

and afterwards to England. It would be a similar result in this great North-West, unless the Government adopted a different policy. For illustration, I will give a few figures as to the ownership of the land in the United Kingdom: The total area of England and Wales, after deducting the quantity of land within the limits of the metropolitan, is 37,243,859 acres. Sixty-six persons own 1,917,076 acres; 100 persons, 3,917,646 acres; 280 persons, 5,425,764 acres or one-sixth of the whole; 523 persons own one-fifth of England and Wales; 710 persons own one-fourth; 874 persons own 9,267,031 acres. The woods, commons and wastelands are not included in these calculations. In the county of Northumberland, which contains 1,220,000 acres, twenty-six persons own more than one-half of the county. In England, one person owns 186,397 acres; another person, 132,996 acres, and a third, 102,785 acres. A body of men not exceeding 4,500 own more than 17,498,200 acres. In Scotland, the total acreage is 18,946,694 acres; one person owns 1,326,000 acres; a second person owns 434,000 acres; a third, 424,000 acres; and a fourth 373,000 acres. These four proprietors hold one-fourth of the whole. Seventy persons own 9,400,000 acres, or a-half of Scotland. Upwards of 2,000,000 acres has been depopulated in order to make extensive deer parks—many thousands of once happy homes taken from the poor to gratify the sporting ambition of the rich. The total area of Ireland is 20,159,678 acres. 452 persons own each upwards of 5,000 acres; 135 persons, each upwards of 10,000 acres; ninety persons, each upwards of 20,000 acres; fourteen persons, each upwards of 50,000 acres; three persons, each upwards of 100,000 acres; one person owns 170,119; 292 persons own 6,458,100 acres, or one-third of Ireland; 744 persons own 9,612,728, or a-half of the whole. In England, the twelve largest landed proprietors own 1,058,883 acres; in Scotland, the twelve largest landed proprietors own 4,339,722 acres; and in Ireland, the twelve largest landed proprietors own 1,297,888 acres. It is estimated that 7,600,000 acres of commons, which was held in common, has been enclosed by the rich taken from the poor in England and Wales, since the beginning of the present century.

It is estimated that the House of Lords own more than one-third of Great Britain, and two-thirds of it belong to peers and commoners, whose large estates are continually growing larger. In France we find a different system. Distribution is enforced; every child inherits a share of his deceased parents' estate; 50,000 proprietors are in possession of 750 acres each on an average; 5,000 proprietors have an average of 75 acres each, and 5,000,000 landed proprietors own, on an average, seven and one-half acres each, and in that country we find happy homes. You scarcely ever see a pauper in the streets of the cities or towns of Switzerland, France or Germany. Go to Ireland just now, and what do you find? Poverty and famine which appeals to the charitable and benevolent all the world over. If the landed proprietors of Ireland would remain in the country, instead of squandering the rents of their poor tenants in England and other foreign countries, Ireland would be much better off, money would be circulated there, where it is so much needed, and there would not be that poverty and wretchedness in consequence of the bad management of non-resident landed proprietors, which stares us in the face. I simply mention this to enforce the sentiment initiated by the hon. member for North Norfolk. I sincerely believe that no greater calamity could befall any nation than to centralise its lands in the hands of non-resident proprietors or great monopolies. I endorse the sentiments, so ably expressed in the resolutions, heartily, and concur in the wisdom of putting an immediate check upon the sale of lands in the North-West upon any other terms than actual *bond fide* settlement.

MR. DOMVILLE moved in amendment that all the words after "that," in the resolution, be expunged, and that the following be substituted: "This House do now pass to the Orders of the Day."

Motion made and question proposed:

That this House do now pass to the Orders of the Day.—(Mr. Domville.)

MR. CASGRAIN: I have listened with a great deal of attention to the statements and figures given by the hon. leader of the Government, in his speech on this subject, and I would be very glad if I could concur in his views. At the same time, he did not condescend