

eight years, and in that time not one single question has arisen on the part of the people of the United States as to the existence of pleuro-pneumonia in Canada, or any trace of it. I think this is proof conclusive that the Canadian herds are absolutely free of this dread disease, and I venture to think that what the hon. member from Montreal (Mr. Bickerdike) has put before the House has proved conclusively that we have never in a single instance had this dread disease in Canada. Under these circumstances I contend that the idea expressed by the president of the Board of Agriculture in England, that there is even a risk to their herds in allowing Canadian cattle to be imported freely into the country, is not tenable. I venture to say one or two words more. It is a difficult question to deal with, no doubt. I appreciate that there are various interests in England which are complicating; I understand that the political situation there may need certain considerations. I venture to think, however, that, whatever side of politics the people of England may take, whatever their individual or class or local interests may be, there is a strong feeling there, as there is in the other parts of the empire, that the empire is one, and that all its parts ought to be closely and intimately bound together in the bonds of mutual respect and good feeling. I have been quoted as having said that the maintenance of this embargo is an unfriendly act on the part of the mother country towards Canada. I do not hesitate, Sir, here on the floor of parliament to repeat that assertion. I consider that the maintenance of the embargo by the mother country against Canadian cattle is an unfriendly act towards Canada, and an act showing a lack of consideration towards those bonds of imperial duty which ought to be just as dear to the mother country as they are to Canada.

I venture to think that if we are to be drawn to the mother country as we wish to draw the mother country towards us, every consideration ought to be shown by the latter not only to our commercial interests, but to our sentimental interests and feelings as well; and I believe that there is to-day no one thing which the motherland could do that would appeal more strongly to the sentiments and opinions of the people of Canada than to remove the stigma which to-day rests upon our cattle in consequence of the legislation of the motherland; and if the parliament and people of Great Britain wish to give an evidence of their feeling towards us, such as we have given on many occasions of our feeling towards them, they could do that in the best way by removing the legislation which imposes this restriction on our cattle going into their markets. There is another point I would like to say a word about. We hear a good deal—perhaps more in the motherland than anywhere else—of the food supply of the empire. That is

Mr. FISHER.

generally held to be the wheat supply, but meat is just as important; and I think it is a short-sighted policy—a policy which does not show full consideration of imperial interests—which puts a restriction on the supply of meat to the motherland from a source at all times within the empire. We have to-day a large meat supply in this country—a meat supply which could be increased indefinitely if this embargo were removed, and which would at all times be available as being wholly within the empire and therefore not subject to any of the vicissitudes of foreign ocean shipping. I think it is in the interest of the solidarity of the empire and of the British food supply of the empire that arrangement should be made among its various parts to facilitate trade among them in food products and put them on a better footing as regards one another than foreign countries are as regards any part of the empire. Here is an opportunity of doing this in accordance with the demand of a very large number—I do not know exactly how large—of the electors of Great Britain; and I feel that in the expression of opinion on the part of the Canadian parliament, such as this resolution embodies, we have justice, equity and right on our side as well as a policy which is in the best interests of the empire at large. In view of the present circumstances, it is but proper and right that our parliament should so express itself by passing this resolution.

Resolution agreed to.

CONFERENCES BETWEEN SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have received the following message from the Senate:

Wednesday, 5th July, 1905.

Resolved, That a message be sent to the House of Commons by one of the Masters in Chancery, to inform that House that the Senate has come to the following resolution, and to request that the House of Commons may be pleased to agree thereto:

That in cases in which the House of Commons disagree to any amendments made by the Senate, or insist upon any amendments to which the Senate has disagreed, the Senate is willing to receive the reasons of the House of Commons for their disagreement or insisting (as the case may be), by message, without a conference, unless at any time the Commons should desire to communicate the same at a conference.

That any conference between the Houses may be a free conference.

Attest. SAML. E. ST. O. CHAPLEAU,
Clerk of the Senate.

MONTREAL HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS.

Mr. PREFONTAINE moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 192) respecting the power of the Harbour Commissioners of Montreal. He said: The Bill is for the purpose of authorizing the Harbour Commissioners to expend the sum of \$6,000 out of the revenue