

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Public Documents of Maine:

BEING THE

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

Public Officers and Institutions

FOR THE YEAR

1887

VOLUME I.

AUGUSTA:

BURLEIGH & FLYNT, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1889.

REPORT
OF
COMMISSIONERS
ON
Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Under the Law of 1887, Chapter 138, of
Public Laws of Maine.

F. O. BEAL, *President.*

W. W. HARRIS, *Secretary.*

GEO. H. BAILEY, *Veterinary Surgeon.*

AUGUSTA:
BURLEIGH & FLYNT, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.
1888.

REPORT.

To His Excellency, S. S. Marble, Governor of Maine :

The Commissioners appointed by our late lamented Governor, under an act entitled “An Act to extirpate contagious diseases among cattle,” to be known and designated as the “State of Maine Cattle Commission,” beg leave to report that the Commissioners met at Bangor on May 3d, 1887, for organization and the election of officers as follows :

F. O. Beal, Bangor, President ; W. W. Harris, Portland, Secretary ; Geo. H. Bailey, V. S., Portland, Veterinary Inspector.

Voted, To adopt the following rules and regulations :

An Act to extirpate contagious diseases among cattle, passed by the last Legislature of Maine, is now in force, and the following rules and regulations have been adopted.

Chapter 138, sections 4, 5 and 7, are as follows :

SECTION 4. That any person or persons who shall knowingly and wilfully refuse permission to said Commissioners, or either of them, to make, or who knowingly and wilfully obstructs said Commissioners, or either of them, in making all necessary examinations of and as to animals supposed by said Commissioners to be diseased as aforesaid, or in destroying the same, or who knowingly attempts to prevent said Commissioners, or either of them, from entering upon the premises and other places hereinbefore specified where any of said diseases are by said Commissioners supposed to exist, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, or of either of the acts in this section prohibited, shall be punished by fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

SECT. 5. That any person who is the owner of or who is possessed of any interest in any animals affected with any of the diseases named in section two of this act, or any person who as agent,

common carrier, consignee or otherwise, is charged with any duty in regard to any animal so diseased, or exposed to the contagion of such disease, or any officer or agent charged with any duties under the provisions of this act, who shall knowingly conceal the existence of such contagious disease, or the fact of such exposure to said contagion, or who shall knowingly and wilfully fail, within a reasonable time, to report to the said Commissioners, their knowledge or their information in regard to the existence and location of said disease, or of such exposure thereto, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable as provided in section four of this act.

SECT. 7. That no person or persons owning or operating any railroad, nor the owner or owners, or masters of any steam, sailing or other vessels within the State, shall receive for transportation or transport from one part of the State to another part of the State, or to bring from any other State or foreign country affected with any of the diseases named in section two of this act, or that have been exposed to such diseases, especially the disease known as tuberculosis, knowing such cattle to be affected or to have been so exposed; nor shall any person or persons, company or corporation, deliver for such transportation to any railroad company, or to the master or owner of any vessel, any cattle, knowing them to be affected with or to have been exposed to any of the said diseases; nor shall any person or persons, company or corporation, drive on foot or transport in private conveyance, from one State to another part of the State, any cattle, knowing the same to be affected with or to have been exposed to any of said diseases.

Any person or persons violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by fine not exceeding the sum of two hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Whenever the Commissioners shall inspect and condemn an animal as diseased, they will cause the appraisal of the animals affected with, or that have been exposed to said diseases, and the same shall be destroyed and paid for as provided in section 10, out of the moneys appropriated by this act, upon requisition made by the Commissioners or a majority of their board. Whenever the Commissioners shall decide animals to be diseased, or to have been exposed to contagion, and the owner refuses to accept the sum authorized to be paid under the appraisement provided for in this act, the Commis-

sioners will declare and maintain a rigid quarantine of such animals at the expense of the owner, and also of the premises or places where such cattle may be found. All notices of diseases among cattle provided for in this act shall be made directly to the veterinary inspector of this board, who will by himself or some other member of the board, give the same immediate attention.

The cattle quarantine against the States of Massachusetts and New York, ordered by the old board, is hereby continued until further notice.

Massachusetts has now nine localities (and perhaps more) infected with contagious pleuro-pneumonia, by cattle brought there from New York, and the stock interests of that State are in great jeopardy. The great difficulty which attends the stamping out of the infection of contagious pleuro-pneumonia makes it the duty of all to use every endeavor to prevent its gaining a foothold in this State; but a permit to bring cattle into this State may be obtained by furnishing to this board full and satisfactory evidence of non-infection.

