

any detailed statement of voluminous evidence taken and accompanying contradictory opinions of the eminent veterinary surgeons examined, it is desirable to give the conclusions of the board in the words of their report, as follow :—

“(1.) That there is a close resemblance, amounting to practical identity, between the post-mortem appearances of the ‘Toronto’ and ‘Mongolian’ specimens and those presented in cases of pleuro-pneumonia; (2) that the approximation of the appearances in those specimens to those presented in the case of pleuro-pneumonia is very much greater than in the case of any of the known diseases affecting the lungs of cattle; and (3) that none of the appearances recorded in the Canadian cases can be regarded as foreign to pleuro-pneumonia, or as indicative or suggestive of some other disease hitherto unobserved.”

741. The terms in which this decision is conveyed are remarkable. It is not simply stated without circumlocution that the board found the disease of contagious pleuro-pneumonia in the lungs of the two animals in question, but that there was a “close resemblance, amounting to practical identity,” while there was nothing “indicative or suggestive of some other disease hitherto unobserved.” Mr. Angers, the Minister of Agriculture of the Dominion Government, in his report, dated 31st January, 1895, to His Excellency-in-Council, adopted by Order-in-Council, entered at great length into a criticism and rebuttal of this position. He showed from important statements in evidence before the board that sufficient weight had not been given to conclusions and opinions of eminent veterinary surgeons in the United Kingdom, including those of M. Nocard, of Paris, and that these were totally at variance with the position that the disease which was found present in the lungs of the two Canadian animals in question could be pleuro-pneumonia, while the “alleged close resemblance” to it was entirely misleading.

742. For the purpose of a test, Mr. Angers ordered that a strict pathological examination should be made, during one month, of the lungs of all animals slaughtered in Canada at the public abattoirs in the large cities of the old settled provinces, with the result that not one case of pleuro-pneumonia could be found. The lungs of 3,085 animals were examined. Had pleuro-pneumonia existed in Canada, some manifestation of it would probably have appeared from a test of this nature; but one interesting fact was found which has an important bearing on the “close resemblance” theory as stated in the conclusion of the Board of Agriculture. The lungs of one animal at Montreal were found to be affected by pneumonia, and this was accompanied by the “marbling” so often described and so much insisted on by the veterinarians of the Board of Agriculture as a “close resemblance” to pleuro-pneumonia, of which it is one of the characteristics. But it happened in this case that the cause was not far to seek. A small branch of a rose bush, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length and  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch in diameter, was found embedded in the lung, some of the prickles of the rose bush remaining attached. It is supposed that the animal had inhaled it, and that it had worked its way down the bronchial tubes. At any rate, it was there, and Professor McEachren had a carefully coloured drawing made of it, which he forwarded to the department, while the specimens of lungs showing the lesions referred to, with the “marbling” appearance, have been preserved by Professor Adami. The clear inference is that the hardships often suffered by animals during thousands of miles of journey by rail,