

few months ago. And if I am not mistaken in my recollection, another of the Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church, within a later period, has also published a remonstrance on the same subject. How was it between 1861 and 1871? Did not the population of the Province of Quebec remain almost stationary? That if we accepted the increase that took place in the cities, particularly in Montreal and its neighborhood, you might almost literally say, if the census were correct, that the population had remained stationary. If it were so between 1861 and 1871, still more would it likely to be so in these later years. With reference to the Maritime Provinces, we had heard statements made to-day that were not capable of contradiction. He did not mean to say that many of those persons who had gone away would not return. He hoped they would. The system of ticket scalping might have something to do with the railway returns, making them, to some extent, inaccurate. But speaking of this subject generally, he maintained that it was not possible to dispute the proposition that there had been a very large, an unusual, an excessive and a much to be lamented emigration. Let him refer to a speech of the Finance Minister himself made in Toronto a little while ago, where he said:

"I admit that there has been a large emigration. It would be madness for me to attempt to deny it, and I deeply regret it."

That was the language of the hon. Minister of Finance the fall of last year in Toronto. But it was not madness now to attempt to deny it, and there was nothing to regret.

Sir LEONARD TILLEY. It is the exaggeration we object to.

Mr. BLAKE. The hon. gentleman admits there has been a large emigration, and what the hon. Minister has thought to be madness has been done here the whole evening.

Mr. POPE. We never denied that emigration had been going on, but we said the returns hon. gentlemen had been quoting were entirely wrong.

Mr. MILLS. You say there are not 7,000.

Mr. POPE said they contended that 135,000 had not gone from Canada to the United States during the 15 months past. If it were possible that such a thing could be, the country would be depopulated. There could be no mistake about that. When he rose to-night he did not intend to say that people were not going to the United States, but he affirmed that the arguments and the figures put forward by the hon. gentleman when he spoke before on this question, were entirely erroneous, and that the hon. gentleman procured them from an official who depended for his salary and his living upon the amount he could make out in this direction. That official himself had admitted that he did not go into the cars himself, and these figures were furnished by his men. Indeed, if these figures were correctly, stated twenty men could not collect them. Mr. Sandham, the gentleman from whom the Opposition were quoting, got \$2,500 salary at that port, and it was to his interest to make these figures large.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT said he had received within the last three days some statistics which would go very far to confirm the statement made by the hon. member for West Durham, and to show what sort of depopulation had been going on under this blessed National Policy throughout the better portions of western Ontario. He had the returns of six important townships in the county of Huron, which showed that the population of the Township of Howick had fallen from 5,420 in 1878 to 5,193 in 1880; in the Township of Hallett, from 3,394 in 1878 to 3,378 in 1880; in the Township of Hay, from 4,119 to 3,644 in one year; in the Township of Stanley, from 2,883 to 2,373 in one year; in the Township of Grey, from 4,207 to 4,002 in

one year; and in the Township of West Wawanosh, from 2,555 in 1878 to 2,352 in 1880.

Mr. POPE. Where did you get these returns?

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. From the Reeves of the different townships. They are taken from the assessment returns.

Mr. POPE. Where have they gone to?

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. I fear they have not gone to the North-West, but I fear that the legislation of hon. gentlemen opposite have driven them to Minnesota, Dakota, and other western States.

Mr. POPE. Can you say they have gone to the United States.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. I can say that a great proportion of them have.

Mr. POPE. How do you know?

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. Because I have been in the neighborhood and have been told so by the people, and because I have been in Minnesota and Dakota; and I know that a great many of these people have gone there. I mention these facts in order to show that out of these six townships in one large county of Ontario some 1,500 souls have left the country.

Mr. BOWELL. Is not the hon. gentleman aware that a large portion of that section of the North-West from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie is settled by people from the very townships to which he has referred.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. Not that portion.

Mr. BOWELL. I say it is; for I have been there.

Sir RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT. But I have been there and much later than the hon. gentleman.

Mr. KRANTZ said granted that this emigration to the United States was going on still and that this country was not so prosperous as the United States, he believed, and it was the opinion of the majority of the people of this country, that the present Government was bringing about a better state of affairs. People would remain in a country and would immigrate to a country where there was plenty of employment for the artisan and the laborer, and where the agriculturist could obtain cheap and fertile lands. The policy of this Government was just the policy to secure this condition of things. The fiscal policy had given employment to a large number of the people. He was not speaking from hearsay, or from what he read in the papers, but from his actual knowledge. In the county which he represented there were tanneries, last manufactories, button factories, woollen factories, foundries and machine shops, flax and other industries. Every one of them has increased its capacity during the last two years. During the past six months there has not been a man unemployed in the county who was willing and capable of working. The policy of the Government in building the Pacific Railway, by means of a private company, would also prove beneficial to immigration. By handing over to the Syndicate a large quantity of land fit for settlement, it would be able to compete with American land speculators, and beat them with their own weapons. No Government emigration policy was able to compete with the means which a private company and a strong railway company had for settling up the country.

Mr. CASGRAIN said it was astonishing that the Department was not able to give the House data for the emigration from 1867 to the present time. The approaching census was about to be taken as badly as last time; and Parliament would be unable to know the number of people who had left the country each year. He could ascertain within two weeks the total emigration from his own county; but the Department did not know whether 700 or 135,000 people