

ment he will find that there are firms in the town of Digby who are finding a market for their fish in the Canadian Northwest. The hon. gentleman also told us that there was no market for our apples but the fact is that last year we sold our apples in the Canadian Northwest, in Germany, in England, in Scotland and in Ireland, and some of our fruit even went to the West Indies, and so soon as our communication with the West Indian Islands is improved, I have not the slightest doubt that more of our apples and our potatoes will go there. The maritime provinces had eight million bushels of potatoes last year and I believe that in 5 or 6 years hence they will be raising five million bushels of potatoes and selling them too. I wish to say that I am heartily in accord with the resolution of my hon. friend from Cumberland (Mr. Rhodes) as I am heartily in accord with every project that will bring immigration to the maritime provinces. And Sir, whether a measure with that object in view comes from a Liberal or from a Conservative government, I am free to say that I believe the people will heartily endorse it. I believe, Sir, that all the brains and all the administrative ability to be found in this Dominion or in any new country, is not to be found in one political party and it seems to me that my hon. friend from Cape Breton (Mr. Carroll) instead of speaking for five minutes in favour of this resolution and for fifteen minutes to throw cold water on it, might have forgotten, in his zeal for the welfare of the maritime provinces, that the resolution was introduced by a Conservative.

And, Sir, as to immigration, we are not only bringing back our sons and daughters who left Nova Scotia to go to the United States, but we have been sending out people from the maritime provinces and from Ontario and Quebec as well to the Canadian Northwest. We are proud of our people who have settled in the west, and who have done a great deal to advance the prosperity of their adopted province; I venture to say that no people who leave one part of this Dominion and go to another, bring more credit upon their native place than do the men of the maritime provinces. In this very Chamber we have men representing western constituencies who originally left the maritime provinces to settle out there, and that in itself is a tribute to the success which they have met with, and to the manner in which they have been able to establish themselves in the confidence of the people. Such men are sure to be foremost in the advocacy of a united east and west, and the binding together of all the provinces of the Dominion in one great country. I do not think that I can add anything to the eloquent words of my hon. friend (Mr. Rhodes) in

Mr. FOSTER (Kings).

supporting this resolution. Let me point out, however, that in the last eleven fiscal years, from July 1900 to March 31st, 1911, out of a total immigration of 1,764,475 only 73,502, or a trifle over four per cent. went to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

At six o'clock, the House took recess.

After Recess.

The House resumed at Eight o'clock.

Mr. FOSTER (Kings, N.S.). Mr. Speaker, when the House rose I was pointing out that the maritime provinces had been practically entirely neglected by the late administration. In support of that statement I need only point out that for the last eleven fiscal years, from July 1, 1900, to March 31, 1911, out of a total immigration of 1,764,475 only 73,502, or a trifle over four per cent went to the three provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. If even this small percentage had gone to the three provinces mentioned with the intention of taking up their homes there, while still a very unfair division, we of the maritime provinces might not complain, but it is well known in the British Isles the advice given by immigration agents was: 'Spend six months or a year in the east, get used to the ways of the country, and then go west where the free homesteads are available.' That this advice was largely followed is well known; so while the perusal of statistics might lead one to believe that the maritime provinces secured four per cent of Canada's immigration, the real percentage was much lower. Now, we do not object to people going to the Canadian Northwest. If there were more farmers in Manitoba, there would be larger markets for the manufactured goods of the east; if the number of grain-growers increased in Alberta, there would be more purchasers for the agricultural implements of which our manufacturing friends are so justly proud; and if a larger area is placed under cultivation in Saskatchewan, it will mean more persons requiring the cotton and woollen goods, the boots and shoes and other products of those flourishing industries whose manufactures is as yet largely confined to the older parts of the Dominion. We do not object to promoting immigration to the west. Our whole argument has reference to the distribution of the immigration. While we are willing that the west should have its fair share of the immigration, we think more attention should be paid to the eastern provinces. In support of that position, let me read from a speech delivered in this House by the hon. member for Two Mountains (Mr. Ethier), on May 10, 1909, in which he said: