

to supervise, without any real supervision being exercised over the whole transaction, does open the door for fraud upon the emigrant; and a few cases of hardship, where emigrants are unfairly dealt with, would be sufficient to damage the hon. gentleman's entire scheme. The hon. gentleman ought to make provision for supervising the matter altogether or abandon the provision altogether. A single officer in the North-West, active and energetic, who understood the subject and knew the value of the appliances there, could check this account, or charges of every sort made against the ingoing emigrant. No doubt very great hardships to emigrants will arise. The emigrant, if he thinks he is overcharged will remain in the house till the supplies are consumed, and then move across the border, preferring life in the States as an ordinary laborer to farming in the Dominion with a heavy debt to pay off.

Mr. BLAKE. Will the charge subsist on the homestead or land, in any shape, if the emigrant has left it? Will the person who advanced the money have the charge upon the homestead in his favor and as against any other person who may come upon it?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. He will have to find a tenant for the land of course.

Mr. BLAKE. Then it is intended that this man shall not run the risk of the emigrant remaining? No matter what the fate of the emigrant—whether he lives on or departs—the creditor has a mortgage on the land?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. If a house is put up and the land prepared for settlement, if one man does not take the farm another will. There will be no difficulty in getting one occupant for the place, with a house on it, for the mere cost. The man who builds a house on a lot and prepares it for settlement has a right to consideration should the emigrant go off. If the place goes to waste, the title is not given. It is in the Crown; but the Crown should treat a person who has invested money to that extent, as it would treat a homesteader, with every degree of liberty without giving him the title. If it finds the land going to waste it will resume it.

Mr. BLAKE. The plan involves, of necessity, only his making an expense in bringing out the emigrant—the subsistence and passage money, and yet the creditor may have a charge on the land. If the emigrant does not like it, he may go to the States; and then you have a charge on the land in favor of this undertaker. Suppose all that they agree on is, that the charges for subsistence money and for the passage should be made a charge on the land, and that the emigrant, after getting out, goes away—is the debt a charge upon the land?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Certainly not.

Mr. BLAKE. How does it become a charge on the land if he has built a homestead?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Even if the house is put up, the patent will not issue unless there has been occupation for three years.

Mr. BLAKE. Does not the hon. gentleman see that any settler coming upon any such abandoned lot may not only have to pay the remaining value of the house, but the subsistence money and passage money of some emigrant who may have gone to Dakota or Minnesota?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The general law is not in any way attacked or altered. It does not matter what person's money puts up the house and makes improvements, the settler cannot get the deed unless he has occupied and cultivated the lot for three years. If an assisted emigrant does not settle upon a lot the land is again free and open.

Mr. BLAKE. Suppose a house has been built upon a lot for an emigrant, who afterwards goes away, and that the undertaker on the claim urges that the patent shall not issue

in favor of some other homesteader, except on the payment of the money he has expended on the property, what will be the result?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The person advancing to the homesteader who abandons his place, stands in no better position than the homesteader himself.

Mr. SHAW. Section ten should also be made to apply to parties going from old Canada to the North-West. If a capitalist furnished money to an emigrant from Ontario or any of the older Provinces to enable him to proceed to the North-West and settle there, the lender in that case should also have a lien on the settler's property. A great many persons were leaving this country and going to the United States, to various points of which their railway fares were paid by American agents. Surely Canadians were as good settlers as any who could be placed in the North-West, and when we find so many going to Dacotah and the Western States there should be inducements held out to lead them to settle in our own country.

Mr. ANGLIN. No provision is made as to the mode in which the moneys are to be repaid. The amount should be made payable by annual instalments extending over eight or ten years.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The man comes out here with nothing and settles on the land; he cannot receive a title to the lands until after three years; and the lender cannot press him until after three years.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. As soon as the three years have expired the settler may be called upon to pay the principal and interest, and thus exposed to considerable hardship.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. We must induce parties to lend money to settlers and make it a matter of contract between the parties. If the matter is surrounded with so many difficulties, no money will be advanced and no person will come out.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. It is only so far as this arrangement will contribute to the bringing out of a number of settlers that Parliament or the Government are at all justified in agreeing to it. Such being the case, we are justified in adopting such precautions that the object for which we grant these extraordinary privileges shall not fail.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It is impossible to suppose that people in England or Germany would enter into a speculation to make money by bringing out emigrants and making arrangements with them for the purpose of subsequently selling them out and cheating them out of their farms.

In answer to Mr. BLAKE,

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The extension of the powers given to surveyors under the 11th clause is to enable them to ascertain the facts regarding squatters.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I wish to move this amendment:

Any discoverer of minerals upon surveyed or unsurveyed lands who had applied for a grant of such lands before the passing of 43 Victoria, Chap. 6, or his assigns or associates, shall be held to have the same rights as if such Act had not been passed.

He said: This is an amendment which should have been made last Session, as there are some persons who claim to have rights to such lands, and have spent considerable sums in explorations, etc.

Mr. BLAKE. This is, of course, new to me, but I should regard it as nothing short of a public calamity if large areas of coal or other mineral lands should be liable to get into the hands of private individuals; and though I am anxious to regard existing rights, we should be careful not to allow large tracts of these lands to get