

into consumption, more particularly by the rural or farming population, have increased, I will not say in value, but they have increased in price to those who have to purchase them, and for the very reason that was predicted by every man who holds opinions similar to mine, that protection does not ultimately increase the price of an article. To the extent that Canada is placed in the same position in relation to the United States as one of the States of the Union, just so in proportion will the combinations which exist in the States control and rule the markets in Canada. It has been so in by-gone days, and it is now being experienced in the article of coal oil. The stronger hold the Standard Oil Company gets of the trade of this country, the more will they increase, as time rolls round, the price of coal oil to the consumer. This is a position which I know will be combated by some hon. gentlemen opposite, but experience has taught us this fact in the past and experience will prove it to be true in the future. I am glad, with my hon. friend, to know that immigration is increasing, and I hope that ere long the whole of our vacant lands will be settled, and that this country will present to our neighbours across the line a power numerically that we do not possess to-day. But we have something to say, and the country will have something to say, as to the character of our immigrants. I believe some of them are very good. There are others who are not. Some of them are like the man who is going to be hanged: he has not been in the country long, and the probability is that three more of those assisted immigrants will follow him to the gallows. That is not the kind of immigrants we want in this country. Some of the immigrants will make good settlers, from what I can learn, and have read of them. Some of them are peaceable, industrious and frugal people. I was a little amazed, but I could not help thinking with what joy the present Minister of Commerce must have suggested this sentence in the leaders to His Excellency:

The almost total cessation of the considerable exodus of our population.

Every one knows that for years the constant theme of the hon. gentleman was, that this country was becoming depopulated. We all know that the Anglo-Saxon race is of a roaming character, and that they will move from place to place. I am glad to see, in

looking at the Trade and Navigation Returns, that a large proportion of those who left Canada, more particularly Lower Canada, are returning to their former home. I find, if I am to judge from the Trade and Navigation Returns, or the entries of the settlers' effects, that in British Columbia and in Quebec the largest portion of the immigrants have settled; but there is something that strikes me as very peculiar, and I could not help asking myself this question: Is it possible that for one whole year not a family has left this country? Now, we know, most of us, personally, that such is not the fact, and yet, if you look at the Trade and Navigation Returns for last year, you will not find an entry of a single dollar's worth of a settler's effects entered in the export list. When you examine the Trade and Navigation Returns of former years you will find among the exports that there are settlers' effects as exports from the country, and the effects of the immigrants who come into the country are entered as imports.

In the latest returns to which I have had access, which are for the year ending 30th June last, there is not a single dollar's worth of settlers' effects entered as going out of the country. If that is true it must be a source of gratification and joy to the people of Canada, but I must be permitted, with all due deference to the statistician who prepared those reports, to doubt their accuracy so far as they effect that particular item. I doubt it for the reason that I know to the contrary and that those around me know to the contrary, that there have been families leave the country, whether in great or small numbers I do not know, but I call attention to the fact that not a single entry appears under that head of exportation of settlers' effects. It may be an unintentional omission, or the entry may be made under another heading. I would be sorry to say that it was intentional, but there is the fact. In referring to the negotiations which have taken place in Washington it might be egotism if I were to say that I am not at all disappointed at the result so far as it has gone. I must express my very deep regret at the death of the two gentlemen to whom my hon. friend has referred. No one could ever have met Lord Herschell, the English representative, without being impressed, after a few minutes conversation, with the brightness of his intellect, and no one could have had half an hour's conversa-