9553

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

DISTRICT OF BORDEAUX, FRANCE.

AUGUSTE SELHOL, being duly sworn deposes and says:

I have been a shipper of hides from the port of Bordeaux to the United States for the past 15 years; that during this time it has been my custom, since disinfection of any sort was required, to disinfect bales of green hides of neat cattle by sprinkling over the goods in bale a solution of arsenic of an uncertain strength. This was regarded as a sufficient compliance with the laws of the United States, requiring disinfection, by the officers then in charge of the Consulate at Bordeaux, and I was never informed, and did not know that any other or farther disinfection was required.

The 755 hides shipped by me on the 27th of November by steamer Marie Therese to Havre, and thence by steamer Gascogne to New York, the property of Alphonse Weil & Bros., of No 70 Gold street, New York, are green hides, which I disinfected by sprinkling an arsenical solution on the outside of the package before shipping. The skins were not unrolled and they were not subjected to the fumes of sulphur or submitted to any other disinfecting process than that which I have stated. I believe them to have been sprinkled with salt before being packed. They had this appearance, and I do not doubt that they were.

That the shipment in the manner stated above was not done for the purpose of evading any law, but simply because of ignorance that there was any other regulation than that required by the former Consuls which had been strictly followed.

The said hides are those embraced in Consular Invoice, No. 3158, and were shipped before application was made at the Consulate for such Invoice Invoice, when I was informed of the present requirement in relation to such shipment.

And farther this deponent saith not.

(Signed)-------Auguste Selhol.-------

Subscribed and sworn in my present by AUGUSTE SELHOL, the shipper named in Consular Invoice No. 3158, this 30th day of November, 1897, after the same was fully translated and its purport clearly explained to affiant.

A true copy—

Wm. N. Langée

U. S. CONSUL AT BORDEAUX