

at the matter from a Dominion standpoint. Some hon. gentlemen have said that this has been a disadvantage. I agree that it has been a disadvantage to the original settlers, but not to the new settlers and not to the Dominion as a whole.

CORRECTING MR. WHITE.

The hon. member for Cardwell (Mr. White), made a statement which I am sorry he uttered, because the paper which he edits and controls has shown a fair amount of justice to the Northwest during the past years, so far as I have traced the course of that journal. The other night the hon. member made use of an expression which, as I have said, I was sorry to hear, for when the hon. member used it it was not spoken out of his inmost soul, but in doing so he was pandering to the prejudices of certain people in Eastern Canada. When he compared the people of the Northwest with the early settlers of Ontario, he forgot that they were placed in entirely different positions. We are now at the end of the nineteenth century. Who were the original settlers of Canada? People who had to leave England, Scotland and Ireland. The hon. gentleman said he had heard the tales of early settlers in Ontario. I have not only heard them, but I have seen the difficulties for myself, and I know what the early settlers had to put up with. The settlers who went from the north of Scotland had to make room for sheep farms, and on leaving they saw the smoking ruins of the cottages in which their forefathers were born. They crossed the ocean after a three months' voyage. When they reached this side, the bridge was broken and there was before them either destitution or success. These people settled up Ontario and made it what it is to-day. But at that time the United States had no field for immigrants better than Ontario. At that time their great West was a sealed book, and was unknown, but to-day, when inviting people to go to the Northwest, we have competitors in the great Western States, and in the Northwestern States, which have equal and similar advantages with our country, in some parts a milder climate, and more favourable conditions, but not so fertile a soil, and we must make ready use of our advantages. When the early settler came into Ontario, he carved out a home for himself, although many men were digging their grave by so doing. What

capital did they require? Their only capital was an axe, a harrow and a few other things of trifling cost, and even on these there was no tariff tax. They went to work, built a cabin, made fences and put in crop, and in the winter they were able to go and earn money in the shanties, and they did not require much. What does the settler in the Northwest require? He requires lumber at from \$25 to \$30 per M. for his house, wire for fences, posts and all sorts of agricultural implements; and these are difficulties with which the people in the Northwest have to contend, and which they never experienced in Ontario. I would ask the hon. member if he would be satisfied to go back to the old days and travel in a stage coach, because his father did? If the Grand Trunk had a strike on hand and an election were pending in Cardwell, and the electors were as anxious as the hon. gentleman for him to visit the constituency, would he be satisfied to take a stage coach, because his father in Ontario travelled that way? I think not. We must offer similar advantages in the Northwest to what the Americans offer, and that we are endeavouring to do, by opening up the country and making land laws and regulations to suit settlers.

PRESS MISREPRESENTATIONS.

A great deal has been said with respect to the misrepresentations of the press. As a reformer in the Northwest, I feel very strongly on this subject. I say that the reform press throughout Ontario has misrepresented the Northwest. I have pointed it out to leading members of the press that they are misrepresenting and doing a great injustice, not only to the country but to the farmer, and that if they adopted a different course, nine-tenths of the people in the Northwest would be in thorough accord with the reform party. But they have adopted an entirely different course. The *Globe*, the leading reform newspaper, was one of the very first to advocate the interests of the Northwest, and it pointed out that it had a great future before it. But a change came over that journal. After the Canadian Pacific Railway contract was passed, some of the papers—I will not say all—misrepresented that country. Last winter the *London Advertiser*, one of the most influential reform papers, started in circulation a report that a whole family in my constituency had been frozen to death. It went into the facts that a blizzard came on, that the family were frozen to death, not possessing