

upon, they should take care that the capitalists of England are not imposed upon by such misstatements as these. If the Government find, as they have found, and as the country has discovered, that this Company with its high sounding title of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company is a sham, it is their duty to inform the capitalists of the world of the fact. They should lose no time in telegraphing the financial agents of the Dominion that such is the case. I believe that if this had occurred ten or fifteen years ago resolutions would have been passed by both Houses of Parliament before this document had been many days in the country, calling on the Government, if they failed to do so themselves, to correct these misstatements, and not expose the country to any thing so discreditable as this. Suppose capitalists should be deluded by such statements into advancing money on this work. Would they not have a moral claim on this country, and a moral claim on a nation cannot be resisted. I hope the hon. Postmaster General will be able to reply to my first inquiry, that the Government have taken, or will immediately take, steps to relieve the country of the responsibility which now does attach to it by those statements made in the prospectus of the Canada Pacific Railway. (Hear, hear.) My question reads thus:

Whether the Government has taken any and what steps to correct the misrepresentations contained in the prospectus issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, dated London, 3rd April, 1873; and especially to correct the important misstatement that stock in the said company to the amount of \$10,000,000 had been subscribed in the several Provinces of the Dominion, as follows:

In the Province of Ontario . . .	\$3,846,000
" " " Quebec . . .	3,076,800
" " " Nova Scotia	769,300
" " " N. Brunswick	769,300
" " " Manitoba . .	769,300
" " " B Columbia	769,300

implicitly alleging, contrary to well-established facts, that the said stock was subscribed or is now held, *bona fide*, by persons able to pay the same, if called upon to do so, in the usual manner.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—I shall not follow my honorable friend into the remarks which he has made on this occasion, and in which he has pushed to the extreme the latitude which is allowed by the House, of prefacing a question only by such remarks as are necessary to explain it to the House. The hon. gentleman has all along occupied a peculiar position with regard to this matter, and therefore, I suppose,

he is to some extent to be excused for his course, and I imagine that people will understand his motives. He has read apparently from a newspaper, certain statements about the Pacific Railway scheme, a prospectus or something of the kind.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—Are they not known?

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—I do not know. I have not seen the prospectus or the newspaper, or any report in any of the English journals. I have not seen it in its original shape, nor in the columns of any English newspaper. I do not desire to follow the honorable gentleman into the merits of this document. The charter granted by the Government, under the authority of Parliament, is in England, and every person, undoubtedly, who desires to take any shares, or have anything to do with the company will have an opportunity of examining the charter. My reply to the question which the hon. gentleman put is, that the Government has no knowledge of, and is in no way responsible for the statements which may have been made in the prospectus of the Canada Pacific Railway Company. So far as regards the statements specially referred to, they are in accordance with the facts, as I am informed.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—My next inquiry has reference to the \$500,000 which has been asked by the Government in the supplementary estimates, for the purpose of prosecuting surveys of this railway. We know that by the charter the Company is required not only to prosecute surveys for the time that they have obtained the charter, but to reimburse the Government for their expenditure in this work. The Company has been chartered for several months. Then, surely, if they are going to enter on the work at all, which they ought to be prepared to do before the 1st of July, they are required by their charter to commence by the 22nd or 23rd of July the actual construction of the work; it would be very strange in the Government to ask for this sum of \$500,000 to be expended subsequently to the 1st of July next. On first seeing this item, I took it for granted that the Government had come to the conclusion which almost every person in the country has arrived at—that the Canada Pacific Company has failed, and will not be able to prosecute the undertaking for which it was chartered, and the Government, not intending that a year should be lost, had asked Parliament for this sum, to enable the Government itself to proceed with the work. I hope this is