

million dollars to be subscribed was to be paid by the American capitalists, and not by Sir Hugh Allan. This, too, was a rather strange arrangement.

It was said in several parts of the evidence that there was an understanding in Parliament that no Americans should be admitted as members of the Company, but the two Acts passed incorporating the Companies do not bear out this assertion for they contain a provision not to exclude foreigners altogether, but that a majority of the Directors must be British subjects. Of course the whole Parliament was responsible for these Bills, but it seemed to him that if the Government had been so anxious to exclude the Americans, they missed the only opportunity of showing it.

It was a very remarkable thing that when Sir George-É. Cartier left Ottawa for Montreal and Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald for Toronto, it seemed to have been the last subject of conversation how they could get money to carry the elections. (*Cheers.*) And it appeared from evidence that the first suggestion about money came from the First Minister. (*Cheers.*) It did not appear that the application was made, however, until the arrangements were about to be made concerning the Pacific Railway matter. It seemed to be the ambition of Sir Hugh Allan to be the head of this Company, and on the 26th of July the First Minister took the responsibility of telegraphing him that the matter could be arranged to his satisfaction.

He adverted to the various communications that passed between the First Minister and Sir Hugh Allan, and said he believed that the member for Bruce South (Hon. Mr. Blake) had some grounds for supposing that there was a more definite agreement arrived at than had been made public. He also stated his belief that the signing of the money letter and the Railway letter by Sir George Cartier was part and parcel of the same transaction. It was stated that one of these documents had been withdrawn by the First Minister, when he came to learn its contents, but the member of Bruce South had contended, and the member for Cardwell (Hon. Mr. Cameron) had not been able to dispute the points of that contention, that it was not the agreement that was withdrawn, but the letter of Sir Hugh Allan and Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald. In further proof of the assertion that this agreement was not withdrawn, he pointed to the letters of Sir Hugh Allan of the 6th and 7th of July to his American associates.

He went on to argue that Sir Hugh Allan attached great importance to securing the Presidency of the Company, and it was established that he got the promise of the Presidency before he began to pay out money. He pointed out that notwithstanding the assertions that the agreement had been withdrawn, the letter of Sir Hugh Allan to the Interoceanic Company, written on the 5th of September, contained the self-same propositions with reference to amalgamation, which were embodied in that agreement, and added that the arrangement had received the sanction of the Government. It appeared quite clear that the Interoceanic Company had good reason to have some suspicion of the connection in which Sir Hugh Allan stood to the American capitalists, and when Sir Hugh Allan

was asked before the Royal Commission whether the agreement had been carried out or not, his reply was that it had been carried out as far as possible.

He drew attention to the fact that while the charter made provision for preventing undue influence falling into the hands of Sir Hugh Allan while the present Board existed, it had to be remembered that this Board was but a Provisional Board, and that the charter contained no such provision with reference to the permanent Board subsequently to be elected. (*Hear, hear.*)

He contended that the carrying of the elections by the influence of money was a subversion of the rights of the people. (*Cheers.*) And no matter whether the charges of sectionalism brought against the people of Ontario by the Ministers were founded in fact or not, nothing could justify the subversions of popular rights by any corrupt influence whatever. The admission made by the member for Pictou (Hon. Mr. McDonald) was rather an extra-ordinary one, especially as coming from one of the supporters of the Government. In the face of that fact, the Government refused last session to pass a more stringent election law.

He considered that the practice of spending money at elections ought to be put down with a high hand, and if the charges of expenditure which had been thrown broadcast against gentlemen on the Opposition benches were proved to be true, he was ready to vote for their expulsion. He did not believe that the people of Ontario were antagonistic to the people of the smaller provinces, and he considered the manner in which Ministerialists had brought this matter forward, was an evidence on their part of the worst sort of sectionalism, (*cheers*) but even if he did believe that the great central province entertained opinions that were at variance with the interests of the other provinces, and even if the influence of that province was sufficient to place the destinies of the others at its mercy, that was a matter which would soon right itself; at any rate it could never be righted by corrupting the electors with money.

He was therefore prepared to do his duty so far as the facts before him pointed that duty out; for these reasons he intended to vote for the amendment of the member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie). (*Cheers.*) The result of this vote, whichever way it might go, was one which at present claimed the attention of the whole world, and which would exercise a lasting influence upon the political morality and property of this country. (*Loud cheers.*) There were many appeals made to them as members of the outlying Provinces to vote for the Government. They were told to vote for the Government. They were told that the Opposition from Ontario were opposed to the interests of these Provinces, and that but for the Government Prince Edward Island would not have been today in the Confederation. He did not believe it.

It was quite true that the Government had been the means of bringing in that Province, but in so doing they were only acting in accordance with the will of the people of this country. (*Loud cheers.*) He stated the reasons for which Prince Edward Island had refused to come in at the beginning. They wanted to see how the