

Donald A. Smith, Henry Stafford Northcote, Pascoe du P. Grenfell, London; Charles D. Rose of London, and Baron J. de Reinach, of Paris, were men possessed of great wealth and abundant resources to undertake such a work. Some of these men had been engaged in the construction of a similar work through a prairie country and in the sale and settlement of lands. The late Finance Minister drew attention to the fact that, eminent as were the positions of these gentlemen, there was no guarantee that they would remain in the work. He assumed that they would, under the contract, put a gigantic operation on the market, and sell out, at an advantage of several millions to themselves, and having divided a fortune amongst themselves, they would disappear and that we had no guarantee whatever for anyone of these parties remaining in the work and devoting to it the skill, the enterprise and the energy which they possessed. But what do we find after a year has passed? We find every one of these gentlemen to the fore; we find that, just as I said a year ago, they are regarding their operations with Minnesota and Dakota as comparatively trivial compared with the construction of this enormous work in the North-West. We find that these gentlemen, instead of transferring their headquarters to St. Paul and creating this a subsidiary work, to that railway, as was feared by the hon. mover of this resolution, have not done so; and Mr. Angus, who had removed from Montreal and was resident at St. Paul, has changed his quarters, returning to Montreal in order that he might give his whole and undivided attention and great financial ability to dealing with this work. We find, Sir, that this Company instead of transferring their headquarters as the hon. member for West Elgin—between whom and myself there was a rather unpleasant misunderstanding in relation to something which the hon. gentleman said on the subject a year ago—feared, his fears are entirely disposed of; and that although one of these gentlemen who is the manager of that railway and also lived in St. Paul and lives there still, and manages the railway, he devotes his time to sending handbills of the most attractive character all over this and all other countries for the purpose of showing that the most attractive wheat field in the world is to be found north of the Boundary Line instead of in Dakota and Minnesota. Mr. Angus has gone to Montreal and this Company has invested in 200 acres of land in Montreal to be used for their headquarters, and great machine shops and everything of this kind, costing \$150,000 and paying £83,000 more for their general offices, or an expenditure already at their headquarters of