

stated: Why, if we are to have emigrants coming this year, should we not have them next year and the year after, and so forth? The same reason that will cause them to come this year and next year, will cause them to come the following years also. Surely there is no reason to prevent them coming. The peculiar circumstances are such that these people must emigrate from the old countries if they want to live, which in Canada offers exceptional attractions for all classes. We know that we had to vote a large sum of money the other day—and we did it willingly, cheerfully, and with the greatest pleasure, and we only regret that our means would not allow us to double or treble the amount—to feed a portion of that people who form the population of the British Isles. A portion of that people will emigrate and come out here, as they did before; their lands are too small in extent, and they know if they come over the Atlantic there are homes for them in the prairies of the west, on British soil. They know they will find free land and that they can purchase more, and that they will not find foreign institutions; they will find free institutions, and here they will find home rule, of which we have heard so much. Here they will find the institutions they have dreamt of; here in Canada they will find their compatriots; they will find them in every station of life; they will find them on the Bench, in Parliament, in the Local Legislatures; they will find them at the Bar, in all the liberal avocations; they find them among the merchants, and they will find them amongst the most wealthy and influential people in the country; amongst all these, Irishmen are found taking a prominent position, and well treated, on an equal footing with all of us. We are always willing to receive them, and, if I speak for my own Province, I would say that when, at a certain period, a large number of these poor emigrants were obliged to come to this country—and many of them lost their lives by the plague or other disasters—their children were not left there unassisted, unclothed, unfed, uncared for; they were received by my own countrymen in the Province of Quebec; they were taken care of, and we now find numbers of them in the best

positions in this country. They were not of our own blood; they were not of our own nationality, but they were human beings, and we received them in our houses, we received them as our children. Yes, Mr. Speaker, Irishmen will find here a home, they will find peace here, and contentment, and hon. gentlemen need not be afraid, as the hon. member for West Durham insinuated, that they will not come because they will be under the same British flag, because they will be under the same rule as in Ireland. They know better than that; they know that they are as free in Canada, under the British flag, as they would be in the United States, under the stars and stripes. Ask Irishmen in the United States, ask Englishmen who have gone there, whether we do not have institutions in Canada as good, as free, as independent, as the United States. We have freedom here, Mr. Speaker, perfect freedom, but no license. The hon. gentleman has also stated that the hon. the First Minister had no right to expect from these emigrants settling in the North-West any large contribution to the revenue for many years. And what reasons does he give us? He says they will have to build a house and a barn; they will have to buy cattle and horses and agricultural implements; they will have to maintain themselves and their families; they will have to provide clothing and food; and the whole of these, he says, with hard ash. The hon. gentleman tries to prevent emigrants—I do not know why—from coming here; he says to them: "Do not come here in this country, you will have to pay for everything you require with hard cash." Well, Sir, I do not know with what they pay for the same articles, horses, cattle, implements, clothing, food and so on, in the United States, if it is not with hard cash. They surely, do not give them these horses, cattle, implements, food and clothing for nothing in the United States. Have they not to pay for all these things there, as well as here, with hard cash? This is a very argument to use; it is not worthy of the hon. member for West Durham. I am surprised that he should attack so much importance to it. But he gives the emigrant another reason against coming here. He says: "You will have to