

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. The hon. member was not here last Session, or he would have known all about it. It was explained very fully, and every member who was here and who is here to-night will remember perfectly well the statement made, on the motion, I think, of the hon. member for Quebec (Mr. Laurier). The artist who is employed, Mr. Harris, is now engaged in the work at Montreal, and has made considerable progress, but no portion of the money has been paid.

186 To meet cost of litigated matters.....	\$5,000 00
187 To assist in defraying the expenses of the meeting in Montreal of the British Association the Advancement of Science	25,000 00

Mr. BLAKE. Some explanation about this.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. This sum, as is stated in the Resolution, is "To assist in defraying the expenses of the meeting in Montreal of the British Association for the Advancement of Science." It is well known that this Association contains among its members not only the first men of science in England, but very many from the continent of Europe. It was proposed a year ago that they should pay a visit to Canada, and should hold a meeting of the Association here. It was resisted very strongly in some quarters, especially by the London *Times*, which for some reason or other has always been unfriendly to Canada. However, the *Times* was beaten, and those who desired to prevent its leaving England were in the minority, and I think Canada gets a great advantage in having a meeting here of these great scientists, including such men as Huxley and Tyndall, and men of that kind, and continental scientists as well—if I may use such an American word as "scientists"—numbers of whom are coming to Canada. We believe it will be of the greatest consequence to Canada to have this great Association come here, not only as a matter of science, as showing that Canada is taking its position and is recognized as such an important part of the British Empire that this great meeting should be held within our bounds, but, also, in a more practical, and perhaps, more commercial sense, we believe the best advertisement that could possibly be given to Canada is the assemblage of these gentlemen here. They propose to come out here this summer, to assemble at Montreal in the end of August or beginning of September. They will visit all the points of interest in Canada. They have, I understand, taken great pains, as this is their first visit out of England, to have all the papers which will be read before the Association, of very great interest, and with some reference to the place of meeting. It is also proposed for them to go across the continent, and the railways of Canada—the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the Intercolonial, of course—have offered them the most advantageous terms, so that they can visit various portions of Canada at their ease and comfort, and with as little expense as possible. One of the great objections raised by the *Times* was that these men of science, professors and others, are very few of them men of wealth, and that it would prevent many of them from enjoying the pleasure and the advantage of being present at an annual meeting of the Association. They could not come to Canada, and as there would be no meeting in England, it would be to them, as members of the Association, a lost year. However, the *Times* has been obliged to change its note, as it does to change with the times, because it was found to be a most popular move, and instead of there being a general objection among the members of the Association to come to Canada, when it was known that the Government here, subject to the sanction of Parliament, were anxious to promote this meeting, and assist in it, instead of its being a disappointment to any of the members, there has been a large accession to the numbers of the British Association because they are coming to Canada. Every man who comes to Canada in this capacity will go

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

home, we hope, fully impressed with the country, and will become a good emigration agent. The proposal is to assist the passages of these gentlemen. They will come across at a comparatively small expense. They will be conveyed by the great railway companies through the country, and we hope, that as a body, they will see Canada thoroughly and favourably. We have a right to think so, because all those gentlemen who came out on the invitation of the Department of Agriculture, farmers and agents of farmers in England, were of one mind and sounded one note of praise of Canada when they went home, and they have been acting ever since as gratuitous emigration agents for Canada. I have no doubt the House will vote with great pleasure this sum.

Mr. GAULT. A very large Committee of our foremost citizens has been appointed in Montreal, and a large amount of money has been subscribed by citizens, who are determined to give a right royal welcome to the members of the British Association, and to admit them to their homes. I believe that their visit will be productive of great benefit to Montreal and to Canada. These gentlemen are intending to visit the whole continent, so far as they can, and I believe they will have passes over all the principal railways of Canada; and the American railways are prepared to give them passes as well. They will, therefore, very likely see a very large portion of this continent, and I have no doubt they will return home with a very high opinion of the character and resources of this country. I believe the citizens of Montreal, and the people of Canada generally, will have great pleasure in receiving them, and will endeavour to make their visit agreeable. I understand, also, the city of Ottawa is about taking measures to receive them officially, when they will visit the Capital.

Mr. BLAKE. The hon. gentleman has not stated what the expectations are as to the number of those gentlemen who are to visit Canada; nor has he told us how this fund is to be expended. Is any portion of it to be given in entertaining them in particular localities?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No.

Mr. GAULT. We expect there will be between 700 and 800 members.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I heard 500, and I thought even that was a large number. If there are 700 competent men coming to this country, they will do us yeoman service when they go back.

Mr. BLAKE. Has any arrangement been made with the Allan Line for reduced passages?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. All the leading lines of steamships coming to Canada and New York have given reduced rates of passage to members of the British Association coming to the Montreal meeting. Communications have been made between the Committee in Montreal and the Committee of the British Association, who have been acting in concert; and communications were made through my office in London with the various steamship agents, and the lowest terms of passage were obtained in favour of the members of the Association. By the arrangements, those persons who are officers of the Association have their passages paid; the others receive more or less assistance, according to circumstances. So far as the Intercolonial Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway are concerned, members of the British Association and their families will be carried free over those lines to any part of Canada which they may wish to visit, even to the foot of the Rocky Mountains. I communicated with Mr. Hickson, Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway, what was proposed to be done by the Intercolonial Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway, and he said the Grand Trunk Railway Company would willingly co-operate with the other railways in