All other cattle brought into this State without such a permit will be quarantined, as above directed, until this order is cancelled, and any violation of this order coming to our knowledge will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Adjourned to meet the Governor at his convenience for his approval of foregoing rules and regulations. Approved.

The first case acted upon under the new law was a notice received from James P. Baxter of Portland, of a suspected case of tuberculosis. Upon inspection, a Jersey cow was found to be badly affected and was condemned. Appraised at \$30.

May 4th. An old Jersey cow, the property of ——— Sawyer of Buckfield, was condemned and found badly affected with tuberculosis. The animal was appraised at \$15.

May 6th. An inspection was ordered among cattle upon the premises of E. C. Townsend of Freeport, but no case was found.

May 8th. Some cattle were reported to Governor Bodwell at Manchester and West Gardiner. An inspection was ordered, but none were found to be diseased.

May 9th. An inspection was ordered at Richmond, but no cases were discovered.

May 19th. A case of tuberculosis was reported on the premises of L. B. Weymouth of Benton, which proved upon post mortem examination, to be emphysema, a non-contagious condition, and no costs were ordered. This condition of emphysema, which is analogous to "heaves in horses," has been found to exist in a large number of cases in this State, where tuberculosis was suspected. Any considerable pressure or violent concussion of the lung may produce a laceration of that viscus, and give occasion to the infiltration of air into the areolar texture, called "interlobular emphysema," or we may have excessive dilation of the air-cells, some of which ultimately break, and give rise to irregular vesicles at the surface of the lung, known as "vesicular emphysema" The inspiratory efforts are increased, and somewhat suppressed, while the expiration, which is more frequently audible, is prolonged, laborious and wheezing. These symptoms, together with the accompanying cough, often confuse an owner, and your Commissioners believe that much of this trouble is caused by overfeeding bulky and innutritious food, causing extreme pressure of the lungs, and its consequent results.

May 22d. Cattle disease was reported by Rowe Emery of Frankfort, but no case was found.

May 23d. The premises of Dr. Knox of Orono were visited, but the case proved to be non-contagious.

May 26th. Inspection of cattle was ordered at Newport and Etna, but no cases of tuberculosis were found to exist.

May 27th. The herd of cattle of Mr. Kennester of Dixmont was visited, but no cases were discovered.

June 2d. An inspection was ordered on the farm of Joseph Townes of Saco, but no cattle were found affected.

June 3d. The case of a Jersey cow supposed to be affected with tuberculosis, was reported at Riggsville, but upon inspection no case was found.

June 8th. A case was reported to the "State Department" at Augusta, as "contagious pleuro pneumonia" at Newbury Center. Commissioners Beal and Bailey visited the farm and

held a post-mortem, which revealed a case of acute pneumonia, (in no way contagious) and up to the present time no case of contagious pleuro pneumonia has ever occurred in this State.

June 9th. An inspection was ordered upon the premises of J. E. Hamilton of Garland, in a large herd of cattle reported to be affected with tuberculosis. Messrs. Beal and Bailey visited the farm and found eighteen head of steers from two to four years old, which had been sold to I. C. Libby and C. H. Merrill, under a contract that they should be taken out of the State and sold for beef, together with nine milch cows and a bull, which they had just previously taken to Massachusetts and disposed of, as we have every reason to believe, for breeding purposes. This herd was found to be all "more or less" affected with tuberculosis, and a quarantine of the animals and premises was ordered under section 2, chapter 138 of the Public Laws of Maine of 1887.

June 15th. The Selectmen of Carmel requested an inspection of cattle in their town, but no contagious diseases were found to exist.

June 18th. An inspection was ordered of the "Chase herd" at Buckfield, out of which the "Sawyer cow", previously condemned, had been sold, but no cases were found.

June 21st. A case of tuberculosis was reported by Francis Secor of New Sharon, and an old native cow was condemned and appraised at \$20.

June 22d. A case was reported by J. T. Phillips of Wilton, but was found upon examination not to be affected.

June 27th. The city of Gardiner reported a case of glanders in a gray gelding, which proved to be ulceration of the teeth, and the horse was disposed of with no cost to the State.

July 1st. The city of Saco requested an inspection of the herd of J. Deering, but no cases were then found or since reported.

