

Shore, from French River to the Mississagua, and the Manitoulin Islands, there were about 8,800. In Central Algoma, including the settlements about the Bruce Mines, St. Joseph's Island, Sault Ste. Marie and Batchewana, there was a population of 5,700; and in Western Algoma, in the sub-district of Thunder Bay, including the Pic, Nipigon, St. Ignace, Silver Islet, and Pigeon River, about 6,900. The total population was thus 20,500, and it was fast increasing. This was a moderate estimate.

Mr. MILLER said the returns placed the population of the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts at 7,000, while it was really about 31,000.

Mr. HARDY said it was clear that the returns of births, marriages, and deaths in the new districts of the Province, where the population was sparse and scattered, could not be so satisfactorily made up as in the more thickly populated portions. His attention having now, however, been directed to the subject as it affected Algoma and Muskoka, he would endeavour to have more satisfactory arrangements made next year. On that understanding he requested the hon. member from Algoma to allow his motion to be withdrawn.

Mr. Dawson consented to withdraw his motion, and the order was discharged.

RAILWAY BONUSES.

Mr. PATTERSON (Essex) moved for an Order of the House for a return of correspondence and other papers relative to the Government aiding the townships of Anderton and Malden, and the town of Amherstburg, in the payment of the railway bonuses granted by these municipalities to the Canada Southern Railway. He said these townships had not been aided at the time of the distribution of the Municipal Loan Fund in the payment of these bonuses, and he thought they ought to be placed on the same footing as other municipalities.

Mr. MOWAT said he was not sure that there was any correspondence, but if there was it would be brought down. If the hon. gentleman's motion referred to the Municipal Loan Fund, of course that subject could not now be re-opened for consideration.

Mr. MEREDITH said the hon. member who made the motion stated that these townships had not been included in the Municipal Loan Fund scheme.

Mr. MOWAT said he could not recollect the position of the townships, but he had no doubt they received whatever aid they were entitled to under the resolutions of 1873.

The motion was carried.

NOTTAWASAGA RIVER.

Mr. LONG moved for an Order of the House for copies of all correspondence between municipalities in the county of Simcoe and the Government relating to the Nottawasaga river. He said a large quantity of valuable land was injured by a periodical overflow of this river. The difficulty could be remedied by cutting a bar in Jack's Lake, thereby making a sufficiently large outlet for the river. He hoped the Government would do something for this work.

Mr. FRASER said there was no objection to this return, but it was believed that this work was not one which the Province should undertake. It would only enhance the value of the land along the river, and the expense should be borne by the people themselves who would be benefited. He was therefore unprepared to recommend an appropriation for the work.

LICENSE COMMISSIONERS IN BRANT.

Mr. LAUDER moved for an Order of the House for a return of copies of all instructions given by the Government, or any Departmental officer, to detectives sent to the county of Brant; together with all correspondence between the Government and the License Commissioners or any of them, with the License Inspector, the County Attorney of Brant, or any magistrate, or other official in the county of Brant, relating to the enforcement of, or other matter appertaining to, the License Law in any part of the county. He understood that the License Commissioners had resigned in a body at the time these detectives went to Brant.

Mr. HARDY had no doubt that the people of Brantford would thank the hon.

gentleman for the warm interest he was taking in their welfare. The Commissioners, instead of resigning in a body, remained in office as a body—not one of them resigned; the Inspector resigned, feeling that he was unable to enforce the Dunkin Act, and another was appointed in his place. The Government did not send any detectives, but those who were promoting the enforcement of the Dunkin Act along with the Inspector brought two detectives there, which neither the Commissioners nor the Government knew anything about till after they had been there and did their work. When the matter came before the Department there was some correspondence, which would be brought down.

The motion was carried.

DEPARTMENTAL BUSINESS.

Mr. SINCLAIR moved for "Order of the House for a return from each of the Departments of the Government showing comparatively the volume of business done in such Department during each year from 1868 to 1877, inclusive. Such return to classify, so far as practicable, the business under general heads, and to state the causes of increase or decrease under each head." He said there was no doubt that the expenditure had generally increased in the several Departments, although he believed it had been generally for the benefit of the country. He thought a tabular return such as he moved for would be interesting to the House and the country, and would show how remarkably the Province had progressed.

Mr. CAMERON did not know what the hon. member meant by "the volume of business," but he had no doubt he expected to serve the interests of his friends in the Government by the motion. He (Mr. Cameron) had been studying one item—Immigration—and he found that the Government had paid \$529,000 for 133,000 immigrants during the six years they had been in power, or \$80,000 a year. The Government of Mr. Sandfield Macdonald had imported 60,000 immigrants at an expenditure of \$75,000, or that Government paid \$3 for each immigrant while the present Government had to pay \$4 for each immigrant. He was ready to give the Government credit for whatever good they had done, but he ventured to say that if there was an impartial Committee to examine into the volume of business done it would be found that the Government had not served the interests of the country.

Mr. FRASER argued that a mere bald comparison of the cost per head of bringing immigrants to the country was unfair. The circumstances of no two years were alike; the comparative inducements offered by this and other countries, and various other matters, had to be taken into account. Twelve or fifteen years ago immigrants came to this country without the necessity of the Government spending one cent to bring them. The present Government had paid bonuses to emigrants, and the cost of their carriage, which the Sandfield Macdonald Government did not pay.

Mr. MACDOUGALL (Simcoe) said it was the common custom of hon. gentlemen opposite and their friends to draw an argument from the increase of the expenditure of one year over another. He believed that the return asked for would be prepared in such a way that it would appear only to the advantage of the Government.

Mr. HARDY said the hon. gentleman seemed to think that the returns would be "cooked." They would be prepared by the deputy-heads of the different Departments, every one of whom served under the Sandfield Macdonald Government.

Mr. MACDOUGALL said these officers were not competent to prepare the returns, so that they would have to be prepared by the different chiefs.

Mr. HARDY said that made the hon. gentleman's charge worse. He proceeded to read a return of the various reports, letters, references, discharges, &c., prepared in the Provincial Secretary's Department, showing that the work had more than doubled what it was in 1871, while at the same time the license