

Brunswickers who have left the land of their birth during the last four years. I have not been able to place my hands upon the school returns of the other lower provinces, but I believe, from having noticed them last year, that they will indicate the same result. I believe the result in Ontario is still more apparent. In the province of Quebec, by a departmental report presented to the legislature of that province, by the deputy-registrar only a few weeks ago, that the value of real estate in that province in 1883, was \$2,000,000 less than it was in 1882, and that officer attributes this decrease to the emigration of the people.

HON. MR. DEBOUCHERVILLE—Is that a report by the deputy-registrar?

HON. MR. McCLELAN—Yes; one laid before the legislature. I found the extract in the *Montreal Witness* of April 2nd. I will read what the *Witness* says:—

A very interesting departmental report was distributed here to-day. It bears the title of "Municipal Statistics or Municipal Returns for the year ending the 31st of December, 1883," and is especially valuable as showing how utterly misleading as a reliable enumeration of our population was the *de jure* system insisted upon by the Dominion Government in taking the census of 1881. The compiler is the Deputy Registrar of the Province, and, in his introductory report to his departmental head, the Provincial Secretary, this efficient and independent officer, conscientiously and boldly puts the case in its true light. He says:—

"I have already called your attention to the great discrepancies which exist, with regard to population, between the figures contained in the municipal reports and those of the census made by the Federal Government in 1881. Since that date I have devoted my special attention to investigating these discrepancies, and the correspondence which I have carried on with the secretary-treasurers on this subject clearly shows that their figures giving the number of population are correct. The difference between these figures and those of the census arises from the difference in the system followed in making the enumeration. The census gives the population *de jure*, that is that which is considered as having its domicile within the province, while the municipal reports give the population *de facto*, that is the number of persons actually residing in the country. Thus, in the case of a family, three or four of whose

members are in the United States, the census made by the Federal Government gives the full number of the family, while the municipal census gives only that of the members of the family who actually reside in the country." Elsewhere, he adds, that on the whole the municipal statistics he furnishes are as exact as official statistics can be, and that the information they contain can be relied on, and that from the reports sent in to him, it appears that the value of taxable real estate in this province has decreased by \$2,203,412, or 1.13 per cent., that is to say, that it decreased from \$197,230,170 in 1882 to \$195,026,758 in 1883, this decrease being unquestionably attributable to emigration from the country, as was also the decrease of 34,468 acres, or 0.22 per cent in the number of acres of land subject to assessment in 1883, as compared with 1882, the latter being especially explained by the abandonment of Crown lands occupied by settlers.

So that the returns of pupils registered in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Ontario, so far as I am informed (I can only give figures from New Brunswick), indicate pretty clearly that the great object of introducing a high protective tariff, in the way of keeping our young men at home, and filling up the country with industrious settlers, has not been attained.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—Have they not gone to the North-West?

HON. MR. McCLELAN—There is considerable evidence to show that there has not been anything like the number of people entering into the North-West that has gone from the south-east. More people have moved away from the Maritime Provinces than have entered the North-West.

HON. MR. KAULBACH—There is no proof of that.

HON. MR. McCLELAN—The population of the North-West is not definitely known, but in the whole country there is not over 130,000 or 140,000 people, and judging from the small percentage of the local volunteers who are armed, and who would be the most efficient troops to subdue the unfortunate insurrection in that country, one would naturally suppose that the population had not reached beyond that estimate at any rate. When one looks at the appliances for settling that country it