

to put two settlers upon every section, would all have gone to the railway companies without any payment whatever, or any return whatever to the Treasury so far as the lands are concerned; because the then Minister of the Interior proposed to give ten, twelve or twenty sections according to the locality for every mile of railway constructed as an inducement to parties to construct the railway. Now, Sir, I may say, while touching upon that subject, that this is independent of the amount of lands that are applied for by various railway companies, and some of whom have received pledges from the Government to receive lands for the construction of railways by private enterprise. The South-Western Railway has already constructed fifty miles; the Westbourn and North-Western Railway has constructed some thirty or forty miles, or has it ready for the rails and part of the rails laid; the South Saskatchewan Railway Company propose to construct a line in another direction; the Souris and Rocky Mountains Company in another direction, and they have all received pledges for lands to a greater or less extent, in most instances 3,610 acres of land per mile; and instead of obtaining the land, as under the policy of the late Government, for nothing, they pay into the Treasury of Canada \$1 for every acre of that land along the lines of railway they construct or which they receive in connection with the construction of the railways. Then, Sir, I may say that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company have sold lands already to the extent of 433,760 acres, and have agreed to give to colonization companies 1,930,000 acres, or 2,363,760 acres, which are pledged and disposed of practically up to the present time, or for which engagements have been made. The Hudson's Bay Company have also sold farm lands to the extent of some 400,000 acres, so that my hon. friend will see the marvellous progress that has taken place, and the wonderful development, which, under these circumstances, is going on in that country. I may mention, Sir, in connection with the increased trade of the country, which bears immediately on the prosperity and progress of the older Provinces, as well as of the North West, and its influence upon them, that in the year 1878, the amount of goods taken in bond from the older Provinces through into Manitoba, was \$1,374,311, while this amount, Sir, in 1881, rose to \$5,351,665; and I may say, Sir, that, to a very large extent, these are goods manufactured in Canada for the purpose of supplying the North West, thus affording a great increase of business in the older Provinces, and furnishing various home industries with employment. I may say, Sir, that in the short month of February last, the city of Hamil-