

I think it was due to myself under the hon. gentleman's challenge to vindicate my former assertions in respect to what seems to be a persistent intention to misrepresent the condition of the North-West and of its settlers. I have before me many more extracts from the *Globe*, in support of my position which would take up too much time to read, and I have already trespassed on the patience of the House. At least fifty such attacks as I have noticed have been published in that paper within the six months, all bearing upon and corroborating my statement. During October, November and December, they appeared almost daily. I would not have ventured to address the House this afternoon had I not known that there was no other business before it, and that I should occupy time that would not interfere with the public business. But the hon. gentleman challenged me, and when a statement was made on the other side of the House with regard to the Canadian Pacific Railway rates, I felt that those statements required to be corrected; and the House will see that I have shown that a great political newspaper in this Province and its echoes have taken advantage of every opportunity either by indirection, by innuendo, by insinuation or by direct attack to decry or oppose the progress and settlement of the invaluable heritage of Canada; and also to impede and if possible thwart the operations of the railway which has been making such progress towards opening up that country, and ruin its credit. Within the last two or three days we heard—I will not say exactly how or where, because I cannot refer to a previous debate—an echo of the *Globe* in a statement made on the floor of this House to the effect that a large number of settlers were going to Dakota. It is but a few days ago that the newspaper to which I have referred asserted that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, not satisfied with the advance which had been made to it, had applied to the Government, took it by the throat and demanded another \$5,000,000. It was circumstantially stated, and stated in a way that was calculated to injure seriously, if not to ruin the financial standing of the Company, and although it failed of its intended effect, it was quoted by the "Bear" interest in Wall street and everywhere else where people

were speculating in Canada Pacific Railway stock. The assertion of the *Globe* was that Mr. Stephen, the President, and Mr. Drinkwater, the Secretary of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company were here last week and had an interview with Sir John Macdonald in which they imperatively demanded the loan. At the time Mr. Stephen was in Montreal preparing to go to England, and he actually sailed on Saturday. In the meantime, before his departure, he published a full denial of every statement in the article in question, and it has been denied by a Minister on the floor of Parliament. I wish to call the attention of hon. gentlemen to the fact, to show what reliance can be placed on the statements of a leading journal which lends itself to the promulgation of falsehoods for which it can give no shadow of excuse or justification and, as in this instance, when the falsehood is exposed and refuted, no explanation or apology has been given. Such a course is an insult to its readers and to the public. The hon. gentleman from Halifax, in constituting himself the champion of that portion of the Opposition press which has been hostile to the settlement of the North-West, gave me a fair opportunity to make a statement which I intended to be an exhaustive one, and I believe I have made it so.

I must apologize for having taken up so much time, but everything I have stated has been based upon authority which is authentic in every way, and I shall hand in the memorandum which I have read in regard to comparative freight rates, which I consider most important, to have placed in the record. Dr. Tanner's contradictions of the statement of the *Globe* respecting the conditions of the lands on the Pacific Railway I shall also hand to the reporter; I beg to submit that it is a sufficient refutation of the statement that the original route for the road as located by the Mackenzie Government was a better one than that which now passes through the richer and better settled portion of Manitoba and the fertile belt of the North-West, to state that it reaches the invaluable coal districts of Calgary and Bow River, and I thank the hon. gentleman from Halifax for having unintentionally, no doubt, given me this opportunity.