

CANADA.

to give a general statement of the amount of capital you have in these undertakings. Of course it is a question I do not press if you do not choose to answer?

A.—I have no objection to answer. I consider that my property, invested in various ways connected with the country, in business of all kinds, amounts to about \$6,000,000.

Q.—Then all the interest that you speak of in connection with your investments in this way would be promoted by the policy of the Government?

A.—It was with that intention that I supported them.

Q.—Was there any discussion as to the exact terms of this longer letter before it was signed?

A.—I think there must have been.

Q.—Do you remember what it was?

A.—I am not quite certain what it was, but I think I probably wished to have a larger amount of influence in the Company than the Government were willing to give me, and I think it was probable that that was the point that we discussed together. I think it was entirely the organization of the Pacific Railway, and I think it only referred to the amount of influence I would have in it, and nothing else.

Q.—Claims made by you for more favourable terms and not conceded by Sir George?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Are you aware that Sir George at one time, according to the evidence before us, had an opinion entirely unfavourable to the introduction, not merely of American control, but of American capital in this enterprise?

A.—I am aware that he had, up to the very last moment, when the ultimate contract was signed, and on that day when I had the interview with him in regard to this matter, one of the conditions was that no American capital or control was to be introduced into it.

Q.—Did you at any time consider him hostile to the interests you were desirous of promoting?

A.—I did.

Q.—Up to what period did you consider him decidedly hostile to the interests you thought it desirable to promote?

A.—Up to the time that a Committee of his constituents came up to Ottawa and visited him, for the purpose of influencing him on the subject. There was a large meeting held of his principal supporters in Montreal, and they, entertaining the opinion generally held in Montreal, as to his hostility to the organization we had formed, appointed a Committee to come to Ottawa and assure him that if he continued that hostility, he would not be re-elected for Montreal. I understood from them afterwards, that Sir George had agreed to abate his hostility and forward the views expressed by his constituents as far as possible, but I have no doubt it was that hostility which caused the loss of his election in Montreal.

Q.—When was that deputation?

A.—I think it was during the Session of Parliament.

Q.—That is the one Mr. Leblanc speaks of?

A.—The same.

Q.—You used all the influence you possessed in endeavouring to mould public opinion in unison with your own views; were you in any way instrumental in stimulating the feeling that prevailed in favour of views which Sir George did not approve of?

A.—I was no doubt very influential in raising public opinion in Montreal in favour of the scheme, and there is no doubt that meetings were held and means were used to diffuse information, which had a great effect in causing a feeling to arise against Sir George Cartier.

Q.—Did you know anything of this deputation waiting on Sir George Cartier during the Session; did you know anything of it before it was formed, or of the intention to form it before it was formed, or when did you first become aware of the appointment of the Committee?

A.—I first heard of it in Montreal. There was an intention of sending up a Committee for the purpose. I was aware that they had held a meeting and appointed a deputation, but I did not know anything about what the instructions to that Committee were, or what the action of the Committee was.

Q.—When did you first discover that there was a change in Sir George Cartier's views, or that yielding to the pressure of opinion he was disposed to change them?

A.—Immediately after the deputation called on him. I was at Ottawa within a few days of or at the time the deputation was here. I happened to meet Sir George, and I thought I observed some change in respect to his views.

Q.—Can you fix the date of that?

A.—I cannot.

Q.—Was Parliament in Session at the time you met Sir George?