

complained of was that they on this side should have stated the result this year which he and his friends had been stating for many years past; while it was laudable and justifiable for hon. gentlemen opposite to advert to United States statistics, it was unjustifiable and improper for them on this side to assume that these statistics, which they credited, and which they made the foundation for many diatribes, continued to be credited in this house. He should be very glad if they could be discredited; he should rejoice to know that they were inaccurate. If they were we ought to attempt to establish some system of our own which would enable us to ascertain, with some degree of accuracy, what the flux and reflux of emigration into the country really was; but he said it was disingenuous, unfair and uncandid, for those who for many years credited and used these papers—and used them without rebuke, because their accuracy was never challenged—to say that those who chose to assume that there had not been a sudden change from correctness to incorrectness; that the system which had produced approximately correct results for so many years had become a failure, and that those who used the same figures derived from the same source, and on the same subject, were guilty of improper conduct. The hon. member for Cardwell (Mr. White) said the Minister of Agriculture was not called upon to deal with anything more than the specific statement, because the reference was made to a particular port, and he said the Minister was able to obtain information with respect to that port. Everyone knew where the information was received. It was contained in the public documents which are scattered through the country, and could be obtained by all who desire it. The Minister cannot for a moment say he did not get the United States quarterly and annual reports.

Mr. POPE. I say I get something else.

Mr. BLAKE. A good deal else; I am going to give the Minister something at this moment. He cannot say he does not get those returns or examine them—it is his duty to examine them. In each quarterly return there is a statement of the emigration for each of the ports at which returns are collected in the United States, and therefore he had every opportunity in the proper discharge of his duty to obtain information, not with respect to one isolated point, but with respect to all the places, so that we may arrive at a sound conclusion as to what the real extent of the emigration from this country was altogether.

Mr. POPE. No.

Mr. BLAKE. I apprehend there are some points at which it would be difficult, but there are other points at which the information could easily be obtained.

Mr. POPE. Name one.

Mr. BLAKE. The Canada Southern.

Mr. POPE. I have it.

Mr. BLAKE. You have not stated it. You have given the Grand Trunk and two divisions of the Great Western.

Mr. POPE. I will give you the Canada Southern.

Mr. BLAKE. I say you have not given it.

Mr. POPE. Name another.

Mr. BLAKE. I am not going to proceed to name them all. I have given the Minister one case in which he did not give the returns, and that is enough for this purpose. It seems to me that the figures of the hon. gentleman prove too much altogether.

Mr. POPE. Too much for you.

Mr. BLAKE. Not enough for me, but too much for the Minister. It is said by the hon. gentleman that the returns he gave us were a true test of what the emigration to the western States and the North-West is to take the number of passengers over those railways.

Mr. POPE. I did not say so. They would make more than the whole number of persons who passed over the road altogether.

Mr. BLAKE. But the hon. gentleman did not content himself with saying that, but he went further, and proceeded to give as the number of persons east-bound as well as west-bound, and proceeded to deduct the east from the west and draw a conclusion. What was the conclusion?

Mr. POPE. The conclusion was above 6,000 difference.

Mr. BLAKE. And what did that amount to? It was not 6,000 but 16,000.

Mr. POPE. About 6,700.

Mr. BLAKE. That is on the Grand Trunk alone. The difference on the Grand Trunk alone is 7,951. The hon. gentleman is rather off his calculation.

Mr. POPE. You made a mistake.

Mr. BLAKE. At any rate the total number of passengers:

(Via Grand Trunk Railway.)

Total passengers from Canada to all points West, including Manitoba	30,826
Total passengers from Western States to Canada	24,739
Difference	5,887

(Via Great Western—Sarnia Branch.)

Total passengers from Canada to Western States	1,719
Total from Western States to Canada	1,262
Difference	457

(From U. S. Consul at Sarnia.)

Total emigrants with Consular certificates, from estimates of Consul at Sarnia, 700 certificates or 4½ persons per certificate..	3,050
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(From Canadian Customs Collector at Sarnia.)

Total outward entries at Sarnia and its outports, 858, or at 4½ persons per entry, for 12 months ended June 30th	3,861
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(Via Grand Trunk Railway.)

Total number of passengers from all points of Europe, the Eastern States and Canada to all western points, including Manitoba.	53,627
Total from West to East at same point	45,676
Difference	7,951

That is the statement the hon. gentleman made.

Mr. POPE. I said nothing of the kind. I have not got the figures here but I can get them.

Mr. BLAKE. I am reading from the hon. gentleman's statement in the *Hansard* under the head of January 5th, 1881.

Mr. POPE. I cannot state what is in the *Hansard*, but I made the difference about 6,700 between the passengers coming to Canada, taking out those going to Manitoba west.

Mr. BLAKE. No.

Mr. POPE. Yes.

Mr. BLAKE. No. The hon. gentleman expressly throughout his statement always said including Manitoba. He did not give us any statement or estimate of those who went to Manitoba separately from those who went to the States. The result was, as the *Hansard* shows and my memory shows me, that the total was over 14,000 for the year ending 30th June last.

Mr. POPE. I will try and settle that with the hon. gentleman.

Mr. BLAKE. I do not know how the hon. gentleman can settle it except by giving the figures he gave before. Perhaps the hon. gentleman can give us fresh figures. I do not know what figures the hon. gentleman gave except as stated in the report. I say this, that whatever