

public meeting; these terms, as it would appear, having been already arranged; and I must say that everything points to something having been said, done, and talked over between the 30th of July and the 6th of August, which we have not yet heard of, because on the 6th and 7th of August the letters of Sir Hugh speak of an agreement yesterday, and on the 9th you find Sir Hugh speaking at a public meeting.

Had the arguments of Ministers, and the effect of their great policy, prevailed upon him? Did he, from motives of patriotism, think it was his duty to rise up and support the party who had done so much for the country? Was he swayed by the arguments of the First Minister with reference to Nova Scotia and Manitoba, and the other Provinces which he had brought into the Union; or did he come out and speak because he had learned of the earnest and patriotic desire of the Ministers to uphold British connection, which is their only object in holding their places? (*Laughter and cheers.*) Had these virtues, as sometimes happens with an old man, as sometimes happens with a man of such deep-seated convictions as Sir Hugh Allan, persuaded him of the error of his ways, and caused him to come out and support Sir George-É. Cartier, whom he had but a few days before bitterly, so effectively, opposed.

Let me read you his words on the hustings, at Montreal on the 9th August, at Sir George Cartier's nomination, as he was reported in one of the Montreal papers. "You are aware," he says, "that two rival Companies have been contending for the contract to build the Pacific Railroad. The policy of the Government is to have these two Companies amalgamated, and then to give the contract to the Company thus formed." Sir, you observe that in the meantime it was stated that there would probably be an amalgamation, and at any rate it was better to leave to the Company the consideration of what was to be done after amalgamation had taken place.

He goes on to say, "The terminus to be at or near Nipissing, and arrangements are in progress for the construction of a branch from there to Hull, where it will join the Northern Colonization Railway, thus virtually bringing the terminus of the Pacific Railroad to the east end of the city of Montreal. Measures to secure this amalgamation are already in progress. Your representative, Sir George-É. Cartier, coincides with me on all these points, and in the basis of arrangement, which he has agreed to, and commends to his *confrères* in the country. On the Pacific Railroad question they have been carefully kept in view." Sir, this is a public declaration, and alongside of Sir George-É. Cartier by Sir Hugh Allan, who it appears had undergone a change of feeling, so far as Sir George was concerned; that the basis of an arrangement had been arrived at between them, which the latter had agreed to, and commended to his *confrères*. But he says still further—of course you know that it is only the basis of an arrangement that has been arrived at—"but I am satisfied that if the views expressed by Sir George-É. Cartier are adopted by the Government, as from their reasonable nature there is every reason to expect they will, the interests of this city and Lower Canada will be secured, while, at the same time, every consideration is given to all the other Provinces in the Dominion. I think no time should be lost in getting the contract prepared, and

signed as soon as the Government can meet. I have every reason to be satisfied with what Sir George has done, and I believe the results will be approved by all.

A speaker at one of the political meetings in this city last week, ventured to insinuate that in my negotiations with your representative, I was contending for the interests of the lines of steamship with which I am connected, as much as for the railroad. This statement is entirely void of truth. (*Opposition cheers.*) I assure you, gentlemen, that the subject of steamship or mail contract never was alluded to in any of these discussions, directly or indirectly, and I appeal to Sir George-É. Cartier himself to confirm the statement I now make—that I have made no attempt in any way to connect the Steamship Company or its vessels with the subject discussed. The railroad, and that alone, has been under consideration." (*Cheers.*)

I am afraid, Sir, I am obliged to retract some of the observations I made with reference to the questions of high public policy which induced the conversion of Sir Hugh Allan. I am afraid I recollected it incorrectly, and I am afraid that at the time my friend Sir Hugh Allan was not animated by those considerations, but by the consideration, how am I to get the contract of the Pacific Railway, or the Presidency of the Pacific Railway Company. (*Cheers.*) But as it was he got nothing. (*Hear, hear.*)

Was the Presidency as nothing? Was the basis of agreement as nothing? (*Hear, hear.*) Let us look at that. What did the contending party think of it; what did Mr. Macpherson think of it? Did he think it was nothing; that it was all the same whether he was at one end of the thirteen gentlemen or the other? Did he think that the President would have no more influence, no more weight than his personal position would give him at the Board, and that if not President Sir Hugh Allan would exercise the same influence? He thought nothing of the kind; everything shows that the question of the Presidency was the vital question. (*Hear, hear.*) It was what Sir Hugh Allan wanted; it was what Mr. Macpherson did not want him to get, and what he was determined he should not have. (*Cheers.*) Was it anything or was it nothing? What was Sir Hugh Allan doing before he got that offer? What did he agree to do in consideration of that offer? (*Cheers.*) And what has he done on account of that offer? (*Cheers.*)

Sir, as I have said, it was in consideration of that offer, and not until he came to an arrangement with the Government by which he was assured of that offer, that he turned round and supported them, and furnished them with a large sum of money to corrupt the electors of this country. (*Cheers.*) And yet hon. gentlemen will have us believe that it was nothing at all. It is enough for us to know that Sir Hugh Allan and the Government thought it was something; that it was held out to him; that he got his terms, and gave his price. (*Cheers.*)

Look at the contract; what was his bargain? It was one which was of importance sufficient to induce him to vote an expenditure of extraordinary sums of money. But does he intend to pay that money