

I am to add that their lordships are advised that pleuro-pneumonia is the most insidious of all cattle diseases, and that it is impossible by any precautionary measures of quarantine or inspection to entirely obviate the risk of introducing it when cattle are imported from a country in which it exists.

I am, etc.,

C. L. PEEL.

The following was written on margin of letter:—

“Privy council referred to the minister of agriculture for immediate report.

“J. McGEE.

“December 24th, 1886.”

*EXTRACTS from Report of the Minister of Agriculture.*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

OTTAWA, ONT., 1st September, 1887.

The undersigned has the honour to report on the accompanying references to him:

Despatch n° 514g, privy council papers; despatch n° 571g, privy council papers.

As respects a question in the letter of Mr. C. L. Peel, covering an extract from a newspaper, *The Mark Lane Express*, dated the 29th of November last, it is true that a considerable number of cattle from ranches in the United States territories were admitted to the Canadian ranches during last year, under a special arrangement which has, however, been discontinued, as has also the importation referred to.

As respects the remarks in the letter of Mr. Peel of January 15th last, inclosed in the despatch of Mr. Stanhope herewith, on the subject of transit of United States cattle, above referred, and imported into Canada from the United States, the undersigned is of opinion upon careful consideration of all the facts and circumstances, that the Canadian quarantine regulations, as well those having relation to transit as those relating to importation, are sufficient for protection of Canadian cattle from the danger of the admission of the disease of pleuro-pneumonia.

The undersigned respectfully recommends, that his excellency the governor general be moved to convey the substance of the information in this report to Mr. Stanhope, in answer to his despatches referred.

The whole respectfully submitted.

JOHN CARLING,

*Minister of Agriculture.*

*(Private and Confidential).*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, 30th April, 1887.

J. HICKSON, Esq., Grand Trunk Railway Co., Montreal, P.Q.

MY DEAR SIR,—I think it well to tell you as a piece of information which I think you should know, we have received two despatches from the imperial government pointing out to us the fact of the existence of pleuro-pneumonia in the western states and calling our attention to the imprudence of allowing transit of American cattle through Canada. We cannot, of course, be blind to the meaning of those notifications, but they have not gone so far as to say that they will place us on the scheduled list if we do not discontinue our present arrangements. I may say to you further that we are quite aware of the kind of risks incurred in relation to the danger of introducing the disease I have named, among the herds of Canada, which, if it should happen, would mean a disaster implying the loss of many millions and also the scheduled list for a sequel, which also means a difference of 1d. sterling or 2 cts. a pound liveweight on all the cattle we ship. We are still of opinion, after the most careful consideration, that the regulations as respects such transit now in force are sufficient protection, the only weakness being a possible negligence of some railway official in not observing his rules, and thus opening the door to the admission of the most insidious of all diseases. I have told Mr. Pope and Mr. Carling, ministers, who