

## Agriculture and Colonization.

Q. It seems to me that it was the lowest class of immigrants—the paupers of that country—that were sent in here?

A. When every steamship with immigrants aboard arrived we investigated, as nearly as we could, the condition of these people. We made an effort to ascertain the amount of capital that each of these emigrants had, and I think, from memory, that the total amount of capital brought in by all the Galicians who came last year was \$60,000.

Q. How many people were there ?

A. About 5,000 people. Some of them had as much as \$2,000 or \$3,000 each.

Q. Did you decide to settle them in colonies by themselves or mix them with other nationalities?

A. We are settling them in different parts of the North-west.

Q. What was your object in mixing them up?

A. In the interests of the country it is far better to have them separated.

Q. I saw a statement that if they were not mixed with English-speaking people they would starve to death, because they were living on charity, and a great many isolated cases in support of this statement were cited. I think in settling them it would be wiser to have them distributed so that they will assimilate with the rest of the population?

A. That is what we have done. We have a settlement at Stuartburn, east of Winnipeg; another north of Stonewall, and a great many went to Alberta. The first of the arrivals went to Alberta, and that encouraged others to follow them there. We are sending some this year up the Prince Albert line. We sent the first party the other day and the intention is to distribute these as much as possible.

*By Mr. Davin :*

Q. There is a Bill passing through Parliament now which has a provision in it for village communities. That is not for the purpose of the settlement of these Galicians, is it?

A. No, that suggestion was from English-speaking people.

Q. Now, reverting to the question I asked you before, I find in the report of Mr. McCreary that some 10,864 immigrants came into Manitoba and the North-west. Of these 2,373 were Canadians. Taking away the number of Canadians, you have a foreign immigration of a little over 8,000 people. Of that 8,000 there were 4,363 Galicians, which leaves you a very large proportion of Galicians?

A. There is no question that that is true.

Q. There are only 1,519 English, 69 Irish and 205 Scotch. Of course, the Scotch are amongst our best settlers. The Germans count only 520 and the Scandinavians 474. We are spending a large amount of money. In Ireland you have a very elaborate staff, and 69 immigrants is a very small return?

A. We have only been spending money there since last April or May. That report is only for the year, and applies to arrivals at Winnipeg only. The best immigration work done in the old country is from the 1st November up to the spring, so that the work done last year was really preparatory.