

business. Then there is the question of the frequent and sudden fluctuations in rates, which often have a most demoralizing effect upon commerce; also the question of the regulation of rates for long and short hauls, which are now existing frequently work great injustice.

It would seem necessary that this whole matter of legislative control of the railways should be taken hold of with a firm hand and dealt with in a manner, such as can hardly be expected from a government so largely under the influence of railway corporations, as are both the Canadian and United States governments. In fact, these governments themselves must undergo a radical change, before we can hope to see the great railway corporations brought under such complete control, which as common carriers, they should be restricted to.

### UNREPRESENTED MANITOBA.

Many of our citizens rest satisfied, that our province like all other portions of the British colonies is fairly represented to the British public, and its advantages as a home for intending emigrants made plain to all inquirers. Through what source this information is to be circulated, does not trouble the minds of such people, as they have a vague idea, that the bulk of it should find its way into the school geographies, and the balance be circulated broadcast by the British press and other mediums of dispensing information.

To people of the class we refer to, it may seem stupid on the part of the great English public, that they take no steps to circulate among their surplus population the information we wish them to have. But somehow the people of Great Britain like those of other European countries, have enough to do to look after their own business, without attending to the affairs of the colonies. The average Briton considers that the Mother Country has done well for the colonies, when she supplies a Governor or Governor-General for each, and insures them that protection, which her powerful navy is able to guarantee, and in this the average Briton is about correct. If the colonies wish to draw from the population of the Old Country, it is their own business and no other body's to make efforts in that direction, and almost every portion of the British colonies with the exception of Manitoba, has put forth such efforts, and has had its reward in proportion to the extent of these efforts.

Manitobans may well blush to acknowledge, that this province as a province, has not up to the present date spent one dollar to secure immigration either from Britain or the eastern provinces. What efforts have been made in this direction for the Northwest, have been put forth by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., the Northwest Land Co., and other corporations of that class, as supplementary work to that done by the Dominion Government. The natural consequences are that the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., the Northwest Land Co. and such corporations have captured nearly all the immigrants who have come to this country during the past four years. The work of the Dominion Government is of a general character, and only furnishes we might say, the primary information to intending emigrants, and the corporations referred to step in and take full advantage of the Government's efforts, while Manitoba allows all to pass, without making any effort to secure a share, although the province has much better advantages to offer to the immigrant in the way of a home, than any of those corporations possess in the territories beyond.

Although the Manitoba Government have now an annual revenue of over half a million dollars a year, or about five dollars for every man, woman or child they govern, it seems that they cannot spare a dollar to encourage immigration. It cannot be said that they are expending much for the improvement of the province in other respects. The amount set aside for public works each year is less, than would be expected from a well organized county, to be used for drainage, road making, and bridge building. Nine tenths of this revenue is required to support a civil service, numerous enough to do a province of a million population, and is doubtless all required to bolster the government in power.

The most glaring piece of negligence or dilatoriness, and possibly of stinginess of which we have to accuse our Provincial Government, is in connection with the sending a commissioner to the Indian and Colonial Exhibition, to look after the exhibits and interests of Manitoba in London. Every province in the Dominion has already sent one, Manitoba excepted, and these commissioners are now there, arranging the exhibits of their respective provinces for the opening of the exhibition, while Manitoba has not yet decided upon sending a representative, and in the

arrangement of exhibits from the province, these will doubtless be dumped in as general Canadian products, or patronizingly looked after by agents of the C.P.R., and some lauded corporations, who will use them in alluring immigrants to homes hundreds of miles west of the province, and from whom Manitoba will derive no practical benefit. Such negligence or delay is very reprehensible on the part of any province of Canada, but on the part of Manitoba, which above all others requires immigration, and requires to make the most favorable impression possible upon the capitalists of London, it is simply unpardonable.

But it is just possible that our Provincial Government do not intend sending a commissioner to the exhibition at London, and there are circumstances which lead us to this opinion, although, we hope we are mistaken. Late as it now is to do so, it would be infinitely better to have our representative there after the opening ceremonies were all over, than have none during all the course of the exhibition. Rumors are current, that the payment of the expenses of the commissioner has something to do with the case. Our Local Government argue that as the Dominion hold the lands of the province, the Dominion should pay all Manitoba's outlay for immigration purposes, the expense of this commissioner included. If there is any truth in these rumors, the Government of Mr. Norquay are certainly placing themselves in a very anomalous position. A year ago that gentleman went to Ottawa, and concluded for the province with the Dominion Government, what he called better terms, in which he waived all claims of the province to any further allowance in lieu of lands. Then was the time for Mr. Norquay to look ahead and throw in the expenses of this commissioner. But to bring the matter up now, is to put forward a claim which has not a leg to stand upon. We hope we are misinformed upon this matter of the payment of a commissioner's expenses, for we should be very satisfied to learn of our mistake. But if Mr. Norquay and his colleagues cannot spare enough from their allowance for campaign affairs to attend to such a trifling matter, then it is high time that the public voluntary subscription should fill the gap, and charge every dollar thus contributed against the Government which refuses to meet the bill, and be mindful to press for repayment when the coming election takes place.