

I have reference were greater than previously. There is another reason why the increase has taken place. Up to the year 1873 we were paying the different Provinces, to assist them to promote immigration, a grant of \$70,000, which was distributed between Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces. We decided we could not renew this grant, but that we should assist them as much as possible by means of the London office, and through our agents in different parts of the European continent. My hon. friend has made a statement, and as I have not the data on which he relies, I humbly refer him to the statement which appeared in the report published last year, in which he will find the expenditure of the Dominion was \$251,000. In 1873 it was \$234,000, instead of \$67,000, and he will have to recollect that from 1873 to 1874 there is a portion of the year which is chargeable to our predecessors.

Hon. Mr. AIKENS—What portion of it?

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST—From January to October. We only acted during three months of the year.

Hon. Mr. AIKENS—But that does not diminish the expenditure by the hon. gentleman's Department.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST— I have attempted to make a statement that must be acceptable to all who will look into this matter fairly and honestly. For the Menonites, for whom our predecessors showed so much consideration, we were called upon to make a loan of \$100,000, which is not to be represented as expended, as it is secured by bonds taken from the Menonites in Ontario. We have no objection to give the hon. gentleman what he has asked for, but I do believe that we are not proceeding according to the rules and order in discussing each question, which forms the subject of a notice of motion. I do not wish to prevent free speech, but I think we ought to act more in accordance with general parliamentary usage. Whilst I am speaking on this subject of immigration, I can say that during the recess I had occasion to visit the Province of Manitoba. I had heard that our immigrants had been taken away by Yankee runners, but as far as my observation goes, I can say they are well protected. I have seen 400 of these emigrants standing and waiting for the steamer which was to come from Fort Garry. During the four or five days they had to stand there, I saw American runners try to take them away,

saying they could get better land in the Far West. The argument of the grasshopper was used to dissuade the emigrants from going to Manitoba, but they proved obdurate to the earnest solicitations of the unfortunate American agents. They had promised to go to Manitoba, and they intended to fulfil their promise. It is true that to take emigrants to Manitoba, we experienced difficulties, but these are greatly diminished by the fact, with which the Americans are acquainted, namely, that we can pass them up the Dawson Road if we are forced to that extremity. We made arrangements to take emigrants from Ontario to Manitoba for \$21, which sum was reduced in time to \$16 and \$14.50. We could not make arrangements lower, and we are now in correspondence trying to renew the arrangements. I think if my hon. friend will compare the number of immigrants coming here and the condition of the country, he will find it compares favourably with any other country. When labour was low here and in the United States, we found emigrants going to New Zealand and Australia, and if our Government were ready to make the same expenditure as they are making in these small colonies, we should have during that time drawn a larger number of immigrants to our country. But when we know that the little colony of New Zealand was paying the fare of emigrants to their destination and giving them land free, and even animals and sometimes shelter, I say it was unreasonable for any country not ready to go so far to expect large numbers of immigrants. It would not be justice to say that we can compete against great advantages of this kind. I think that, considering the amount of money expended, our efforts in securing immigration have been very successful.

Hon. Mr. SMITH—What security has the Government for the \$100,000 advanced to the Menonites?

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST—The Menonites in Ontario became security for the money, which is a small sum compared with the actual value of their property.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—I do not thoroughly understand this arrangement.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—It was fully discussed in the other House last year. It is a simple plan. The Menonites in the county of Waterloo are known to be very well off, and a certain number of them