

question of extent of immigration station accommodation, implying expenditure, and there appears to be a disinclination to increase the immigration expenditure.

By Mr. Cochrane :

Q. Is it not a fact that a great many of these people are going through to the United States? A. I have already explained that many immigrant passengers for the United States come by our routes; but we do not afford them more accommodation than our immigrants who come by New York receive at Castle Garden in precisely the same way. The secretary of the Castle Garden Commission took pains to explain to me personally on one occasion when I visited that institution that they gave as much care and attention to immigrants for Canada as they did to those who were for the United States. There is this to be said: that the Canadian Government contributes nothing directly in aid of the immigrants who pass through Canada. But these leave in the aggregate large sums for transport, &c.

By Mr. McNeill :

Q. About half of those who are thus inconvenienced by want of adequate accommodation at Halifax, are settlers in Canada? A. Much more than half at that port; but as respects that question, I may explain the object is to send them forward as quickly as possible, and the question of inconvenience would come to those landed say late on Saturday night.

By Mr. Cochrane :

Q. Who pays the expenses of Castle Garden in New York? A. The major part of the cost of support comes from the Federal Government, which taxes the steamships for that purpose.

By Mr. Wilson (Elgin) :

Q. The transportation companies should make the provision? A. That is a question of policy. The Canadian Government did formerly impose an immigration tax, but it was repealed, I think, in 1872.

By Major General Laurie :

Q. At Halifax the Intercolonial Railway is concerned in supplying accommodation. It is a Government railway? A. They do make provision. It is only a question of adequacy.

By Mr. Cochrane ;

Q. What is supposed to be the duty of your agent, say in the north of Ireland? To give information to parties who inquire, or does he lecture, and in other ways try to get immigrants to come to Canada? A. He is supposed to use all possible exertions. He sometimes delivers lectures. He writes many letters to the newspapers, and distributes the publications of the Department throughout the locality, and at fairs. One of his most important duties would be to answer questions by correspondents.

Q. Is he supposed to have any other occupation? A. No.
The Committee then adjourned.