

lengthy to be printed in the papers. As to the observations of my hon. friend about the work done by the members of the Northwest Council in the actual organization of the Northwest Territories, I will not say that those gentlemen who were entrusted with it have not done their duty, but I suppose that the hon. gentleman has seen from the Speech from the Throne that papers respecting Manitoba will be brought down. I can see no objection to granting the address, if the hon. gentleman will strike out the last portion of the motion, and let the two first sections stand, as they are sufficient to get the whole information needed.

Hon. Mr. GIRARD—My intention was to ask what had been done with reference to the Northwest Territories, not to extend to the Province of Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST—I do not see any grave objection to the papers being brought down, except that it will likely be a bulky correspondence, and the Committee on Printing will find it too large for publication. Some of the correspondence has no great bearing on the question, and would be of no public interest. It might be preferable if the hon. gentleman would go with my hon. friend the Secretary of State, who would no doubt show what correspondence might or might not be given in the report.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—There is a very large portion of the correspondence that cannot be of any possible interest.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER—I have no doubt that whatever the hon. gentleman wishes to have brought down will be of deep interest to the country. I cannot let this opportunity pass without acknowledging that credit is due to the Government of the day for not having availed themselves of the power given to them by Parliament last session, to throw upon the country the expense of a Government for the North West Territories. I am sure that members of both Houses will be always ready to acknowledge careful management of the finances of the country, and the Government are in this case entitled to the thanks of the country. I did not think it was wise on their part to pass that measure last session. We all know when a Government obtains power to establish a separate Government in any part of the Dominion, with corresponding patronage, that any number of claims are put in by adherents for appointments. The Senate could not take the responsibility of objecting to the measure

brought in by the Government last session, as they received the assurance that the future of the North-West was such as would warrant the expenditure, including the salary of the Lieutenant-Governor and his secretary. But the \$10,000 for such salaries was merely the first expenditure: there were to be buildings, and subsequent expenditure that was inevitable. When we reflect that the civilized population of Manitoba and the North-West is only about 35,000—equal to one of the ordinary counties in Ontario—the Government of such a territory is expensive even at present. The thanks of this House are due to the Government that they have not thrown on the country this additional expenditure, until we see much more rapid progress in the settlement of the North West. It would be totally different if the policy of the Government was a vigorous one. I have no faith that their policy will lead to the rapid settlement of that country. When they enter upon expenditures that are premature and unnecessary, and fear to undertake necessary works, I have no hope of rapid expansion and growth. If there was a more vigorous policy on the part of the Government; if they showed faith in the future of the country by constructing a through rail route from Thunder Bay to Fort Garry, we should soon see a large population flowing into that territory; and I believe this could be accomplished without increasing the public burdens; because we should find from such expenditure a proportionate increase of population and revenue.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST—The communication which my hon. friend says is so desirable is almost in existence at present. He says "if there was railway communication from Lake Superior to Manitoba, if our lakes were covered with propellers to carry immigrants, in a very short time we would have a large immigration into that country, and a Government would then be necessary." We have already large steamers on the lakes, which can carry any number of immigrants to Duluth, and there is railway communication all the way from there, except a short distance, to Fort Garry, and that it is not completed is not the fault of the Government; but this small link will be finished in the course of twelve months. I think the hon. gentleman, if he had looked at this fact, would not have discredited what he himself has said at first. I certainly have to thank the hon. gentleman for his kind remarks