

and that considerable portions of it must be unfit for traffic the moment the frost disappears and the spring opens? The hon. gentleman's statement, from beginning to end, can only serve to mislead. I am making no complaint against the Syndicate; they are men of great ability, who have gone into this railway as a commercial enterprise, who are studying their own interests, who are capable of understanding them, and who will do that—as they have a right to do—which they believe best for themselves. But the Government have not been equally mindful of the public interests, and the more the statements that the President of the Council has made, in reference to the Pacific Railway, is investigated, the more it will be found to be no ground for self-laudation. The President of the Council says that the present Administration have added \$100,000,000 to the wealth of the country, by keeping 100,000 Canadians at home. He informed us that 28,000 settled in Manitoba last year; and he adds that the Government have added \$28,000,000 thereby to the wealth of Canada. These are certainly novel calculations. There are not a hundred thousand people in Manitoba and the North-West. The Government have kept nobody at home. They have driven thousands abroad. According to the United States immigration returns our emigration thither was, in 1878, 21,474; in 1879, 31,156; in 1880, 99,000, and, in 1881, 123,000. The year 1879 was a year in which the Tariff was in operation for a little more than three months, and the emigration from Canada increased upwards of 10,000. The next year it was more than four times as great as it was in the year 1878, and during last year it was equal to the emigration for the five years for which the late Government held office. The hon. gentleman's arithmetic will, then, require to be reversed. Canada has lost, in the loss of her population, \$224,000,000, during the years 1880 and 1881. And what have we gained in population by the efforts of the hon. gentleman? It is the height of absurdity to count the Canadians who go from Ontario to the North-West as a population gained. I have never heard of such a calculation except in a single instance; and it is so much like the calculation of the President of the Council that I will mention it. He shall have whatever advantage it may afford him. On one occasion a school teacher gave a class of boys an exercise in composition. One of them wrote an essay about pins. He began by saying that pins were highly useful things, for they had been the means of saving the lives of thousands of people. The teacher was astonished, and he asked his pupil how thousands had their lives saved