

informed them—Sir Hugh Allan and Mr. McMullen—that unless the American project was laid aside, it would be useless to attempt to carry out their enterprise. I met them both frequently afterwards.

*Question*—You have seen Mr. McMullen's published letter of July ?

*Answer*—Yes.

*Question*—Do you remember the statements made with respect to the payments of, or promises of sums of money ?

*Answer*—I don't remember sufficiently well what promise you refer to.

*Question*—The first is, that Sir Hugh Allan announced to Mr. Smith and Mr. McMullen that \$8,500 had been lent to Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Francis Hincks ?

*Answer*—I know nothing whatever of that.

*Question*—It also speaks of \$50,000 which Sir Hugh Allan said it was necessary to pay to Sir Francis Hincks ?

*Answer*—I never heard of that, except in the newspapers.

*Question*—Did you ever hear Sir Hugh Allan mention either of these sums, or that they were expected by the parties to whom they were given ?

*Answer*—No, never.

*Question*—Then the letter says : "In addition to the payments spoken of, Mr. Abbott was authorized to promise Mr. Langevin \$25,000 to aid in the elections about Quebec, on condition of his friendly assistance, and Mr. Abbott reported that he had done so ?"

*Answer*—As regards that I think it is necessary to make a statement. In the first place the statement in that form is entirely untrue ; but it is quite true that I had a conversation, early in the Session with Mr. Langevin about the expenses incurred in the elections at Quebec. Mr. Langevin mentioned to me that at the previous general elections he had been obliged to expend a very considerable sum of money, not very large in itself, but large comparatively, and he said he did not think it fair that the burden of those elections should rest entirely on him. He said he thought he ought to have a share of any funds subscribed in Montreal for election purposes to assist in Quebec, which he had not had in previous elections, and that they could not expect much of a subscription from Quebec to help the Government. I agreed with him in thinking that it was unfair that he should bear the burden of the Quebec elections, and I told him that in so far as I could have any influence in the matter I would try that he should have a portion of any fund which might be got up in Montreal for general election purposes. Talking over matters—and I think it is this that Mr. McMullen speaks of—it came out in conversation that probably the elections would cost in the District of Quebec, irrespective of his own, a sum of \$25,000 or \$30,000. I told him that as far as I could influence the matter I would endeavor to get something like that amount allotted to the District of Quebec. That is what took place between Mr. Langevin and myself. I did not at that time make any allusion to the position of the Canada Pacific and its charter. I knew Mr. Langevin was a strong Lower Canadian, and I thought that his friends were all in favor of arranging the Pacific matter in such a way that there should be direct communication with the seaboard at Quebec and Montreal ; and I assumed that in any matter in which he could support the views of the Lower Canadians he would do so, and we did not wish anything more. I never said anything more ; I never reported that I had made any arrangement with Mr. Langevin ; though, no doubt, I did mention it to Sir Hugh Allan, that if we got up a fund, Mr. Langevin should have a part of it to the extent of \$25,000.

*Question*—Did you communicate this to Mr. McMullen ?

*Answer*—It is not likely that I would do so ; though Mr. McMullen appears to have become aware of it. But there has been so much spying and betrayal of private documents and abstraction of private letters in the course of this affair, that it is impossible to say how Mr. McMullen became possessed of it.

*Question*—I do not understand you ?

*Answer*—I mean that nearly if not all the papers published in the press relating to this Pacific affair have been obtained by illegal if not criminal means. For instance, the