

APPENDIX No. 3

Q. Evidently this is a sort of memorandum of what you have been doing ?

A. I suppose so, yes.

Q. And it shows you were over on immigration matters ?

A. Yes.

Q. In fact I suppose that was really the thing you went over for ?

A. That was the main thing. That was the whole thing, the whole business I had.

Q. Now, on the 23rd October, 1899, Mr. Preston writes to you and I will read a paragraph of the communication because it seems a little odd that he should have been so particular : ' I may say that the syndicate will have in its number some of the most experienced booking and emigrant agents in Germany, men of responsibility and thorough understanding of the various phases of continental emigration laws, and who intend to start with a capital of \$200,000 to prosecute this work. I might also add that the financial means of the agents in question really represents a very much larger amount.' When you were over there did you make any inquiry of Mr. Preston at all with any particularity as to who these people were ?

A. No, he reported to me just exactly what I have since found out is correct as to their standing.

Q. But you, as Deputy Minister, were putting in the hands of this syndicate the absolute control for a number of years of the emigration from Europe to Canada ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you make any inquiry as to the class of people ?

A. I did not think it was necessary to make inquiry when the inspector himself would report as to their position.

Q. You just simply took his word ?

A. I had to take his word of course.

Q. You did not think it even necessary—

A. I might have inquired of course if I had gone to the continent.

Q. Sometimes it might be essential you know to ask your own subordinate who the men are ?

A. I dare say. I think he mentioned some of the names, and I suppose when he mentioned them he reported with regard to them that they were very responsible people, people we could very well afford to be connected with.

Q. You think he did tell you that ?

A. I am sure he did.

Q. As to all of them in all the countries ?

A. I cannot say. I cannot say he gave me every name, but the understanding was that they would be representatives in different countries, at different points.

Q. That I would expect. And did you ask him as to each country, as to Belgium, as to Germany, as to Roumania, as to Galicia, and all those countries ?

A. No I did not.

Q. You did not ?

A. No, I did not, at least I do not remember that I did.

Q. That, Mr. Preston had pretty well in his own hands, I suppose ?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you ever since obtained their names ? I mean for the department ?

A. You speak of the real people that I am speaking of here ?

Q. Yes, the syndicate.

A. Yes, I knew some of them because I visited the continent later on. Some of the names—

Q. My question is this : Did you ever, while you were deputy minister, or did anybody during that time to your knowledge, obtain for the department the names of the individuals who composed this syndicate ?

A. I do not think so.

Q. And you were there from 1899 to 1904 ?

A. Yes.