

I saw him frequently at that time, and had conversations with him. I am also aware that towards the close of the Session, Mr. Abbott, with whom I had frequent conversations looked upon American connection as abandoned. I am aware, too, that Sir George Cartier with whom I had frequent conversations during the Session, was very much opposed to the American connection, for the construction of the railway, and was anxious to promote the interests of Mr Macpherson's Company as an offset to it. I had one conversation with Sir George Cartier especially, in which, while professing a desire to see Sir Hugh Allan connected with the company, he expressed his determination to have the company so formed as to exclude the possibility of American connection.

*Question*—Do you recollect the date?

*Answer*—It was whilst the Bills were before the House. The conversation occurred before the close of the Session. It was at his own house, and lasted two or three hours. The Northern Colonization Railway, at that time was a prominent question in Montreal, and I was giving it support through the newspaper, and it was in connection with that, that fears were entertained by some of the promoters of that scheme, that Sir George was opposed to it, and that this conversation arose.

*Question*—When did your conversations take place with Mr. McMullen?

*Answer*—In the early part of the Session. I had known Mr. McMullen for some fifteen years.

*Question*—Do you know whether the Government gave him any encouragement in this scheme?

*Answer*—I cannot say.

*Question*—Had you any conversation with any other member of the Government than Sir George Cartier on the subject?

*Answer*—No.

*Question*—Had you any conversation with Sir Hugh Allan on the subject?

*Answer*—I had conversations with him on general Railway matters. I understood his policy was to unite all the schemes with which he was identified as the easiest way to secure the construction of those in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

*Question*—Were you aware that he was associating himself with, or that negotiations were going on between him and those Americans?

*Answer*—I inferred from the conversations I had with Mr. McMullen and Mr. Abbott that such was the case, but I had no direct knowledge of any formal agreement.

*Question*—Was Mr. McMullen or any other person present at the conversation you had with Sir George Cartier?

*Answer*—No.

*Question*—Do you know anything more in reference to this branch of the subject?

*Answer*—Nothing more.

*Question*—Did you take any interest in the elections in Montreal in 1872?

*Answer*—I did.

*Question*—Were you on any of the committees in Montreal?

*Answer*—I was on the Committee for West Montreal, but not on the Central Committee. I was frequently at the meetings of the Central Committee, but not a member of it.

*Question*—Did you take any part in the election of Sir George Cartier?

*Answer*—No direct part.

*Question*—Were you on his committee?

*Answer*—I was not on his committee.

*Question*—Do you know whether any money was subscribed for the purpose of promoting the Montreal elections?

*Answer*—I am aware that there was a fund, as there always is at elections.

*Question*—Do you know the amount of it.

*Answer*—No, I have no knowledge of the amount of it.

*Question*—Do you know whether Sir Hugh Allan was a subscriber to that fund?

*Answer*—I have no personal knowledge that he was a subscriber.

*Question*—In whose hands was the fund?