

gentleman had said that Mr. Carpenter had paid the Superintendent of the American Line to take emigrants to Manitoba by their line in preference to taking them over the Canadian line. He (Mr. Smith) had telegraphed to Mr. Kittson of St. Paul, Minn., as follows:—

“Asserted here Carpenter, Dawson road, paid you to carry emigrants rather than take them himself. Is this true.”

In answer to this telegram he received the following reply:—

“St. Paul, Minn., 11th March.

“To Hon. Donald A. Smith, M. P., Ottawa :

“I was under impression that such an arrangement was made at Winnipeg, but on consulting our Superintendent, Halcomb, I find that it is not the case.” (Signed)

“N. W. KITTSON.

He regarded it as a matter of justice to Mr. Carpenter to mention this, and no doubt it was exactly the true state of the case.

Mr. MASSON did not think he ever spoke of an arrangement being made with any company. His information was that Mr. Carpenter paid a certain sum, \$11 he believed, to induce emigrants not to go by the Dawson road, and to go through the United States. He believed that the hon. gentleman could get information on that point in his own constituency.

Mr. TROW said this telegram bore out what he had already stated. The contractor could have no object whatever in inducing emigrants to go by another line when they were a source of profit to himself.

The Committee rose and reported.

THE MENONITES.

On the motion for concurrence in the item \$15,000, part of unexpended balance of 1874-5 for immigration and quarantine,

Mr. YOUNG said he had seen it reported that in another place a distinguished gentleman hailing from Toronto had indulged in remarks condemnatory of the introduction of the Menonites into Manitoba and the North-West Territories. Those remarks were calculated to give rise to fears in the minds of the Menonites and prevent them from settling in our country. He was amazed to find such language

used in such a quarter. He knew, as a matter of fact, from experience, there was no class of settlers more desirable than those very Menonites. They were a most industrious, thrifty and honest people, and made the very best settlers. The objection was urged that they were settling in townships contiguous to each other. He could see no objection to that. It was done with other classes of immigrants with the best results. But the main objection to the Menonites was that they were granted the privilege of exemption from bearing arms. It was because they wished for such an exemption that they had emigrated from Europe, and they had a special agreement with our Government securing to them that privilege. Although it was secured to them, there were many of the young people who held different views, and in case of war it was probable they would take up arms in defence of their homes. It was most unfortunate that such a question should be raised. If any doubts were created on this point, it would prevent the immigration of those valuable settlers. The members from Manitoba would admit that the influx of Menonites into this Province had done much to relieve the distress prevailing last year by the large expenditures they had made in purchasing the necessaries of life. His own German constituents, who had never seen and did not know them, had taken such a deep interest in those people that they had generously offered to become security to the extent of \$100,000 for the repayment of the money advanced to them by the Government. The statements made in another place were too important to be allowed to pass without a protest from some one on the floor of this House. He desired to state what he believed to be the general feeling throughout the Dominion, that these people should be encouraged to settle in our country. If there were 100,000 of them in the North-West, they would soon make our waste lands blossom like a rose.

Mr. SMITH (Selkirk) had much pleasure in endorsing all that the hon. member for Waterloo had said with regard to the Menonites in the North-West. From the moment of