

some explanation as to how their plans have miscarried, or at any rate how their promises have failed. There may possibly be some members of the present House who were not members of the last Parliament and who are not aware how clear and distinct were the promises which were made to us in reference to this matter; and in order that those gentlemen may understand it, I desire to read a few sentences which were uttered by the Ministers and their supporters, when urging the adoption of the Canadian Pacific Railway contract by the House. I may say, Sir, that there was a great deal of hesitancy manifested by the House in signifying their acceptance of that bargain at that time, that a great many arguments had to be made use of before the House was convinced that it was in the interests of the country that that contract should be entered into; and one of the strong arguments relied upon by the Ministers and those of their supporters who were bold enough to speak out on that occasion, was, that by virtue of entering into that agreement we would be saved, as I said before, a large amount, by way of expenditures in the promotion of immigration. In the Speech from the Throne, which was delivered on December 9th, 1880, the Advisers of his Excellency put these words in his mouth:

"The contract and papers connected therewith will be submitted to you without delay, and I invoke for them your early and earnest consideration. With this view, I have summoned you before the usual period, as no action can be taken by the contractors to prosecute the work, and no permanent arrangements for the organization of a systematic emigration from Europe to the North-West Territories can be satisfactorily made until the policy of Parliament, with respect to the railway, has been decided."

Mr. Beatty, then at now, representing West Toronto, who was honored with the duty of moving the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, made some remarks on the same subject; and it is well known that words uttered on such an occasion are, I might say, inspired, or semi-inspired, by the Ministry:

"There is another feature of a very important character in connection with this matter, and that is the one of immigration." * * *

After speaking of our own young men going into the new country, he says:

"But there is still left the great fact that this policy will do most to make those lands valuable and productive—will do most for the development of our resources, that the hope of gain from them in connection with the railway will induce the Company to bring in settlers who will people our great North-West Territory. If that is done the Government will relieve themselves and the country from a very important task which hitherto has been only moderately successful—that of bringing into this country emigrants from the older countries of Europe."

I shall also quote what was said by Sir John A. Macdonald, the leader of the Government, on December 10th, 1880, in reply to Mr. Mackenzie, who, in the course of his remarks, said:

"I will be glad to give way to him (Sir John) now to tell us whether it is his deliberate purpose to give this House but ten days in which to agree to a measure, upon pain of being punished by not having a holiday."

The hon. gentleman (Sir John A. Macdonald) said, in reply:

"I will tell the hon. gentleman that with the assistance of the majority of this House, such is the intention of the Government. For the reason given in the Speech it is important, if this policy is to be carried out, it should be carried out at once. Immigration very much depends on it. The Company cannot organize nor take any steps to bring out emigrants before the contract is ratified. They have only got January, February and March to prepare the work in. Emigrants will be here in May, and it is of very great importance, if Parliament is going to adopt the arrangement, that it should do so with all convenient speed. We consider it of so much importance that we shall ask the House to take it into early and earnest consideration and to remain here with as short a Christmas interval as possible until it is passed."

Then, Sir, the hon. member for Richmond and Wolfe (Mr. Ives) who favoured the bargain, made these remarks, with reference to it, in enforcing his views upon that subject. After speaking of the advantages the country would derive from the Canadian Pacific Contract, he said:

Mr. PATERSON (Brant).

"But over and above all this is the fact that the arrangement proposed would render the Government the very greatest possible assistance in the way of attracting immigrants to this country. If you consider the average cost per capita of inducing immigrants to settle in the older Provinces of the Dominion, and the great additional cost of inducing them to settle in the North-West, and then estimate the number likely to settle there, you will obtain some idea of the several millions of dollars which will be saved to this country in the expense of immigration alone."

Now, Sir, at a later stage I propose to show you, not the several millions of dollars that have been saved to this country in the matter of immigration, but something in the direction of the millions extra that have been expended, over and above our ordinary yearly expenditure in previous years, before this contract was let. But before doing so I desire to bring before the House the evidence furnished by the Government as to the manner in which these grand promises were fulfilled that were made to us at that time. Some time ago I moved for a return of the correspondence which had passed between the Government and the Syndicate on the subject of immigration, and also a statement from the Syndicate showing the moneys they had spent in promoting immigration, and the numbers they had been instrumental in bringing into the North-West. The House ordered that return, and the other day it was brought down. As it occupies only three sheets of foolscap, as it is not likely to be printed by the Printing Committee, and as I think the country ought to have it, I shall take this opportunity of reading it:

"Return to an Address of the House of Commons, dated 31st January, 1884, for copies of all correspondence and agreements between the Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, on the subject of immigration to Manitoba and the North-West, together with a statement showing the amount expended by the Company in promoting such immigration, giving amounts paid, with dates, to whom paid, and nature of service rendered; also, estimate of the Company of number of persons from foreign countries who have actually settled there in each year since date of charter."

"By Command,

"J. A. CHAPLEAU,

"Secretary of State."

"Department of the Secretary of State, 8th March, 1884."

"DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

"OTTAWA, CANADA, 4th March, 1884."

"Sir,—In returning to you the enclosed order of the House of Commons for copies of correspondence and agreements between the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and this Department, on the subject of immigration to Manitoba and the North-West, I am to inform you that there are no agreements nor any correspondence."

"The order further asks for a statement showing the amount expended by the Company in promoting such immigration; and in reply, I am to say to you that the Company has not furnished to the Department any statements of its expenditure for that purpose."

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"J. LOWE,

"Secretary Department of Agriculture."

"GRANT POWELL, Esq.,

"Under Secretary of State."

"OTTAWA, 7th March, 1884."

"Sir,—In returning the enclosed Address from the House of Commons, I have the honour to inform you that no correspondence has passed between this Department and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company on the subject of immigration, nor is there any information on record bearing on the questions asked in relation thereto."

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"A. P. BRADLEY,

"Secretary."

"GRANT POWELL, Esq.,

"Under Secretary of State, Ottawa."

Now, Sir, there is the answer to the Order of the House, in which the Government tells us that they have not even had any correspondence with the Company in reference to this matter; that the Company, during the years that it has been in existence, has not furnished the Government with