

ics, or for labourers engaged in towns and cities; and I do agree with this report that it is wrong—I will not go the length that the report goes, for they call it simply infamous—but I do say it is wrong and improper under present circumstances that the wages contributed by way of taxation by these people should be taken for the purpose of bringing more from older countries into this country, already glutted. I say it must have one of two results: it must have the result not only of putting down the wages of men who are employed here, but a matter worse than that is, as the Committee points out, that it can only have the result of making either those we bring into the country leave this for another country, or drive from us an equal number of those whom we claim as our citizens and are proud to recognize as such. Now, Sir, I find a short extract in Saturday's *Globe*, in the form of a telegram from London, England, dated March 21st, in which it is stated:

“Lord Lorne delivered a lecture on Emigration to-night in the district of Whitechapel. As usual, he lauded Canada, and pointed out the great advantages of emigration to the Dominion, where employment was offered to all who were willing to work. He assured his hearers that the coming summer would be one of increased prosperity in Canada and the demand for labour greater than ever before. The Baroness Burdette-Coutts will at once send fifty poor families to Canada, where arrangements have been made for their suitable location.”

Now, in common with all other members of this House, I rejoice in the fact that our Governors General, during their stay in this country, become so favourably impressed with it that it seems to them that they regard it not only as their duty, but that they actually take pleasure in speaking well of the Dominion over which their Sovereign calls upon them to preside for some years. I am glad that Canada is able to produce such sentiments, and has produced them, in the breasts of the illustrious gentlemen who have presided as Governors General over this Dominion. Not only is that true with reference to Lord Lorne, but with reference to his illustrious predecessor, Earl Dufferin, and I trust it may be our good fortune—and I speak confidently, when I expect that it will be our good fortune—so to impress the mind of the distinguished gentleman who now occupies that position, that he, too, when he returns to his native land, will find it an easy and a pleasant task to speak in terms of admiration of this Dominion of which we are all so proud. But while I say this—and I have read this extract for this purpose—I consider that if Lord Lorne is correctly reported in these remarks, it is desirable that communication should be had with him, in which he should be informed that there is a change in the circumstances of Canada. He is now speaking from an experience that might possibly warrant him in using this language, with reference to all kinds of labour, when he sailed from our shores, amid the regrets of us all. But as I said before, there was a sharp turn in our affairs, and I cannot, speaking truthfully, state that the language, if uttered by Lord Lorne, is such as he would feel warranted in using, if he were fully aware of the circumstances in which we are to-day. I believe, and I would desire that if any communication, any words of this Parliament, any utterances to which he attaches any weight, should reach his ear, he should be told that in the outspoken and friendly way in which he is advocating our interests in the Old Country, he should tell the people of Great Britain, that in the Dominion of Canada there is room for men with small capital who desire to go on the land to till it, that there is room for that class of people in the almost boundless prairies of the North-West; that on the fertile soil of Manitoba there is room for all who desire to come, and we will hail as a benefactor the man who lends his energies in the direction of leading them there. I think he would be warranted in saying this, in addressing any audience comprised of men who have been labourers in agricultural pursuits, whether under tenant farmers or others, that he should say to them there is room,

and I believe there is, in Ontario and I suppose, in the other Provinces, for people of that kind, and that labour will be found for them. And if he should be favoured with any of the fair sex in his audiences, he should say to them, in all confidence, that if there are any respectable females in that land, who are willing to engage in household service—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). If there be females of respectable connection who are willing—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Hear, hear.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The hon. gentleman seems to doubt that he would meet with respectable women in the places he goes to.

Mr. PATERSON. I trust the hon. gentleman is not trying—

Mr. MACKENZIE. To joke.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. My hon. friend from Brant is joking, and a bad joke it is.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). No; I was speaking in earnest, and I think the hon. gentleman will agree with me in saying that it is not very parliamentary to interrupt.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon.

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). If he will point out an expression which I have used that is improper, I can only say that I did not desire to use it; and though I cannot now remember the words I did use to convey the idea I wished to convey, I repeat here that if there are those of respectable connections—females that desire to come to this country, and who have characters that are such that it is well to introduce into our families, there is employment, I believe, for that class of female help in the households of Canada. That I have said, that I desire to say, and that, I believe, is what I did say.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Hear, hear.

Mr. PATERSON. Well, I am glad the hon. gentleman approves of it. Now, Sir, these are the classes that we should bring in—female servants, such as are willing to work in the household, and agricultural labourers who have been taught to work on the farm, and have worked around the farm in the Old Country. There is room for them in the older Provinces, I believe; and, as I said before, farmers even with limited means, but who desire to take homesteads and become holders of real estate, will be able to get land in the North-West. I would not ask that he should say to them that there is everything here they desire, made ready to their hand, for I do not think anything is to be gained, nor do I believe that he or any other gentleman conversant with the actual state of affairs would desire to promote immigration by that means. But I believe that those who are honest and respectable, and are willing to work and willing to till the soil, will find homes in that country, and will be welcomed by everybody in the country. But with the other class, I maintain that the figures I have given show that we have not room for them, under the present circumstances. I can enforce that statement by referring to what the Finance Minister himself said in his Budget speech. When alluding to the depression in the cotton industry—though he attempted to make light of it in a way that, I think, the circumstances did not warrant—admitted that there was a depression, that the mills had closed down, and that several hundred operatives, as he put it, had been thrown out of employment. But he said: The saw mills have restricted their productions, and there is no outcry about that; but as soon as a few hundred operatives are thrown out of employment, a cry goes up in the coun-