

late in land. It has been stated here, and in my county frequently during the elections, that I hold very large limits in Manitoba. The extent of my limits is 320 acres; at the same time I was in possession of means and every facility for purchasing large limits, but I declined doing so, being convinced in my mind that the land should be kept for the poor and honest settler. We find that the Americans "euchre" us in many respects with reference to the sale of lands. They have their paid agents in all parts of Europe. I am informed that these railway companies have their agents located at every station on the leading railways in Europe. There are over 1,000 paid agents in the Old Country. The intending settler can hardly land from the Old Country at Point Levis before the American agent endeavours to entrap him into the purchase of lands from his company. They offer special inducements to settlers, and in hundreds of cases they have succeeded in entrapping settlers who started from the Old Country with the intention of settling in Manitoba. Mr. J. Dyke, Dominion Emigration Agent, Liverpool, in his able report says:

"A considerable proportion who passed through this office proposing to go on to Manitoba, and, as a rule, had substantial capital, but I regret to state that many of them were intercepted on their way by emissaries of Dakota or other land agencies, and by representations, more or less highly coloured—to apply a mild phrase—led away from their proper destination. With the view of checking this to some extent, I have advised all subsequent emigrants for Manitoba and the North-West, to obtain drafts for their money on Winnipeg city, and this when done, at all events necessitated them visiting the capital of that Province; but, in some instances they have actually been followed as far as Winnipeg and taken out of the Province."

I also find in the report of Mr. Wm. C. B. Grahame, Dominion Emigration Agent, at the port of Duluth, the following:—

"On the Northern Pacific and St. Paul and Pacific Railways agents are employed either by the railway companies or by land speculators, who give emigrants a glowing description of lands for sale in Minnesota and Dakota, and who paint their superiority to the Dominion of Canada in strong colours."

Is it any wonder that they settle in the United States? They and their families, when their means are exhausted, sick and

fatigued after a long voyage, they are glad to settle somewhere, and the result is that thousands are induced to settle in the United States, who started with the intention of settling under the British flag. In my own neighbourhood there is a gentleman who is employed by these American companies, and receives 2½ per cent. for all the capital he gets to go over into Nebraska, Dakota and Minnesota. In one municipality alone, in the North Riding of Waterloo there are fifty good farmers that have disposed of their property and taken out of the country a large amount of capital and settled in Nebraska. We should have some means to counteract this tide of emigration continually moving and swelling the American Union. The lands in Manitoba will, ultimately, be good; but it requires a great amount of labour to make the lands dry and fit for cultivation. If there was a possibility of taxing non-residents it would be all right, but I have never yet seen that accomplished successfully. I have tried to do it for the last twenty-one years as a municipal officer in my county, but never yet succeeded in making non-residents pay one-third of the taxation that was imposed upon residents; and it will be the same in Manitoba. It is the greatest grievance that could exist to have a lot of speculators holding these lands from honest settlers; it would be much better to give the whole of the lands to actual settlers for the price of the survey alone, than to sell to speculators and land-sharks at any price. It is hard enough for the settler to go up there and have to pay about 200 per cent. higher for everything, in the shape of lumber and every article of husbandry he may require, the expense of transport being enormous on account of bad roads. The trails are strewn with broken vehicles, dead horses, etc., the traveller being reminded of the battlefield of Waterloo. The right hon. Premier stated that 20,000 settlers had gone to the North-West this year; but on a careful calculation, made by an energetic agent who resides in Duluth, and who is daily on the trains, it being his duty to go with the emigrants down the Red River, he says, in his report, that the number of souls arriving at Manitoba, via Chicago and St. Paul, in 1879, was 7,893, and via Duluth, 3,488, making a