake—at least they have erred on the side of caution; for if they had allowed the country to be again overrun with contagious pleuro-pneumonia, under the new name of broncho-pneumonia, or corn-stalk disease, why, they would themselves have had to bear the blame. It is all very well for those who are free from official responsibility to hurl charges of incompetence to those who are paid for doing their duty, and we do not blame them for being cautious or over-careful in performing that duty; nothing but condemnation or loss of position would have been their reward if they did not detect or even stop suspects.

In the recent case of the Canadian stocker, they were fully satisfied that the disease was contagious pleuro-pneumonia, and their testimony is not likely to be shaken by challenges, based by partisans, whose sole object is to traduce these cattle so that their own may be permitted to enter.

The evident fairness of the authorities is apparent. They say, We prevent the Americans landing cattle with broncho-pneumonia, and we must do the same with Canada. Probably no man in existence has had more existence with the disease than Prof. Brown. He has been the head of the department for over 30 years, and makes a practice of seeing every doubtful case, so that we are confident that if he has erred at all, it is on the side of prudence. We do not for one moment suppose he has condemned the animals without cause, and we can only say they must have contracted the disease outside the Dominion.

Now, what is the remedy? Can we prevent the interference of partisan inspectors? No, we cannot; but we can provide separate cattle lairs or sheds for their reception, shelter and isolation, and after

qualified authorized inspection, they can be distributed as heretofore. Our Dominion Government can issue a memorial and have it presented to the House of Commons, signed by all the cattle breeders, buyers, shippers and veterinarians of the country, stating, under oath, that they have never seen a single case of contagious pleuro-pneumonia or corn-stalk disease in Canada.

We contend that it must have originated on board the cars to Boston or New York, or else on board the cattle ships in transit. Those of us who know the wretched accommodation on board the tramp cattle ships, must be aware that there is no more likely place for the disease to originate afresh, lurk or remain dormant, until fresh subjects present themselves for inoculation. We speak whereof we know, and our experience on board these pest places is on record. The horrors of the cattle ships few men can paint, and no words can describe the filth, and no tongue tell of the brutality of the drovers to these dumb animals. Fortunately their condition has of late been improved to a great extent; still we believe that if the disease manifested in the animals in question could be traced, it would be found on board these steamers. We hail with pleasure this caution, if it compels our shippers to export their animals along the Canadian railways, through our own ports; we can then fall as the result of our own negligence only. The supineness of our government is lamentable; the English Government are not aware, or rather the agricultural press are not acquainted with the fact that Canada has always held quarantine against the U. S. cattle—they are under the impression that they have free entry without inspection, more especially settlers' stock, and they say we may have obtained the disease in that way. We do not advocate retaliation or tit for tat, still patience passes beyond virtue and becomes cowardice when the U. S. adds insult to injury, by the recent scheduling of cattle they know to be free from disease.

A Horse Breeders' Association Needed.

It is time breeders of all kinds of horses joined together and formed a general horse breeders' association for the benefit of this most important branch of stock breeding. Cattle breeders have recently formed an association in behalf of this industry, and each separate breed has a representative on the executive. Sheep men have for years been organized, and those who have attended their meetings and watched the influence that they have brought to bear in favor of their business are all most favorably impressed with the advantages they have thus gained. Swine breeders have also brought pressure to bear which has given a great impetus to this industry by joining together in behalf of the general interest in their breeding operations. Now, if there is any industry that requires fostering at this time, it is horse breeding, and although it requires more skill and knowledge than almost any work upon the farm, yet men go at it blindly, and many farmers never make the slightest study of what is required, and consequently it may be truthfully said that there is more money lost than made in horse breeding by the average farmer, as it is being conducted at present. Again, while farmers generally have some fixed idea for what purpose they are breeding cattle, sheep or hogs, they seem to overlook this essential point, and think that it is all chance in horse breeding. Each season is a repetition of those gone by, in which stallions, with no pretensions whatever to breeding, and which are themselves unfit for any special purpose, obtain patronage merely because their services are held cheap. Much of the money offered at exhibitions is for the same reason squandered, as far as advancing breeding interests are concerned, because properly defined breeding classes are not arranged.

It is a well established fact that all lines of trade depend directly or indirectly upon the financial condition of the farmers; that when they suffer, men engaged in other pursuits are affected to a greater or less degree. Now horse breeding is undergoing such a revulsion from low prices, there being no market whatever for the common grades, that this has affected the better and most valuable horses, when such are offered for sale. For this reason horses are being sold by farmers for \$100 and less, while dealers are deriving the whole benefit, for numbers of those who have bred the horse that is now required, and are in possession of them, are unable to distinguish between a good one and one which will not sell at any price. Consequently all lines of horse breeding are being neglected. All horse breeders will lose through this course, because the farmers will most decidedly remove their patronage.