July 3d. The selectmen of Scarboro' reported a case of glanders upon the premises of S. H. Seavey at "Prout's Neck," but no case was found.

July 19th. Some cases of tuberculosis were reported upon the farm of G. W. Furbish of West Lebanon, and upon inspection of his herd some very interesting cases were disclosed, which have an important bearing upon the "so called" State College cases at Orono, and would seem to forever settle the wisdom of the recommendations of the "Investigating Committee" of last winter, who reported "in relation to the cattle sold from the College Farm, for several years past, we must certainly recommend a most careful examination of those animals, and *especially the bulls recently sold therefrom*, by a competent Board of Cattle Commissioners, to the end that every vestige of said disease, wherever found, may be stamped out and destroyed." Mr. Furbish's herd consisted of seven cows, four of which were the produce of the Jersey bull "Butter Boy", purchased by him of the "State College Farm" in 1882, four years before the College herd were slaughtered. Three two-year-olds and one three-year old, the first get of "Butter Boy", were condemned and appraised at \$112.50.

The first symptoms of these heifers had been nearly identical, and previous to calving no alarm had been felt about them, but soon after that event they commenced coughing and becoming reduced in flesh, until they all showed unmistakable evidence of disease. The bull had already "gone wrong" and had been previously killed, and but very few of his produce remain, and the Commissioners earnestly recommend that none of these be kept for milk or breeding purposes.

July 23d. A case of glanders was reported at East Brownfield, but an examination proved the rumor unfounded.

July 25th. A case of disease among cattle was reported in the town of Ripley upon the farm of John F. Nutter. The ox affected upon examination proved to have no contagious disease.

July 26th. A case of reported glanders was inspected at North Dixmont, but found to be not affected.

August 4th. The full board of Commissioners met at Garland, accompanied by Dr. Williamson Bryden of Boston, to consult as to the final disposition of the herd formerly owned

by J. E. Hamilton, and which had been quarantined by order of our board in June. A very careful and critical examination of the individual members of this herd (eighteen in number) was held by both veterinarians, which disclosed the fact that several animals that on June 9th presented well marked symptoms of the disease (and had since been turned to pasture) had developed into unmistakable cases of tuberculosis, so that the surgeons were enabled to certify that two large three-year-old steers were dangerous animals to be at large, and totally unfit for human food. These were accordingly condemned, and upon post-mortem were found to be in a very contagious condition. They were appraised at \$60.00.

Upon raising the quarantine, we understand the balance of the herd were taken to Brighton and disposed of for beef.

At the same time, a bay mare owned by Mr. Hamilton was found to be affected with glanders, and was destroyed, having been appraised at \$75.00.

This mare, and a horse previously condemned on Mr. Hamilton's premises, had worked the previous winter in the lumber camp of Mr. F. M. Cunningham of Oldtown, where they had contracted the disease.

August 13th. Cases of tuberculosis were reported on the premises of H. T. Cummings of South Paris, but upon examination none were found.

August 22d. Cases of disease among cattle were reported at Dedham, but after an inspection no cases were found to have occurred.

September 3d. A case of glanders was reported by F. M. Cunningham of Oldtown, and a large bay stallion was found to be badly affected with the disease, and was at once condemned and destroyed, having been appraised at \$50.

This case is of much importance to owners of horses, and especially to lumbermen in this State, who should have their horses carefully inspected before taking them into "log camps", where they are confined in close quarters and obliged to feed together, and where one diseased animal could easily contaminate all the others.

September 13th. Mr. Cunningham again reported to the Commissioners that two other horses owned by him, and which had worked in the same camp with the one condemned at Old-town, were being kept by him at Sebec, near Milo Junction, and, he had every reason to believe, were also affected; upon investigation, both horses were found affected with glanders, and were appraised at \$125.

Two other cases have since been found at Bangor, which had also been employed in the same camp, and have been condemned and destroyed at a cost of \$131.00, incurring a total expense to the State of \$437.25.

September 15th. A case of tuberculosis was reported at Pittsfield, which proved to be unfounded.

September 18th. Mr. J. T. Phillips of Wilton requested an examination of his cow, and there was also one reported at the same time at Farmington, but upon investigation, no cases were found.

September 24th. A reported case of tuberculosis upon the farm of Sanford E. Conant of Buckfield, proved to be well founded, and an old Jersey cow was found to be in an advanced stage of the disease and was destroyed; appraised at \$25.00.

September 27th. Visited the herd of J. H. Butterfield of Danforth, and found five head suffering with non-contagious disease; none were condemned.

