

commerce than Halifax, and still places like Montreal and St. John, without its natural advantages, go ahead of it and take its trade and throw it into the shade. The merchants of Halifax do nothing for their city—nothing to turn its fine advantages to account, but think the Government must do everything for them. More than that, they think Halifax is all Nova Scotia. No odds how the province at large feels or fares, they think Halifax is everything, and their selfish spirit is well illustrated to-night by the demand which is made to have the training ship established there. That city has got more benefit from the expenditure of twenty-two millions of dollars on the Intercolonial Railway than any other city in Canada.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Not at all.

Hon. Mr. MILLER (continued)—And if you expended twenty-two millions more on it, they would not be satisfied; they would not think you discharged your obligation to them; whereas I think the Dominion has discharged its duty fully to Halifax. The Government has honestly endeavored to discharge its duty to every part of the country, and especially to Halifax. The hon. Senator (Mr. Power) has read extracts from the speeches made by Halifax merchants at a meeting recently held in that city. Of course, the Halifax merchants would be delighted to get what they want, Conservative and Radical. They are all alike on that point; they are all tarred with the same stick; they all think that the Government should do everything for them and neglect every other part of Nova Scotia. But, why were not these extreme pretensions of the city of Halifax put forward when the hon. gentleman's friends were in power. The present Government have done more for Halifax than the late Government did.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Not at all.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon. He knows that they did. He knows that this Government have offered to purchase and ship two cargoes of grain over the Intercolonial Railway at a very low rate, as an experiment to test the feasibility of making Halifax a grain-shipping port.

*Hon. Mr. Miller.*

They offered not only to ship it at 5 cts. lower, and over the Riviere-du-Loup extension besides, than the late Administration did, and they have offered, as I have said, to buy the grain themselves, an experiment which ought to be tested and made by the people of Halifax themselves. Besides, this Government has largely increased the railway shipping facilities of Halifax. As a specimen also of the want of candour with which these claims of Halifax are attempted to be urged against the Government—a Government which has done all that it could reasonably be asked to do towards making Halifax the winter port of Canada—the hon. gentleman lately wrote a letter to a public meeting at Halifax, insisting that the Government should give a graving dock to Halifax, contending that Halifax had as much right to one as Quebec or Esquimaux. The inference which the hon. gentleman desired the public to draw was that this Government was building a graving dock at Quebec and one in British Columbia under the usual conditions of public expenditure. The hon. gentleman ought to know, and he does know—he is too intelligent not to know—that the British Columbia graving dock was part of the agreement on which that Province entered the Union, and Parliament pledged itself to the construction of the dock there. Then, again, with reference to the graving dock at Quebec, Halifax could get one on the same terms to-morrow if they would do the same as Quebec has done. It is paid for by Quebec, and not by the Government. Such statements leave an impression upon the public mind which is not warranted by the facts, which a man occupying a high public position should be careful not to create. So far as the just claims of Halifax are concerned, I shall be as ready to support them as the hon. member for Halifax, whose manner and style of advocating the claims of his city are better calculated to arouse the hostility of the whole Dominion against Halifax than to serve its interests. But when anything unreasonable is attempted to be forced upon Parliament by Halifax, or any other place, I shall, without regard to sectional considerations, give it my opposition. The question of the winter port is one that has