

great regret that I joined my colleagues in the conclusion that we were bound to disallow these Acts, for the reasons which have been stated so well by the First Minister. I am not without very strong hope that means may be found to take effectual measures for the purpose of protecting the labouring men of British Columbia from the competition to which they are subject, and the danger they are in of being reduced in their style of living. It is a question, as the hon. gentleman said, which did not only affect British Columbia, but affects the labouring men all over the Dominion—although I do not share the belief that the Mongolian race will spread very much from the Pacific coast. I am not, however, surprised to know that the labouring men of the eastern cities have in a very emphatic way in some instances expressed their sympathies with the labouring men of the Pacific coast.

Now, as to the other question. The familiarity of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Prior) with the Chinese and Japanese question, has enabled him to deal with it in a manner which entitles his opinion to the respect of the House; but he is apparently not so fully acquainted with the question of immigration into the North-west Territories. I desire to correct the evident misapprehension he labours under in regard to the attitude of the Government as to foreign immigration. If we believe what appears in the newspapers, or, indeed, if what the hon. gentleman (Mr. Prior) said were correct, one would think that the attitude of the Government upon this question was that of encouraging foreign immigration and discouraging immigration from the British Isles and the United States, from which we might naturally expect to get immigrants of British lineage. That is an entire mistake. As to the question of the bonus, I shall refer to it later on, but I would point out to the hon. gentleman (Mr. Prior) that the change which he suggests would make no difference at all in the actual results. It is necessary to know somewhat of the history of the immigration question to understand what the particular effect of any particularly suggested course would be. During the last year, we received from ocean ports, 11,608 English, Irish and Scotch immigrants, and we received from the United States 9,119—I am speaking now of agricultural settlers who actually settled in the North-west. With reference to the United States immigrants, it is impossible to say that all of them were of British lineage, but, of course, with slight exceptions they would be. We, therefore, received last year 20,727 immigrants of British lineage, and the total number of Gallician immigrants last year was 2,509. Therefore, the hon. gentleman (Mr. Prior) will see that the supposed preponderance of Gallician immigrants over British immigrants is an entire mistake. Of course, that does not include the entire immigration, because you will see we received of Germans 563, Scandinavians 724, French

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and Belgians, 545; and miscellaneous nationalities, 3,832. They were kept separate last year because we desired to know what class of people were coming in. Those figures fully dispose of the idea that we are encouraging this particular class of people as against people of British nationality. The encouragement is all the other way. The efforts that we are making and the money we are spending for the purpose of getting British settlers, is altogether away and beyond the money we are spending in connection with Gallician immigration, or, in fact, immigration from any foreign country. An enormous amount of our immigration expenditure takes place in the western States, and a very considerable portion of it in the British Isles. The money we spend for getting Gallicians and Doukhobors, is almost entirely confined to the simple payment of the bonus of so much per head, but the very large amount of money which we are spending in carrying on a propaganda for the purpose of inducing people to come to Canada, is expended in other directions, and we have spent but a small amount in Austria, and none at all in Russia. Therefore, when the hon. gentleman asks us to direct our efforts to getting settlers of British nationality as against foreigners, that is exactly what we have been doing all the time. We have never changed our intention, or policy, or practice in that respect. When I took charge of the immigration branch, the work which had been begun some years before in the United States had practically died out altogether, and we were getting practically no settlers from the United States at that time. As the result of the large amount of money we spent in the United States last year, we secured nearly 10,000 actual agricultural settlers to settle on land in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, and every one will admit, who knows these settlers, that they are the very best people for our western prairies. Nearly 10,000 of these settlers were the result of our work last year, and I understand from the best sources of information, that we will, perhaps, get from 10,000 to 14,000 of the same class this year. These are people of our own lineage, most of them children of men who came originally from the British Isles, and a great many of them are Canadians who formerly left the province of Ontario and settled in Michigan and other states. They are practically, therefore, of the same class as the farming population of Ontario. I may say that these people come from the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Dakota, Colorado, and a few from Kansas, Iowa and Illinois. I may say to my hon. friend (Mr. Prior) that in the immediate neighbourhood of Winnipeg, for fifty or sixty miles around, large tracts of land, which have for many years been lying idle in the hands of speculators and have been absolutely unsaleable, have been purchased by these very people from the western states, and the face of the