

of council, equal to an Act of the Government. That telegram of mine of the 26th of July was an Act of Government. My colleagues have not repudiated it; they have accepted it, and was a fair arrangement as we could not get the amalgamation.

As we could not succeed in going to the country with a perfect scheme for building the Pacific Railway, what else was left to us but to keep the amalgamation of these great capitalists open till after the elections, and then call them together, and the only word of preference for Montreal over Toronto was simply my expression that any influence the Government might have in case of amalgamation, in the case of the two Companies joining and electing a Board of Directors, would be fairly used in favour of Sir Hugh Allan for the Presidency. I think that was due to Sir Hugh Allan, and after all it was no great affair. Everybody knows that the President of a Company is no more than the junior member of the Board of Directors. It depends altogether upon the personal weight of the man. We have seen Boards where the President governed the Board; others where the President was a mere figure head, and others again where the junior member governed the Company. It depends entirely upon the personal figure and authority of the man.

Well, Sir, I made that promise, but I wish the House to remember that at the time of that telegram, in which I simply stated that as we could not form a Company before the elections, we would form one afterwards out of the two, and would do what we could to make Sir Hugh Allan President. At that time there had been not one single word said about money—(*cheers*)—and there never was one said, as far as I was concerned, between Sir Hugh Allan and me. (*Hear, hear.*)

I was fighting the battle in Western Canada. I was getting subscriptions, as I have no doubt the hon. member for Lambton (Hon. Mr. Mackenzie) was getting subscriptions, and if he denies it I will be able to prove it. (*Cheers.*) I state in my place that I will be able to prove it. (*Cheers.*) I was doing what I could for the purpose of getting money to help the elections, and I was met, not only by individual exertions, but by the whole force, power and influence, legitimate and illegitimate of the Ontario Government. I have no hesitation in saying that in all expenditure, we were met by two dollars to one. (*Hear, hear.*) I have read with some amusement the attacks that have been made upon the Government, because a member of the Government was a party to this fund. If we had had the same means possessed by hon. gentlemen opposite; if we had spies; if we had thieves; if we had men who went to your desk, picked your lock and stole your note books, we would have much stronger evidence than hon. gentlemen think they have now. (*Cheers.*) We were fighting an uneven battle. We were simply subscribing as gentlemen, while they were stealing as burglars. (*Cheers.*) We may trace it out as a conspiracy throughout. I use the word conspiracy advisedly, and I will use the word out of the House as well as in the House. (*Cheers.*)

The hon. member for Shefford (Hon. Mr. Huntington) said that he had obtained certain documents. He attempted to read them to this House, not much I think to his credit, and certainly contrary to

the sense of the House and of the country. Now how did he get these documents. We had Mr. George W. McMullen, who was the American agent of these gentlemen. He had carried on this correspondence with Sir Hugh Allan, and when he came to me in December and tried to levy blackmail on me (*hear, hear*) I told him to go—well I did not use any improper language, but I told him to step out of my office, (*Laughter and cheers*) and he went to the hon. gentlemen opposite. (*Cheers.*) This is no mere hypothesis of mine. Sir Hugh Allan had promised to pay this man \$17,000 for these papers, and although he had the money almost in his hand, the hon. gentlemen gave him something more. (*Cheers.*) The hon. gentlemen cannot deny that he did.

Hon. Mr. HUNTINGTON: I do deny it. (*Opposition cheers.*) The statement is without foundation.

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD: If there is one person in the world whom the hon. member for Shefford had as a friend, it is the editor and proprietor of the Montreal *Herald* (*hear, hear*). I think he takes him to his bosom. I think they sleep together. I think that they have but one thought. He is a guide, philosopher, and friend, and when we have the announcement from the Montreal *Herald*, of May the 22nd, 1873, I think we must accept it. "No one can suppose that such a plot could have been laid bare without great labour and large expenditure," (*cheers*) again, the *Herald* says, speaking of Hon. Mr. Huntington,—“But for the courage with which he assumed it, as well as for the pains and expenditure which it has cost him to expose the mystery, he is entitled to the warmest gratitude.” (*Cheers on both sides of the House.*) I judge from the cheers of hon. gentlemen opposite that the hon. member for Shefford has their thanks; but that is an admission that he made the expenditure. (*Oh! oh! and cheers.*) This man bought Mr. McMullen. It is admitted by the Montreal *Herald* that he bought him. (*No! no! and hear, hear.*)

Hon. Mr. HUNTINGTON: I have already stated in the House that the charges were not founded on any information from Mr. McMullen, and that the statements which have appeared were false. I never got any information from McMullen till long after I made the charges. I never paid nor promised him a cent, and the statement of the hon. gentleman is utterly without foundation. (*Opposition cheers.*)

The statement also that he made a few minutes ago that I have been influenced here by foreign gold, and that foreign gold had been used in my election, is an utterly unfounded statement, false in every particular; and I challenge the hon. gentleman to the combat, and dare him on his responsibility to take the Committee. (*Hon. Mr. Huntington was proceeding, when cries of "Order!" were raised on the Government benches, answered by Opposition cheers. The hon. gentleman went on speaking in the midst of an uproar which rendered his remarks perfectly inaudible.*) On order being restored,

Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD preceded. There, Sir, it is very evident that I have hit the spot; that I have hit him on a sore