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year 1885, 237,000 souls, to which, if you add 13,000 for natural increase, you will get a total of 250,000 as those who ought to be in the territory in the year 1885, always excluding the Indians. Now, I am not speaking—it is as well it should be understood—of the estimates of the hon. Minister now the Minister of Railways. We know what his estimates were. Why, I recollect one time when he told us—I forget the figures exactly, but something equivalent to about twice the whole immigration which has taken place from foreign parts, apart from the Irish immigration, as that which he expected in one season.

Mr. POPE. I only spoke of one season, and we got them.

Mr. BLAKE. No; I asked him on several occasions what the expected immigration was to be; and he gave that. But I am not speaking of the estimates. I AM SPEAKING OF THE OFFICIAL DECLARATIONS as to the immigrants that actually came in, and it is by these declarations I am proposing now to judge the situation; AND BY THESE, taking up to the year 1879, the figures to which I have referred, you FIND THAT WE OUGHT TO HAVE HAD 250,000 SOULS IN THE NORTH-WEST IN THE YEAR 1885. These official returns gave us for the year 1881, in round numbers, 22,000; for 1882, 50,800; for year 1883, 42,800; and for 1884, 24,400—or a total of 148,000 immigrant settlers into that country in four consecutive years, more than every white soul that there is to-day.

I do not believe that there are many more than 125,000 whites in Manitoba and the North-West Territories at this time, only about two out of five of the results of the First Minister's statement of what ought to be there, only about one out of two of the Minister's statements of those who actually did settle there. * * We were abused for suggesting that these estimates and these official returns did not represent, in the first case the probability, in the second case the actual fact. *We were told that we were decrying the country; we were told that we were undervaluing the prospects and the results, in order to produce evil effects; but to-day*

you find the situation altogether changed: to-day you find the principal organ of the Government discussing this very question in very different language. In the Mail newspaper of the 5th of this month is an article upon the North-West, from which I quote an extract or two:

"We have repeated boom estimates and quoted boomster's figures"—

Who made the boom estimates, and whose were the boomster's figures?

What the Tories Say Now.

"We have repeated boom estimates and quoted boomsters' figures about everything until we have created in our minds the vision of a region which does not exist anywhere on earth; and now that it has been shattered by the prosaic revelations of the census, we are weak enough to feel sorry at being undeceived."

* * *

The Country was asked to embark

on a scheme of rapid construction and enormous expenditure, with the promise of immediate and tangible results of the most valuable character, *events have already shown how false were the predictions and how untrustworthy the guides who led the country into this enterprise after this fashion.* Now, then let me take the next point: it is the promise that our lands would be settled fast, and that out of them every cent of our Canadian Pacific Railway obligations and interest would be met. * In 1880 the First Minister used these words:

"For the purpose of relieving the people of Canada from the burden of taxation, which the work would otherwise entail, we have offered every second lot at an upset price so that the road may be eventually built without costing the people one single farthing which will not be recouped. * * * without adding to the burdens of the people or without causing any necessity for an increase of taxation. * *

Again he says:

"As the road progresses, the annual sale of lands will be more than sufficient to meet all possible cost of the railway."