

up the question of advocating an Imperial guarantee for the amount of 3,000,000 sterling for the construction of the Intercolonial Railway, and which I carried to a successful conclusion in 1863, and Mr. Gladstone did me the honour to inform a prominent member of the House of Commons that it was the result of work—which I performed—which led the Government to agree to recommend Parliament to give the guarantee as based upon the Treasury minute of 1863.

“Confederation (in the words of Lord Durham) without the Intercolonial Railway was practically impossible; with it, would be absolutely necessary.” The construction of the Intercolonial Railway, therefore, having been secured by me, all other questions of Confederation were simply matters of detail. It took the Provinces some time, however, to arrange these matters of detail, but in 1867 they were so far completed that they sent delegates to England who took up the railway at the point to which I had brought it, and the whole measure was passed through Parliament “as a matter of course.” Then commenced a prolific distribution of honours by the Crown, in the form of Baronetcies, Knighthoods, K.C.B.’s, and C.B.’s, to certain English and Canadian gentlemen, for services rendered to “Confederation and the Intercolonial Railway.” And in Canada the patronage was carried to such an extent that the two men who caused the downfall of the Commercial Bank of Canada—viz., G. J. Brydges and C. S. Ross—were rewarded by one being made a Commissioner and the other Secretary and Treasurer to the Intercolonial Railway. But I, who had devoted five years of the best portion of my life and expended £10,000 in carrying the Intercolonial Railway guarantee to a successful conclusion, have been refused even a hearing, because, in the words of three members of the Government, I have “ventured to tell the truth about the Grand Trunk Railway.” But fortunately I do not stand alone as the victim of ingratitude, for the Chairman of the Intercolonial Railway Commissioners, addressing a public meeting in Canada on the 18th day of January last, announced the following as their policy towards the manufac-