

opposite, and I have not been able to gather any good reason for changing my views on this question. In the first place, the financial grant is a large one, it has to be paid by the Dominion, therefore every province becomes a party to the arrangement, and it is for every province to decide whether this grant is too large or not. We have been told by the new Minister of the Interior that we have lots of money. That is a very pleasant thing, but that may not always be the case, and the time will come when taxation will bear heavily on this country. Therefore, I think these financial terms should be watched very closely. I have not heard the Finance Minister deal with that part of the subject. Perhaps he has ways and means of raising money that will not embarrass us much in the near future. But this is a large question. The other provinces, I think, are getting 80 cents per head as a subsidy from the Dominion treasury. That is perhaps sufficient in Ontario, it may be sufficient for the Northwest, providing they get their land. To my mind, this course would be the better one to give them a smaller financial grant, but to give them possession of the lands, or a large portion of the lands. It appears to me that in so doing you would place where it properly belongs the responsibility for the administration of the lands. I listened to the Minister of the Interior just now, and I must say, if I followed him correctly, that he advanced a strange line of argument with regard to the land values. I understood him to make this argument, that the more lands we gave away so much more the remaining lands increase in value. That is a very strange proposition, the more of your assets you give away the more you will prize what are left—that is what his argument amounts to. The more land we give away the more we will value those that are left. Then, if we continue to give away our lands, the time will come when what we have left will be worth \$100 an acre. But would that be in the best interest of settlement? I think not. We want the lands, not only for settlers, but we want them especially for the right kind of settlers. We want them for good settlers. I believe it is very much better that we should grow solidly than that we should grow rapidly. I do not know whether the hon. Minister of the Interior admires the class of settlers that is going in there now to a very great extent or not, but I must say, that, as far as I am aware, and I believe this is the view of a great many people in Ontario, it is not the right kind of settlers that these lands are being given away to. We would rather see a better class even if we grow more slowly. Rapid growth is not the desideratum that we should strive for. We should look for quality as well as quantity. Therefore, I think the hon. gentleman, in pursuing that kind of argument, has not justified his posi-

Mr. COCKSHUTT.

tion. He made the further statement that Ontario has done nothing with her Crown lands. He says: I want to know where they have ever placed a single settler up there. I am not here as the sponsor of the Ross government. We had that government for thirty years. I did my best to turn them out and I am glad to say that we did at last get them out. They gave away vast tracts of our estate to their political friends, but there is to-day in New Ontario a large area of land left from which a good deal of revenue will accrue to us for generations to come. If these lands in the west are worth as much as it is said they are and if they were handed over the government of that country could be sustained for years and generations on them. It would seem, according to the hon. gentleman, that the people of the west should say: We will part with our inheritance, but we will take a mess of potage for it. These \$2,000,000 will be only a mess of potage as compared with the value of these lands in years to come. Just compare that with the position of a man who has fallen heir to a great estate and who, on the death of his father, says that he prefers to retire on a life annuity and refuses to take any responsibility in connection with the management of his estate. What would you say of such a man? Would you not say that he was a coward? So he would be, because he would be laying down his birthright, selling it for a mess of potage. Man is here for something more than to take an annuity and to live for ever in peaceful retirement. He should take the responsibility that falls to his lot. Why should these new provinces be put in a different position from that occupied by the other provinces? All the other provinces have their Crown lands except Manitoba. Have you any reason for making an exception in this case? They are the most competent and the best able to administer these lands. They are on the spot. If there is anything wrong in connection with the administration of these lands these people are in the best position to make it right. They are the people to say what class of settlers they want in that country. They may say: We will take them a little slower but we will get the right kind. We will take the kind that will be a big boon to the country, that will build straight and true and right and if they do that they will not regret the policy of a little slower growth, of more solid growth, but of growth on right lines. Look at the great United States to the south of us. All that is best in that great republic came from that first little band of settlers who landed on Plymouth Rock. They are the people who laid the corner stone and set the foundation of that great republic. All that is truest and best in the United States to-day has descended from that little band of settlers that came out from