

Inspection of Cattle.

being infected with Texan fever, and in consequence of this suspicion, Canada narrowly escaped being scheduled. Sir Chas. Tupper, the Canadian high commissioner to England, and a member of the medical profession, only succeeded in satisfying the veterinary department in the imperial government that the suspected animals were not infected with Texan fever, by demanding that a post mortem examination be made, and assisted in doing it himself. Even then the veterinary officers of the English government were not altogether satisfied that the suspected animals were not infected with contagious disease. However, they most generously gave Canada the benefit of the doubt. I have not the least doubt in my own mind but that the suspected animals were infected with contagious disease, and had contracted it by being put into cars which had previously been used for the transport of United States cattle, and disinfected in the way I have described above. The press and the people of Canada were loud in their praise and sincere in their expressions of gratitude to Sir Charles Tupper for the energy he displayed in the matter, and thus saving Canadian cattle from being scheduled. I have not the least doubt if he had not been a member of the medical profession, that he would not have been able to save this most important trade to Canada, and our farmers would have suffered a direct loss.

Now, I ask Sir Charles Tupper, as a medical man, if, in this instance, it was so difficult to decide whether the suspected animals were affected with contagious disease or not, if he will stand up in his place in parliament and say that, in his opinion as a medical man, it is possible for a veterinary surgeon, much less a butcher or a shoemaker, to detect one animal that might be affected with contagious disease among a lot of several hundred inspected in the manner I have above described.

It is to protect the stock of the English farmer from the possibility of becoming infected that the English government prohibit the transit of all foreign cattle from the seaport to the interior of the country, and have wisely enacted that all cattle from countries where contagious diseases exist are to be slaughtered at the seaports. I ask, are Canadian farmers not entitled to the same measures of protection? At present Canadian cattle are free from suspicion of disease, and the Canadian stock raisers and shippers have the advantage in the English market, and can only retain it so long as the country is free from suspicion of contagious cattle disease.

Under these circumstances, is it not clearly the duty of the government to protect Canadian cattle from any suspicion, and from all possibility of becoming infected, by prohibiting the transport of United States cattle through Canada, and by doing so encourage stock raising, which now promises, while the Canadian farmer enjoys this advantage, to be one of the most profitable of the farming interests of Canada?

The question is, shall the stock raising interests of Canada be jeopardized for the benefit of the railways? What say the farmers of Canada?

J. B. WRIGHT, M.D., V.S.

I do hereby swear that every statement herein made in reference to the manner of the inspection of United States cattle intended for transit through Canada is in every particular true, and that the statements made to me by Prof. Smith and Mr. Wainwright, herein mentioned, is, to the best of my recollection, verbatim.

J. B. WRIGHT, M.D., V.S.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of March, A.D. 1890.

WILL. L. HULBERT,
Notary Public, Wayne Co., Mich.

State of Michigan, } S.S.
County of Wayne. }

I, J. Hawkins, graduate of the Ontario veterinary college, do hereby declare that I have practised in the city of Detroit for the past twelve years, and have several times acted for Dr. Wright, in his absence, as inspector of United States cattle intended for transit through Canada. And do hereby declare that an animal infected with contagious disease could not be detected in the way the regulations require the inspection to be made, and that I consider the whole system to be an