

Canada. I have no need to say that on this question, as on many others the people of Canada have been deceived. Here is an extract of *Le Monde*, on the subject of repatriation, dated 18th of March, 1884:

"Nearly every year, Mr. Tassé courageously raises his voice in favour of repatriation, either in the Province of Quebec or in the North-West, of the French Canadians who have emigrated to the United States. He does it with a vigour of argument and a conviction which wins for him the respect of both sides of the House, and the approbation of the representatives of other Provinces; but his success is immediately neutralized by the ill-will of the chief, who is charged with the questions of emigration. Essentially selfish, Mr. Pope hears the remarks of our friends without listening to them; dreaming of the price at which he will sell the International to the Pacific Railway, wondering what price the charter of the 'Atlantic and Western may bring him,' and to what he shall do with the \$158,000 of subsidies, already well pocketed, of which he has prevailed upon the Government to make him a gift, last year, for a railway which was already built. Do not disturb him from these grave occupations, which ought to be sufficient for the country. It is impossible for a man to do everything at once, and as Mr. Pope excels in thinking about himself, has he not a right to forget his duties as a Minister?"

"The French members of the House of Commons will not always be willing to tolerate the help given to our enemies who are trying to crush us. They can remedy the evil if they have the courage to wish it, for they hold the balance of power in the present state of parties. Therefore, we have a right to hope that they will strongly press our claims for our share in the expenses of immigration, both for French settlers and for the repatriation of the Canadians who have emigrated to the United States."

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am not the only one to find that nothing is done in favour of emigration. Here is a Conservative newspaper, one of the most important papers in the Province of Quebec, which finds the same thing.

Mr. DESJARDINS. What paper is that?

Mr. RINFRET. *Le Monde*. Mr. Speaker, I shall not prolong these remarks any further. As I was saying a moment ago, I think that if we wish to diminish the emigration of our countrymen to the United States and aid the repatriation of those who are already there, we ought to adopt a wise policy of economy, so as to reduce the enormous burden of taxation which the country has to bear; besides, we must abolish all the monopolies now existing in the North-West. We should also have free interchange of agricultural produce with the United States by the adoption of a Treaty of Reciprocity. If we wish to see our fellow-citizens who have left their country coming back to us, if we wish to prevent emigration, what is needed is a policy frankly and sincerely favourable to agriculture. It is by agriculture that we shall make of Canada a rich and a prosperous country. Mr. Speaker, when the hon. First Minister was in the Opposition, he thought he heard from all parts of the United States, complains of Canadians asking for aid. I shall take the liberty of asking him if he does not sometimes hear an interior voice crying for aid in favour of our countrymen who are leaving us in such large numbers to go to the United States, and could live here if the Government would only expend in the old Provinces what he so gladly expends for the new ones? Does not he hear an interior voice asking him for aid in favour of all the Canadians who are now in exile and who only wait, to come back to the country, the adoption of an honest policy, of a policy of economy—who are waiting for the North-West to become a free country, whose inhabitants may enjoy all the rights and privileges enjoyed by the other British citizens.

Mr. CURRAN. I have no intention to detain the House more than a few minutes; but I noticed a few days ago, in one of the Montreal papers that an association there, for whose energy and perseverance and patriotism I entertain a very high respect, had passed several resolutions which it was their intention to forward to me to have presented to this honourable House. I regret very much that I have not as yet received those resolutions, and that therefore I am unable, in the course of this debate, which would have been the appropriate time to do so, to lay them before the House. How-

ever, I have no hesitation in saying that I look upon the amendment offered by the hon. gentleman who was speaking when I came in, as purely *ad captandum*. The fact of the matter is, he is endeavouring to criticise a policy and is building up an argument upon a purely fictitious basis. It never has been, it is not now, and I do not think it is likely to be the policy of this Government, to induce mechanics, or persons such as the hon. gentleman has mentioned, to immigrate to this country. On the contrary, if we refer to the statistics that I have under my hand, we shall find that the policy of the Government has been productive of the results which he desires so ardently, if we are to believe his utterances on this occasion. If we take, for instance, the year 1877, we find that during that year the number of immigrants who came in *vid* the St. Lawrence, was 7,100, of whom 1,100 were mechanics; while in 1883, there came in *vid* the St. Lawrence 46,000 immigrants, of whom 1,800 only were mechanics. Now, Sir, as regards a branch of this subject in which I am more particularly interested, that is, the emigration from Ireland to this country, for my part, I sincerely hope that every man who can live in Ireland and make a good living there will stay there for the benefit of Ireland. But, as I know, there will always be adventurous spirits—good, hearty, able-bodied young men and women—who will seek their fortunes abroad, I desire to say, from my place in this House, that there is no place under the sun so good as the Dominion of Canada for an Irishman to emigrate to. Now, Sir, we have had some remarks made here this evening, to which I desire to refer; and in doing so, I wish to allude particularly to the report of Mr. John Hoolahan, an Irish travelling immigration agent, who was appointed last year by the hon. Minister of Agriculture to meet the emigrants of the Take Committee, at Point Lévis, and to accompany them to any part of the Dominion between Point Lévis and Toronto, wherever their destination might be; and I may say that, in mentioning this gentleman's name, I am speaking of a man of high character, of first-class education, who speaks not only the English and French languages, but who has the advantage of speaking the Irish language, who is in every way qualified for his post, and who enjoys the confidence and esteem of the whole Irish population of the city of Montreal, where he is well known, at least to 90 per cent. of them. With reference to his labours, I would just read a short extract from his report, which, with the permission of this House, I will hand in, so that the whole of it may be incorporated with the notes of the stenographer. It is as follows:—

"MONTREAL, 21st December, 1883.

"HONOURABLE SIR,—I have the honour to submit my report for your information, for the period commencing the 1st May and ending the 30th November, 1883.

"I received an official letter from the Department of Agriculture, dated Ottawa, 13th April, 1883, appointing me an Agent of your Department. My instructions were: to take charge of the Irish immigrants arriving at Quebec and travel with them to Montreal, and even to Toronto, as circumstances might require; to give them the best possible advice, and to communicate with the several Agents of the Department, with respect to finding work for them, &c.

"In compliance with my instructions, I proceeded to Quebec, where I arrived on the 4th May, 1883.

"That I have made twenty-nine trips from Point Lévis to Montreal and Toronto during the season of St. Lawrence navigation, *viz.*, from the 1st May to the 30th November, 1883, as will more fully appear on reference being had to the tabular statement which is annexed hereto.

"During the season, I met the immigrants of the steamships named in the accompanying table, at Point Lévis, and accompanied them by Grand Trunk railway to Montreal and frequently to Toronto.

"The large majority of the immigrants of whom I had special charge, were farmers, farm labourers and female domestic servants, and were, as a rule, easily placed in situations. Those arriving in the early part of the summer, *viz.*, May, June and July, were eagerly sought after and at once employed. But parties coming later in the season, found much more difficulty in obtaining work.

"The large majority of those people went to Ontario; only a small percentage remained in the Province of Quebec.

"Whilst accompanying those immigrants, I made it my special business to get thoroughly acquainted with them, when I would give them