All this must affect stallion owners, and ruin the prospect of improving the horse stock of the country for years to come, if those interested in the different breeds do not bestir themselves. It will require all the argument and energy and combined effort that can be brought out to prevent the almost entire neglect of horse breeding, and for this reason the needed help should be forthcoming as early in the season as it is possible to bring it out. It takes years to revolutionize this trade, and because the inferior, useless, nondescript horse is not in demand, pressure is brought to bear upon every horse, good, bad or indifferent, that is offered for sale, and prices are depressed all round, while there never was a time when really good horses were commanding better figures; but it is the horse dealers who are reaping the harvest and buying at low prices, be-

cause the farmers do not know how to condition and educate the horses for the present trade. If private individuals are making a success of holding sales, why could not a properly conducted society do better? They would at least be assured of as much outside support as one individual, while a large extent of the country could be represented and breeders of all classes of good horses would be enabled to bring out any branch they are interested in.

Canadian Cattle Breeders' Association.

This new organization has been started in the interest of the cattle breeding interests of the Dominion. Never in the history of cattle breeding was there more urgent necessity of concerted action on the part of those who are engaged in breeding any of the special breeds or classes of cattle. The cry has all along been, Favor our manufactures until they are developed. Yet, nothing has been done to foster our cattle breeding industry, which is of more importance than any other on the farm. What manufacturers have gained by organization our farmers could obtain if they could but join hands. Cattle and cattle products are now bringing in upwards of \$20,000,000 annually, with every chance for further development. We therefore welcome the advent of an association that should prove a power to help on the great work which the constitution below explains:—

CONSTITUTION OF THE CATTLE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.**PREAMBLE.**

Whereas, the members of all pure-bred cattle associations and representatives of other pure breeds not formed into associations, recognizing the importance of organizing an association having for its object co-operation in the work of promoting the interests of the breeders of pure-bred cattle in such ways as may hereafter be determined upon, and desiring to secure the assistance of those who have a genuine interest in the improvement of the various pure breeds of recorded animals, do hereby unite in forming an association for the aforesaid purposes, and we adopt for our government the following constitution:—

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This organization shall be known as "The Canadian Cattle Breeders' Association."

ARTICLE II.—OBJECT.

The object of this association shall be to promote the general interests of the breeders of pure-bred and recorded cattle, and to secure the co-operation of the members composing the same, especially in the work of:

Section 1.—The general adoption of a higher standard of quality in breeding.

Section 2.—To confer and advise with the Dominion and Provincial authorities, concerning the rules and regulations pertaining to importation and exportation of cattle to and from the Dominion of Canada, and of traffic in and marketing the same; the adoption of sanitary measures; the punishment of fraud in pedigree, and such other legislation as, in the opinion of the management, will tend to promote the prosperity of the cattle industry.

Section 3.—The extension of the commerce in the improved breeds and the development of new and profitable markets for our surplus stock, meat, and dairy products in home and foreign markets.

Section 4.—The encouragement of breeders to attain to a higher standard of individual excellence in the breeding of animals, by the holding of exhibitions, and the offering of liberal prizes for the best specimens of the several breeds shown. To consider and advise with the officers of fairs and other organizations interested in the exhibition of cattle and cattle products. To co-operate generally in such lines of work as may tend to advertise to the best advantage and extend the trade in cattle and cattle products.

Section 5.—To represent, foster and protect, in such other ways as may be deemed advisable, all the associations which are organized and maintained for the purpose of perpetuating and recording the pedigrees of a pure and recognized breed.

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP.

Section 1.—The membership shall consist of the associations named in the foregoing preamble, and such other duly organized cattle breeders' associations as may be approved of by the committee on membership.

Section 2.—The membership fee of the association shall be \$10. A failure by any member to pay the initiation fee, or such assessments as may be voted by a majority of the organizations comprising the Canadian Cattle Breeders' Association, will work a forfeiture of all rights and privileges in connection with the same.

Section 3.—Each member of the association shall be entitled to representation at the annual meeting by two members, to be selected at the annual meeting of the respective organizations.

ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS.

The officers of the association shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

ARTICLE V.—ELECTIONS.

Section 1.—The officers and a director for each breed shall be elected to constitute the Board of Management at the annual meeting, to be held at such time and place as the Board of Directors may appoint, due notice of which meeting shall be sent to the secretary of each association.

The remainder of the Constitution will be drawn up and submitted with the above at a meeting to be held at Albion Hotel, Toronto, during the horse show in March.