

Mr. MEIGHEN: A request? The chief engineer had sent the certificate to them before I wrote the letter.

Mr. GRAHAM: Why ask him to do it twice?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Because at the time I wrote I did not know that his signature had appeared to the certificate. I knew that the certificate had been sent. I have here his actual signature which had been sent to me before my letter was written.

Mr. PUGSLEY: That proves the correctness of what I said.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Proves the correctness of what the hon. gentleman said—proves that he signed it at my request when my request was made after he signed it?

Mr. GRAHAM: The dates do not show that.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Certainly they do. I would commend the attention of the hon. member for St. John to the discussion we had and the sentence that he uttered, and which is on Hansard, about four days ago, when, after about ten pages of Hansard were consumed with certain assertions that he made, he told the House that he had not the slightest idea whether they were correct or not.

Mr. PUGSLEY: My hon. friend does not mean to misquote. If I remember rightly, what I was professing to state to the House, and what I did state, was that I had certain information in regard to important matters concerning the honour of this House. I was not aware whether my information was correct or not, but I urged that the question was of sufficient importance for the Government to give to the House the information which I was informed it had through the agency of its own secret service officers, or else obtain the information.

Mr. MEIGHEN: And after so urging for ten pages, the hon. gentleman stated that he himself had not the slightest knowledge whether he was right or not.

Mr. PUGSLEY: No. The hon. gentleman is entirely inaccurate in that. I was not professing to make a statement from personal knowledge at all; I was stating information which had been given to me, and I said that I was not aware as to whether or not that information was accurate.

[Mr. Pugsley.]

Mr. MEIGHEN: Before the night is out I will undertake to quote out of Hansard what the hon. gentleman said, or what I have said he said, and if I am not correct I will apologize to the hon. gentleman.

Mr. PUGSLEY: You will apologize for it.

Mr. MEIGHEN: All right. I have no similar request to make to the hon. gentleman. He has admitted himself to be wrong already to-night, and no apology would add anything to his humiliation.

We, Gordon Grant, chief engineer appointed by the Government of Canada for the Eastern Division of the National Transcontinental railway, and H. A. Woods, chief engineer, of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, hereby signify our acceptance to the Government of Canada and to the said company, of the work done in respect of the said eastern division.

Dated at Ottawa, this 2nd day of February, A.D. 1915.

Mr. GRAHAM: Is that signed by anybody?

Mr. MEIGHEN: It is signed by Mr. Gordon Grant.

Mr. GRAHAM: The copy that was given me had not his signature.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The original was signed by him.

Mr. GRAHAM: The copy in the return was apparently sent to Mr. Woods without any signature. I feel positive that Mr. Grant's signature was not on the copy.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What the hon. gentleman refers to is a copy attached to Mr. Grant's letter. The original as returned is signed by Mr. Grant himself and is in the possession of the Government.

Mr. GRAHAM: Then I did not have a correct return.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I have a copy here dated 2nd February, which does not profess to be signed by Gordon Grant.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The original is signed by Gordon Grant. I will let the hon. member see it, and it was received before my letter was written.

I suppose that hon. gentlemen opposite are prepared to admit that the certificate of the engineer is definite, specific and complete, and that the engineer is the judge that we are bound to take upon so important a question as this, it being a question of engineering alone. We may be right or we may be wrong; unfortunately there is no summary way of deciding it. But there would have been if hon. gentlemen opposite