

largely interested in matters in which I was a trustee, and also many of my friends were very largely interested in the condition of the bank. I attended every meeting that took place, and I knew, as I believe every one in the country knew, that the hon. member from Saugeen was a director, but we were all anxious because we felt that unless something was gained—some large sum was gained from this debt due by the Grand Trunk Railway—that we might be in the position of being called upon to answer under the double liability clause. Everything was therefore watched, and watched closely, and I took a great deal of pains at the time to inform myself, as I was, as I said, largely interested for others. I remember, so far as my memory can reach back for so many years, the transactions tolerably well and I remember distinctly, for it was understood at the time, that this draft was fully settled, and fortunately for us settled, because otherwise we would have been called upon to pay under the double liability clause. I did not feel sure of details, and I wrote to a gentleman whom I know in Toronto, who has been my broker for years and stands as high as any man in the whole Province of Ontario for probity, and as a well informed and thorough business man, and who was at one time, after the failure of the bank, appointed an inspector. He had peculiar facilities for gaining thorough knowledge of all that took place in the bank. Desiring to see how far my memory was borne out I wrote to him on the subject. I scarcely expected that a man of his habits would be likely to speak, unless he had the books by him, in detail of the matters I wrote to him upon, but I did expect, and I received the letter which the Minister of Justice has read, and which fully, so far as it went, confirmed my own recollection. My recollection went beyond his, for I remember distinctly that it was spoken of and understood by those who were seriously interested in the condition of the bank, that that bill was fully and entirely settled. The hon. gentleman from Woodstock was lately in my part of the country, and I am very glad that he was there before he taking those proceedings, for that part of the country, the old District of Saugeen, sent the Minister of the Interior to the Senate, and there are thousands and thousands of

people, particularly his own countrymen in the District of Saugeen, that would have looked with much disfavor upon the hon. gentleman who impugned one whom they so thoroughly and so deservedly respect. The Highlander comes of a gallant and noble race. He scorns everything that is mean and unmanly. He scorns insinuations, and I think they would have scarcely failed to see that there is much of what was personal and unfair in the attack of the hon. gentleman from Woodstock upon the two gentlemen that he selected for attack. I looked at it with all the calmness I could command, and the whole of his remarks seemed to be pointed against these gentlemen, and not for the purpose of serving the country. Now the Highlander, as I said, is a gallant man and scorns what is mean; but he has no astuteness, and I think he would have failed to distinguish the position of the hon. gentleman from Woodstock. He would fail to perceive that a gentleman speaking in this House and elsewhere has two distinct entities: that is that he could say in this House what he would not venture to say elsewhere. They would be very apt to resent it, not that the hon. gentleman need feel any alarm about coming to the Division: he will be perfectly safe so far as his person is concerned. The Highlander in Canada is a peace-loving man, one that respects the law, and the days of the skein dhu have happily passed away; but they would feel with me, and every hon. gentleman in this House will feel with me that there are wounds more grievous than the knife can inflict, when a man conscious of integrity finds his honor assailed. I regret that this motion should ever have been brought forward by a gentleman of culture. I regret the allusions which he made, allusions which can here find no response, to speak of men's large houses, of their equipages and liveries. Surely he could find no response in this hon. House to such appeals. In another arena he would have pointed them out as bloated aristocrats. Now, that such arguments should be tolerated in this House I cannot understand. I do hope, even yet, that the hon. gentleman will withdraw this resolution, which can serve no good purpose and can in no way promote the public good. It relates