

EXHIBIT H.

DECLARATION BEFORE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS, SARNIA.

(Copy).

I of the City of Port Huron, in the State of Michigan, one of the United States of America, do make the following statement, solemnly declaring the same to be absolutely true in every particular.

I occupied the position of Deputy Collector in the United States Customs for a period of about six years, during which time I was stationed at the Grand Trunk Ferry at Fort Gratiot; among my duties was that of preparing the quarterly statement of immigrants entering the country at Fort Gratiot *via* the Grand Trunk Railway. The method in which the statement was compiled was as follows, viz.: As regards foreign immigration the agent or interpreter accompanying the people from Quebec or Montreal, gave us simply the number of souls by his train, distinguishing their nationality, so many Swedes, so many Norwegians, so many Germans, &c., &c. I took his statement and formed an estimate of their ages, sex, trades or professions, and filled those items in the return to the head office at Port Huron. With regard to the immigrants from Canada, the statement was got up from a guess at the probable number of passengers on the different trains; we would average say six cars to a train, and 60 people to a car, and call half of the whole lot immigrants. At certain seasons of the year when travel was light, the average would of course not be put so high, but the whole thing all through was nothing but guess work. We never pretended to make a count of the passengers, to know whether they were immigrants or not. In fact it was impossible, as we had neither time or men enough to do such a thing. Charles Irwin and myself got up those returns entirely by guess work, and copying off the old returns, and before my time he helped Crawford and others of my predecessors to get them up. The idea was to make the immigration to look as big as we could. I know myself of large crowds of men going to the lumber woods in the fall who were taken as immigrants, although we knew perfectly well they would all go back to Canada in the spring. In getting up the returns, the way we got at the occupations of the immigrants was this: We took so many thousand persons,—we called so many of them carpenters, so many blacksmiths, so many painters, &c., so many doctors, so many lawyers, so many preachers, &c., and the balance we called farmers. In fact, the whole thing from beginning to end was nothing but guess work.

(Signed)

Declared before me at Sarnia, this }
18th day of December, 1883. }

GEORGE N. MATHESON,
Collector of Customs,

EXHIBIT I.

EXODUS FIGURES.

(From the Toronto Globe, 26th July, 1883.)

“The dispute as to the number of persons who have left Canada to settle in the United States has been revived. In March last, Sir A. T. Galt made, in London, a statement on this subject, based upon that prepared by Mr. Lowe, for the Department of Agriculture. The United States officials reported that in the year ending June 2nd, 1881, the number of persons who entered the United States as settlers