

In its usual autocratic and arrogant style of self-assumed infallibility, the *Toronto Monetary Times* declares that "there can be no real necessity for a second railway to do the business of Manitoba for some time to come." Now that the great oracle hath spoken, why should Manitobans further agitate for a second railway? The *Monetary Times* says we have no need of another road, and surely that journal would not lie about it. The *Times* undoubtedly knows far more about the situation here and the requirements of the province than we benighted Manitobans possibly can. Let us at once yield to this superior authority and cease our crying for this railway double, which would prove a worthless toy once in our possession.

THE C.P.R. vice-president gave himself away badly when he declared in reference to the building of branch railways in Manitoba, that "in the past the bonds necessary to build branch lines had to be negotiated personally by Sir George Stephen and Sir Donald A. Smith. Practically speaking, they had built the extensions with their own money, and they feel that they would be hardly justified in going further at present." The *Winnipeg Sun* brings the company a terrific slap in the face when it points out that Manitoba furnished the funds to build the branch lines, or rather gave the company the means of raising the funds for that purpose, by guaranteeing the bonds. This statement of Van Horne's is probably about as truthful as is the report that two C.P.R. directors are \$100,000 per year poorer from their connection with the company. The *Sun* adds: "Of course, the bonds were negotiated by the personal efforts of the directors, and, equally, of course, they pocketed the difference of upwards of two millions between the cost of the branches and the price realized by the bonds, the provincial aid, and the sale of their land grant."

THE *Montreal Trade Bulletin* is the staunch friend of Manitoba on this disallowance question. The *Bulletin* has always waged war against monopoly and unprincipled dealings, whether found in high or low estate, and when it strikes it hits from the shoulder. That famous telegram of Sir Stephen's has furnished this fearless journal with a new cue, and it is made use of to handle the great C.P.R. magnate without gloves. The *Bulletin* calls upon Winnipeg to ignore the despot's threats, and adds: "As far as Winnipeg is concerned, she has developed into too big and important a centre to need fear the menaces of the wealthy baronet. If Sir George is wise in his generation, he will apologise for his unwarranted insult to the Premier of Manitoba, and do all in his power to court the good will of the people of the Northwest instead of provoking their enmity. The man who supposes that the Canadian Pacific can afford to slight the interests of Winnipeg is worse than a fool." In regard to the threat of moving the shops to Fort William, the *Bulletin* says: "Let him remove them, and we venture to say that the C.P.R. will eventually be the sufferer and not Winnipeg." There is more force than elegance of expression in these remarks. The C.P.R. undoubtedly has it within its power to do great injury to Winnipeg, but the power to do injury is not confined to the company alone. If the retaliatory mea-

sures proposed by the C.P.R. against the city are carried out, it would devolve upon our merchants to refuse to do business with the company. Under such circumstances the arrival of a competing line here would soon deprive the C.P.R. of its Winnipeg business. About this time the shoe would commence to pinch on the other foot, and the great monopoly would probably discover that it had done itself tenfold injury in attempting to wreak vengeance upon this city.

WHAT seems to annoy Winnipeg most in connection with the disallowance debate at Ottawa, was Mr. Scarth's denial that he had intimated during the election contest here that he had received private assurances from Sir John Macdonald to the effect that disallowance would not be further exercised. Everyone in this city during the election campaign was going on, is well aware that intimations to that effect were frequently made, both on the platform and in conversation. In fact Mr. Scarth's case almost entirely rested on pretensions of this nature. There was much talk about certain mysterious telegrams received in cipher by the prospective M.P., from Sir John A. Macdonald, and though these telegrams were never given in their entirety to the public, yet it was boldly declared that they were of such a nature as to fully satisfy the most ardent opponents of disallowance. The city was placarded with posters proclaiming the supposed context of these telegrams, and the people were invited to "vote for Scarth and secure the Grand Trunk into Winnipeg by July," together with many similar announcements. In this way the people were led to believe that the Government had determined upon discontinuing the policy of disallowance. Either there was something in these intimations at the time or there was not. If there was any real foundation for the belief which was made general in Winnipeg at the time of the elections, Mr. Scarth's denial now can only be given to shield the Government or some of its members. If there was nothing in them, then Mr. Scarth and his friends who sought by every means in their power to spread such a belief, were guilty of the blackest outrage which was ever perpetrated upon a people. In either case Mr. Scarth is culpable, and should be made to feel the vengeance which such double dealing deserves.

NOTWITHSTANDING that all the Territorial members voted with the Government against Mr. Watson's motion it must not be taken that the feeling in the Territories is against Manitoba on the disallowance question. On the contrary almost every expression of opinion coming from the Territories has been of sympathy with this province in the struggle against monopoly. The people there recognize fully that their only hope of relief from monopoly will be through the success of Manitoba. The following resolution unanimously adopted by the Medicine Hat board of trade will fairly set forth the feeling in the Territories: "To Hon. John Norquay: We, the Medicine Hat board of trade, supported by the citizens, wish to convey through you to the people of Manitoba our sympathy in your struggle for your rights as a province relative to disallowance. We regard our interests as one and your success now may prove the fore-

runner of our success in a like direction in the near future." It will therefore appear that the Territorial members at Ottawa in no wise represent the real feeling of the people on the great question. At the time of the elections and even now disallowance is not a question directly affecting the Territories, though the people there should be equally interested with the people of this province in the principle involved. When the question was brought up during the elections, the feeling was always against monopoly, and all the candidates, either directly or indirectly intimated that they would do what they could to have the great evil removed. In the light of what has since transpired, it must be considered that these pledges were merely of the usual ante-election nature, and never intended to be carried out. The Territorial members have broken faith with the people on the very first opportunity, and have voted in direct opposition to the interests of the districts which they represent. Evidently they fear, or are more directly under the influence of the Government and the C.P.R. than the people whom they misrepresent.

THE *Manitoba Mercury* voices the feeling in that portion of the province, and indeed all over Manitoba, in the following excerpt: "The telegram indicates that the C.P.R. authorities have fallen into two very grave errors in regard to the anti-disallowance agitation. The first is their evident belief that the agitation is confined to Winnipeg alone and that the farming portion of the community is not concerned in the present efforts to break the C.P.R. monopoly. No greater mistake could be made. Never has that monopoly been keener felt nor has the desire for competition been stronger amongst the farmers of Manitoba than it is today. To imagine for a moment that the agitation is purely a Winnipeg one is to display the greatest ignorance of the feeling amongst the farming portion of the province on this question." The belief of the C.P.R. authorities is not however, such as their actions would indicate, and as is supposed by the *Mercury*. Their evident belief that the agitation is confined to Winnipeg is merely a blind to mislead public opinion in the east, as well as part of a studied policy to create local jealousies in Manitoba. The C.P.R. officials have tried hard to stir up a feeling in the provincial towns and rural districts against Winnipeg, thereby hoping to divide the people in the disallowance agitation. They have miserably failed in this as they will in all other subterfuges, and the result of their action has been to unite rather than to divide the people. The C.P.R. officials tried to check the agitation against monopoly in the city by representing that disallowance was directly in the interests of Winnipeg, and prevented the building up of competing points to the west, which would ultimately take trade from the city. As soon however as they found that the agitation could not be longer kept within bounds, they took the opposite course of representing that only Winnipeg was opposed to disallowance, because this city wanted preferential freight rates which would compel the province to trade here. All these schemes have failed, and the company will now have to face an entire province united against monopoly.