

that his joining a colonization company was an act of corruption of which no public man should be guilty. (Cheers.) Who is the next? A gentleman who is held in the highest respect by both sides of the house, an intimate friend of your own, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Gunn, of Kingston. The third was a gentleman who, I am bound to say, turns up in pretty nearly everything, Mr. Hugh Sutherland. On this side of the house, we had Mr. Small, Mr. Wallace (York), and another gentleman whose name I cannot distinctly make out, as it is written in a very small hand. These are the only members of the house in connection with the colonization companies. There were five senators. They were the late colleagues of the hon. gentleman opposite, and the present leader of the Liberal party in the Senate, Hon. R. W. Scott, the Hon. Mr. Reesor, Hon. Thomas Ryan, Hon. A. W. Ogilvie and the late Mr. Gibbs. So altogether there were eleven members of Parliament, Senate and Commons, and of those six were Conservatives and five Reformers, including among the Reformers the leader of the late Government and the leader in the Senate of the late Government. That is perhaps the best answer that can be given to the charge that being connected with a colonization company unfits a man for a seat in Parliament and lays him open to the suspicion of being influenced by corrupt motives. (Cheers.) Those colonization companies, moreover, did not simply get their contracts and do nothing. The Government received from those companies \$760,253 in hard cash evidence, I think, and pretty strong evidence, of the good spirit with which they went in to complete the work they had undertaken when they entered into the contract. One company alone, the Saskatchewan Homestead company, paid \$156,000 to the Government. In addition to that we have the sworn statement of their auditors, after an examination of their books, that the company had expended in securing settlement, in aiding settlers, in putting them upon the land, in erecting mills in some cases, in building roads, in supplying the settlers with seed grain and in assisting them in every possible way, not less than \$367,932, in addition to the amount paid to the Government. (Cheers.) Yet we are to be told that the policy which

induced numbers of persons, men outside of Parliament altogether, for the number of members of Parliament was infinitesimally small, to undertake the colonization of the Northwest, is to be denounced by hon. gentlemen opposite as if it was a violation of the duty of the Government and reflected in some way upon the character of members of this house. (Hear, hear.) I do not think it is necessary I should say more in relation to

#### THE ARRAIGNMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT

by the hon. gentleman opposite. I have dealt with the several points to which he referred. I have shown you, sir, that as to the timber limits any man could come in and get them under the regulations; that the policy of competition is now the absolute policy, and that as to one-third of the cases where limits were given since 1878, they were let by public competition. As to the coal areas, I have shown that they are open to anyone to go in and take a coal area, by paying his \$10, and that the result has been largely to reduce the price of fuel. (Cheers.) I have shown that as to the grazing lands, we have received an enormous amount in actual cash, and that we have the advantage of a lower price for the food supplies to the Indians and the Mounted police. (Cheers.) I have shown as to the colonization companies that we have secured through their instrumentality and the work they have done, important settlements in the Northwest country which would not have been there to-day without their exertions; that the country has received a large sum of money—over \$750,000; that there has been received in connection with the settlement of the Northwest \$365,000 outside of that; and that all that has been done under the operation of a policy open to everybody, which everybody can take advantage of, and that in relation to it not a single member on that side has ventured to say that a Liberal was refused what a Conservative was given; but that any man on either side can get what could be got under the ordinary public regulations of the department, adopted with a view to the development of the Northwest Territories. Under these circumstances, I believe the house will reject the resolution (Loud cheers.)