October 4th. A visit was ordered at Lewiston to inspect the herd of S. P. Robie, but no cases were found.

October 12th. Mr. Haley of Monroe reported a sick animal, and his herd was visited, to find that the Selectmen of the town had ordered a bull killed the day before, who proved upon post-mortem to have died of congestion of the lungs.

October 24th. Commissioners Harris and Bailey were called to Topsham, to hold a post-mortem upon a "grade heifer" that had died upon the premises of Wm. S. Rogers, and found a case of tuberculosis, but no appraisal had been held and no costs ordered.

October 26th. An inspection of the herd of Henry Wood of Lewiston was requested, but no contagious cases were found.

October 29th. A case of tuberculosis was reported at Poland by Dr. Bradford of Mechanic Falls, and upon visiting the farm of J. M. Everett, an old Jersey cow was found badly diseased and was condemned appraised at \$7.50.

October 31st. A case of glanders was reported at Waldoboro' by Joseph Creamer 2d., but the horse was found to be suffering with diseased teeth, and I have since extracted the fourth upper molar tooth from the same horse with good results.

November 2d. A case of glanders was discovered at Bangor, at the stable of John Donovan, which proved to be another of the gang employed in the lumber camp of Mr. Cunningham of Oldtown. The horse was condemned and appraised at \$50.00.

November 3d. A case of glanders was found at Prentiss, in an old horse belonging to Robt. L. Worcester. The horse was condemned and appraised at \$30.00.

November 4th. A case of glanders was reported by the Selectmen of Palmyra, upon the premises of Walter A. Wright, which proved to be one of the worst cases of "glanders and farcy" we have ever met in Maine. This horse was bought out of the worthless and dangerous band of broncho brutes that were distributed throughout our State the past season, and it is the intention of the Commissioners to prevent any further sales of such diseased and unbroken vagabonds in Maine. Two other cases of glanders have already come to our knowledge, that were brought out of the same band, but both of them died before being reported to us. Mr. Wright's horse was condemned and appraised at \$26.25.

November 7th. A case of tuberculosis was reported upon the premises of Emily Bragdon of Scarboro', but, upon investigation, the cow proved to have died of pneumonia.

November 19th. Mr. F. M. Cunningham reported that a gray mare, who had been exposed to the six horses already condemned from his lumber camp, had become affected, and

an examination proved that another case of glanders had developed; appraised at \$50.00.

November 28th. The city of Saco reported a case of "hog cholera" which proved unfounded. The Commissioners have every reason to believe that the epidemic among swine which prevailed in York County two years ago, at which time it threatened serious results, has been entirely stamped out. As proof of the alarming proportions which this disease often assumes, dispatches of January 8th say that swine plague prevails in the south of France, and that thirty thousand animals have died within a month.

November 29th. The herd of Chas. C. Blackstone of Blanchard was inspected, but no case of a contagious nature was found upon his premises.

November 30th. An inspection was ordered of the herd of Washington Hall of Brewer, from which had been previously killed one of the worst cases of tuberculosis from among the bulls sold from the College farm at Orono, but no more cases were found.

November 30th. Sanford E. Conant of Buckfield again requested an examination of his herd, but no disease was found upon his premises.

December 5th. A case of tuberculosis was reported at Locke's Mills, among cattle owned by J. W. Whitman, and although some suspicious symptoms were present in a cow and heifer, no action was taken and we await further developments.

December 5th. Glanders was reported among horses working in "Gilman's Lumber Camp" below Wytovitlock on the E. & N. A. R. R. An inspection of the camp proved the rumor to have been a "false alarm."

December 10th. P. C. Bradford of Turner Center reported a suspected case among his herd of Jerseys, and an inspection disclosed an advanced case of tuberculosis in an old cow, which was destroyed and appraised at \$18.75.

December 22d. An inspection of seven herds of cattle was ordered at Foxcroft and East Dover, and a single case of a two-year-old steer was discovered upon the premises of

Leonard Hall. This steer was from a cow purchased at the College farm several years ago, and was destroyed at an expense to the State of \$21.00.

The last case reported to our Commissioners for the year just closed, was a case of glanders in the stable of George Moulton of Limerick, and a very dangerous case of "glanders and farcy" was found to exist. An investigation disclosed the fact that the horse had been sent from Massachusetts into this State over the Portland & Rochester Railroad three weeks before, by his owner, Mr. G. W. Tibbetts of Boston, Mass., and it was proven by the stablemen who took the horse from the cars at Waterboro Center and led him to Limerick, that he was in a thoroughly diseased condition upon his arrival at Waterboro.

