

transportation of his wheat crop to the seaboard of Europe which they ought to be bound to give? We are parting with a privilege which is immensely important and immensely valuable. I am not proposing to assert on my own authority that the Canadian Pacific Road propose to create a monopoly. I am far from asserting that. But I say there should be in the future conduct of the road a greater degree of liberality towards the settler upon the wheat lands of Manitoba in regard to the facilities of shipment than they have hitherto shown. I have only this evening seen that in the Dominion Parliament it is proposed that an outlet to the ocean should be gained by the purchase of the North Shore Railway from the Grand Trunk. That is only another evidence that nothing but a trans-continental highway will satisfy the Canadian Pacific Road, and I hope that in the future the legislation of the Dominion Government may be of such a character as to circumscribe to some extent the vast operations of the Canadian Pacific Road.

Mr. ALEXANDER BEGG: I will say but a few words in reply to the points on which Mr. Hall has touched. It seems he has not had the latest information from Canada. According to the latest news, the Canadian Pacific Railway intend to carry wheat from the North-West to Montreal at a rate of from 25 to 28 cents a bushel, which, considering the distance, is very much below the rate of any other road on the North American continent. (Hear, hear.) I might make an estimate showing how the farmers can send their wheat to the seaboard at a profit. It must be borne in mind, in making this estimate, that the prices of wheat during the past year have been exceptionally low. To be within the mark, we may take the value of a bushel at Montreal—the shipping port to this side—at one dollar, or say four shillings. The freight charged from Winnipeg to Manitoba would be 28 cents, including storage and other charges. Thus, the farmer in the North-West receives 70 cents per bushel for wheat at Montreal. At 30 bushels to the acre, the return to the farmer would thus be, for an acre of wheat, 21 dollars. The cost of the raising of wheat in the North-West is agreed to be 7 dollars per acre, so that there would be a net profit of 14 dollars per acre, or 2*l*. 18*s*. 4*d*. (Hear, hear.) It is only this year that such facilities for transport have been offered. I may add that the completion of the line over the north shore of Lake Superior will give an alternative outlet, with increased benefit to the farmers. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN: When, a few hours ago, the honorary secretary did me the honour of asking me to take the chair, I felt very much inclined to say with the poet—

And must the lyre, so long divine,  
Degenerate into hands like mine?

My only qualification is, as I dare say Mr. Young knew, that I am an ardent lover of Canada. I spent ten years in command of a regiment in that good country, and the recollection of the loyalty