

substantial progress has been made in this work, that some of the consolidation is ready, and that there are some 60 chapters of the consolidated statutes actually prepared; and I am also pleased that a certain time has been fixed for the completion of the work. We know that when we meet here again next year the work will be finished. I may say also that I think the work—as far as I am capable of judging—is in good hands. I know that the gentleman who represents the Province of Nova Scotia on the revising commission is a man admirably qualified for the work. I have also the pleasure of knowing pretty well the gentleman who represents the Province of Ontario, Dr. Wilson, and I think the Government made a very good selection in his case. The gentleman who represents the Province of Quebec, I have not the pleasure of knowing, but I understand he is also a gentleman well qualified, and I know that the gentleman who represents the Province of New Brunswick, the Deputy Minister of Justice, is a man who *ex-officio* is qualified, and who has also the necessary ability and experience.

I have nothing but praise so far; but I think there is this to be said about this work: the hon. gentleman from Ottawa said that he thought it had been two years on hand; my recollection is that it was two years ago last July that the first commissioner was appointed. If my memory does not fail me, up to the beginning of last session some \$10,000 had been spent on this undertaking, and substantially there had been nothing of very much value done for the money until a few weeks before the beginning of the present session, when the commissioners appointed at the close of last session began their work.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The hon. gentleman is mistaken; I will explain that.

HON. MR. POWER—Perhaps I exaggerate the position of affairs a little; but I happen to be not altogether unfamiliar with that particular kind of work, and I may state that if the gentlemen who were appointed Commissioners after the close of last session had begun the work *de novo* at that time, they might easily have had it completed by the beginning of this session. I feel, consequently, that a year

and a half and some \$10,000 have been unnecessarily expended.

The fifth paragraph of the speech deals with immigration. Of course we are always glad to hear that there has been a large immigration into Canada. But, however it may be in this part of the Dominion, I know that in the Province from which I come there has been no immigration, but there has been a very large exodus; and it seems to me, as it has always seemed, that it would be more desirable that the Government should devote their attention to, and spend a little money if necessary for the purpose of keeping the natives of these Provinces within the Dominion, rather than in bringing in people from outside. I think that one man born in this country, as a rule, is worth two or three of those who come from outside. I concur in what was said by the mover of the Address as to the desirability of bringing back if possible from the United States the natives of the Province of Quebec, who are settled in that country; but I think the hon. gentleman should not have limited his wishes to the Province of Quebec, for it is just as desirable that the natives of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Ontario, who are to be found in the United States in tens of thousands should be induced to come back as the natives of Quebec. I think, when we know, as we do from the public press, that Dakotah is more than half peopled by Canadians, one can see that it is a most desirable thing that some steps should be taken to prevent a further exodus, even if we cannot bring those people back.

I could not help thinking, while reading the paragraph referring to the negotiations so successfully carried on in British Columbia by the hon. gentleman who leads this House, that it would have been a most fortunate thing for Nova Scotia, which has demands upon the Dominion Government, if the hon. Minister had visited that Province as well as British Columbia.

HON. MR. SKEAD—He will go there next year.

HON. MR. POWER—I hope he will; we shall give him a cordial welcome, and I trust that he will do as much for us as he has done for British Columbia. It