In consideration of these facts the Commissioners ordered the horse quarantined, but refused to have the animal destroyed and appraised at the expense of the State, and the matter was at once referred to Attorney General Baker for his opinion as to the liability of the State, should similar cases arise, for if any party could bring glandered horses from Massachusetts, where the State pays nothing for them when condemned, into this State, where the owner can recover three-quarters of their value, (not exceeding one hundred dollars), our limited appropriation would soon become exhausted in paying for this class of cases. The opinion of the Attorney General fully sustains the action of our Commissioners, and refers all persons bringing diseased animals into Maine, to their own liability under section 7, chapter 138 of the Public Laws of Maine of 1887.

Owing to the prevalence of glanders in neighboring States, and to the highly dangerous liability of its communication to animals and mankind, rendering it a constant menace to human life, the provisions of the law in these cases will hereafter be rigidly enforced.

In consequence of public notice having been given by the Cattle Commissioners of Massachusetts, that they had quarantined a number of animals affected with contagious pleuro

pneumonia, said animals having come from New York State, our Board promptly issued a quarantine against the States of Massachusetts and New York, which continued from March 7th until November 2d, at which time the quarantine was raised, and all danger from that source is believed to be done away with.

A summary of the whole number of cases reported to the Commissioners in 1887 will be found to number sixty-five, embracing cities and towns distributed from the western boundary of our State to Aroostook County. Of these, forty-eight herds of cattle were inspected, and sixteen stables and "lumber camps." Thirteen head of cattle were condemned and destroyed at an expense of \$309.75; and eleven horses also condemned and destroyed at an expense of \$626.50, making a total of \$936.25.

When we come to consider the valuation of live stock in this State is rising \$16,500,000, and that but thirteen head valued at but \$309.75, have been affected with contagious disease, and that among our rapidly increasing stock of horses, but four cases of glanders, valued at \$189.25, have been discovered, outside of one lumber camp, where seven horses prove to have been all inoculated from a "single case," taken together with the fact that but a single notice remained in the hands of any of the Commissioners on the first of January, is "proof positive" that Maine is justly entitled to a "clean bill of health" for her "flocks and herds," such as can be claimed by no other State in the Union.

The whole amount appropriated by the last Legislature to carry on the work of the cattle commission, was \$5,000, but \$2,500 of which would be available in 1887, and of this amount it was found \$1,100 had been charged up against the new commission, in settling up the business of the previous year, so that but the \$1,400 remained to carry on the business of the year. The Commissioners, in their endeavors to keep the expenses of carrying on this important work, restricted to the amount appropriated, have found themselves entirely unable to carry on some investigations that perhaps should

have received their attention, and we are decidedly of the opinion that more money should be provided to properly carry on the work, or that a more stringent limit should be placed upon the amount of appraisal in cases of condemned animals.

By reference to section 2, chapter 138 of the new law, it will be found that in cases of animals condemned and destroyed by order of the Commissioners "the owner or owners thereof can recover three-fourths of their value, as determined upon the basis of health before infection, and the full appraised value in cases of animals exposed to either of such diseases but not themselves actually diseased, out of any moneys appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose; provided, however, that they shall not pay more than two hundred dollars for an animal with pedigree recorded or recordable in the recognized herd books of the breed in which the animal destroyed may belong, nor more than one hundred dollars for an animal which has no pedigree."

It will thus readily be seen that upon the appearance of any contagious disease in such valuable herds of pedigreed animals as those of our late Governor, or Hall C. Burleigh and many others, the entire appropriation of the year would be "wiped out" in the payment for a single herd, leaving the Commissioners powerless to provide for emergencies only too liable to arise.

We believe the "new cattle bill" should receive the prompt attention of the next Legislature of Maine, and in several important particulars be re-constructed or modified so as to meet all reasonable demands in this State, in protecting our domestic animals against contagious diseases, and in maintaining that "high standard" of health which they now enjoy.

F. O. BEAL, W. W. HARRIS, GEO. H. BAILEY, V. S.	} <i>State of Maine</i> <i>Cattle Commissioners.</i>
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STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, February 14, 1888.

Report was accepted, and three thousand copies ordered printed.

ORAMANDAL SMITH,
Secretary of State.