

1856.

VICTORIA.

REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ON THE

IMPORTATION OF LIVE STOCK,

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

AND

APPENDIX.

ORDERED BY THE COUNCIL TO BE PRINTED,

31st JANUARY, 1856.

By Authority:

JOHN FERRES, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

D.—No. 3. a.

EXTRACTED FROM THE MINUTES.

FRIDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 1856.

IMPORTATION OF LIVE STOCK.—Mr. Wills moved, pursuant to notice, That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and ascertain the best method of collecting information as to the number and description of live stock imported into Victoria from New South Wales and South Australia, such Committee to consist of the Attorney General, Mr. Taylor, Mr. O'Shanassy, Mr. Knight, Mr. Greeves, Mr. Mollison, and the Mover.

Mr. Taylor moved, as an amendment, That the following words be omitted, viz.: "a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and ascertain," with a view to insert the words "the enquiry as to," and that all the words after the word "Australia" be omitted, with a view to insert the words "be referred to the Committee now sitting on Agricultural and Horticultural Statistics" in lieu thereof.

Debate ensued.

Amendment by leave withdrawn.

Question—That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and ascertain the best method of collecting information as to the number and description of live stock imported into Victoria from New South Wales and South Australia, such Committee to consist of the Attorney General, Mr. Taylor, Mr. O'Shanassy, Mr. Knight, Mr. Greeves, Mr. Mollison, and the Mover—put and passed.

R E P O R T.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into and ascertain the best method of collecting information as to the number and description of live stock imported into Victoria from New South Wales and South Australia, have the honor to report to your Honorable Council as follows :—

Your Committee are of opinion that in order to obtain an approximate return of the number and description of "live stock" imported by land into this province from New South Wales and South Australia, the registration of such stock should be made compulsory by a statute, the provisions of which should be enforced against importers by penalties of not less than ten nor more than one hundred pounds sterling, and in default of payment by imprisonment for any term not exceeding three calendar months; and that the statute to be passed upon this subject should be based upon the following system:—

1. That such registration should in each case be effected at the Police Court or Station nearest to that part of the provincial boundary over which the stock have entered the Province; provided that such Police Office or Station should be within twelve miles of the place of entrance into the Province, but otherwise in or at such other Police Office or Station as might be more convenient to the importer: and that such registration should be made as regards horned cattle and horses within four, and as regards sheep within seven, days after the entry of such stock into the Colony; and should include the description, number and brands of each flock of sheep, herd of cattle and drove of horses, and other particulars, as in the form attached. (*Vide* Appendix A.)

2. That on receipt of a registration fee of five shillings the clerk of such Court or Police Station, or other party duly authorized by any Justice or Officer usually officiating therein or in command thereat respectively, should fill up, sign and deliver to the party registering, a receipt as in form attached (*Vide* Appendix B), and should post a copy thereof in some prominent and fit place for public inspection.

3. That any party or parties who should purchase or be in possession of any unregistered stock exceeding ten, imported as aforesaid, within thirty days after such importation, should also be liable to the penalty by fine as before mentioned, unless it should appear to the adjudicating Justice or Justices that such party or parties had reasonable cause to suppose that registration thereof had been duly effected, or that he was ignorant of the fact of importation.

4. That any party or parties who should purchase or be in possession of any unregistered live stock within sixty days after importation, being ignorant of such importation, or having cause to suppose that the registration thereof had been duly effected, should be liable to the penalty by fine as aforesaid, in all cases where, on being informed of such non-registration, he shall not have immediately intimated the same to the nearest Registrar for the purposes of such statute.

5. That any person possessed of imported "live stock" not duly registered, who should knowingly give false information with a view to deceive any intending purchaser or purchasers thereof, should be subject to the penalties of fine or imprisonment as before mentioned.

6. That any party producing any false document, with a view to evade any of the provisions of such statute, should be liable to a fine of not less than twenty pounds nor more than one hundred pounds, and at the option of two or more adjudicating Justices, to imprisonment for any time not exceeding three calendar months.

7. That a report of the registrations effected as aforesaid (the truth whereof should, in all cases, be attested by the signature of any Justice usually officiating in, or officer in command at, the Police Offices or Stations where such registrations shall have been effected), should be made quarterly by the several clerks, or other persons officiating as Registrars, to the Registrar General, in Melbourne, in such form as he shall prescribe, and for public information the Registrar General should be authorized to publish the same immediately thereafter in the *Government Gazette*.

8. That any clerk or other party duly nominated as Registrar for the purposes aforesaid, failing to comply with any one or more of the provisions of such statute as relate to his duties as therein specified, should be subject to a fine of not less than five nor more than ten pounds.

9. That in all cases of fines imposed under the statute, one moiety thereof should go to the informer, and the other to the general revenue.

10. That parties registering should not be liable for omission of brands of live stock under the age of six months.

11. That for the purposes of the statute, the phrase "live stock" should not be deemed to apply to animals used as beasts of burthen; and only to horses, sheep, and horned cattle, and to none such numbering less than ten of each respectively.

(Signed)

H. S. WILLS,
Chairman.

Committee Room,
30th January, 1856.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

THURSDAY, 17TH JANUARY, 1856.

Members present:—

Mr. Wills, Mr. Mollison, Mr. Taylor, Mr. O'Shanassy.

Mr. Wills was called to the Chair.

Course of proceeding discussed.

Adjourned to Wednesday next at twelve o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, 23RD JANUARY, 1856.

Members present:—

Mr. Wills in the Chair.

Mr. Mollison, Mr. Taylor.

Draft Report considered.

Adjourned to Wednesday next at half-past twelve o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 1856.

Members present:—

Mr. Wills in the Chair.

Mr. Taylor, Mr. Mollison, Mr. O'Shanassy, Mr. Knight, Mr. Greeves.

Report considered and agreed to.

Chairman ordered to report.

APPENDIX A.

RETURN OF LIVE STOCK.

No. _____
 Imported from _____
 On the (Date) _____

Crossed the Provincial Boundary at (state place)	HORNED CATTLE.			SHEEP.			HORSES. Number and brands.
	Fit for Butcher.		All others, number and brands.	Fit for Butcher.		All others, number and brands.	
	Bullocks, number and brands.	Cows, number and brands.		Wethers, number and brands.	Ewes, number and brands.		
Totals...							

(Signature of party importing)

(Signature of Registering Officer)

(Date of Registration)

NOTE.—Parties registering will, after signature, inscribe "Proprietor" or "Agent for"
 (stating the name of proprietor) as the case may be.

APPENDIX B.

RECEIPT.—RETURN OF LIVE STOCK.

No. _____
 Imported from _____
 By _____

Crossed the Provincial Boundary at (state place)	HORNED CATTLE.			SHEEP.			HORSES. Number and brands.
	Fit for Butcher.		All others, number and brands.	Fit for Butcher.		All others, number and brands.	
	Bullocks, number and brands.	Cows, number and brands.		Wethers, number and brands.	Ewes, number and brands.		
Totals...							

(Place where registered)

(Date of Registration)

(Name of Registering Officer)

NOTE.—Registration of brands of live stock of age not more than six months not compulsory.

By Authority: JOHN FERRAS, Government Printer, Melbourne.

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