

stated the Indians in treaties Nos. 1 and 2 were to receive \$27,000; No. 3, \$15,640, &c. Now, the hon. gentleman, instead of adhering to that rule, has asked for a lump sum, and the same with regard to the purchase of agricultural implements, provisions, payments, &c. It is very much more difficult to follow the expense when only a lump sum is brought down than if a detailed statement were submitted.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I have no doubt that there have been some frauds and some Indians paid twice. They are very clever fellows, and some of the agents cannot know one Indian from another, they look so much alike; but of course these frauds will become more difficult by degrees. True, these annuities were not so large in 1876; but the hon. gentleman gave the reason in stating that the Indians are coming in very largely and claiming their annuities, and now the American Government are driving British Indians who were in the United States into our North-West and insisting that they shall not be allowed to come back.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. There were about 8,000 families receiving annuities; families of about five persons each to judge by the amount paid.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I cannot say; I do not know much about the prolific qualities of the Indians.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. It is clear from the vote that there is an average of about five Indians to each family and that we are paying about \$100 a family, which is an enormous sum *per se*.

163. Agricultural Implements.....\$23,616

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. How is that enormous increase going to be distributed or arranged?

Mr. MACMILLAN. I would like to call the attention of the Minister to the fact that it would be desirable, in asking for tenders, that the articles should be inspected in Ontario before being sent to the North-West. The inspection would be an easy matter. Thus would be created a greater competition than at present; because competitors object very seriously to taking such articles to the North-West and then having them refused. In the notices calling for tenders we are really advertising the American manufactures, particularly when they ask for a plough that is equal to the John Deer Plough, Chicago. I am quite sure we can manufacture as good articles as the United States, and we should not advertise their manufactures. Besides, in advertising for reapers, attention is called to another United States firm, the McCormick Manufacturing Co. We are thus holding out inducements to people to believe that they manufacture better farm implements in the United States than in Canada. By inspection in Ontario, and proper competition, I am positive we could get those implements 10 to 20 per cent. cheaper than when inspected in the North-West. The work would not take over one week or twelve days at the outside, and would prevent the rejection of articles on their arrival in that region after the payment of freight on them.

Mr. TROW. The hon. gentleman is wrong as to the American plough, which has been made a specialty for a quarter of a century. It is better than ours; and the soil is so tenacious in the North-West that an ordinary plough does not clean. Scarcely a farm you pass in the North-West that you do not see one or two Canadian ploughs thrown aside. I think there is no harm in saying that Canadian ploughs are equal to that good American plough, because it is a particularly useful one; and if people here can make as good it is right to advertise it.

Mr. MACMILLAN. I am very much obliged to the hon. gentleman for his views on the subject, but I happen to have travelled as far in the North-West as he, and can speak with some little knowledge on the subject. In many

instances, they prefer the Ontario manufacture to the John Deer plough. All along Portage la Prairie and Brandon they consider our ploughs quite as good as the John Deer. Because the latter have had heretofore a reputation, I do not think we should desire to continue it as against our own manufactures.

Mr. HESSON. The hon. member for South Perth (Mr. Trow) ought to know that in the very town in which he resides ploughs are made not at all inferior to those made in the United States. In the little town of Millbank Mr. Covony, a large manufacturer there, is manufacturing a similar description of ploughs, and selling them at the lowest prices. I do not see why the Government should apply for a Deer plough or any other plough made outside of Canada, when we can furnish them here of the highest quality. †

Mr. MILLS. The hon. gentleman is asking for \$12,000 more for agricultural implements than last year. No doubt the Indians in all the various bands have been supplied with agricultural implements, &c., which the Government were obliged to give them under previous stipulations. I suppose the Government are now proceeding to give the Indians implements and cattle gratuitously.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. In Mr. Dewdney's report the hon. gentleman will find the matter fully gone into. As the Indians are now settling on the reserves, the desire is to furnish them with implements which will remain the property of the Government.

163. Provisions for Annuity Payments..... \$43,440 07

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. This is really not an increase over last year, when the expenditure was much greater than the vote. The hon. Minister of Finance and the Department of the Interior thought that was an excessive estimate, and it was cut down; but the result proved that the local authorities were right in their estimate. Then it was hoped that the Indians, as soon as they were settled upon their reserves, would relieve us from this expenditure. It is important to see whether any portion of this expenditure for provisions has been incurred in the payment being made to the Indians who are located upon the reservation.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. How many does the hon. gentleman suppose will be added to the Indians already in our territory from that cause?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. From 4,000 to 6,000.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. Is he satisfied that these are Indians who properly belong to us, and who really had their domicile north of 49°?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. There is no fear but that our own Indians will see that those who come across are really British Indians.

Mr. CASEY. I understood the hon. Minister to say that a great many Indians had been rather arbitrarily forced across the line into our territory, but I did not understand him to mean Indians who had gone south.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They are British Indians who may have been living south of the line for some time.

163. Supplies for destitute Indians..... \$294,525 20

Mr. MILLS. That is a large item.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The original estimate for the current year was \$406,000, afterwards reduced to \$102,000. That was the estimate of last year, which latter sum has proved to be quite inadequate to the requirements of the service. Up to the 31st December, 1881, the ascertained expenditure was \$221,194, more than twice the amount of the reduced estimate of last year. Although half a year only has elapsed nearly as much more, it is estimated, will be required for the approximate half year.