

CANADA.

“Canada, that Sir Hugh Allan and his friends should advance a large sum of money for the purpose of aiding the elections of Ministers and their supporters at the ensuing general elections, and that he and his friends should receive the contract for the construction of the Railway.”

I declare that I know nothing of it. I could say, however, that I had some conversation with Sir George Cartier in June, July, and August, 1872, in which he spoke to me of Sir Hugh Allan, the Allan Company, the Pacific Railway, and the Northern Colonization Railway. Sir George rebutted the idea of any connection of American capitalists with the Pacific Railway, and said that he never would consent to such a thing, and that he thought that the roads should be constructed without the aid of American capitalists. While expressing his appreciation of the merits of Sir Hugh Allan, Sir George Cartier did not appear to me to be on very friendly terms with him—that is to say, on terms of personal friendship. Nevertheless, he thought that Sir Hugh Allan, from his position, would be of great assistance to the Pacific Railway. He told me that he wished to see the amalgamation of the Macpherson and Allan Companies, and that he had been unjustly reproached with opposition to the Northern Colonization Railway in favour of the Grand Trunk Railway. I remarked to him that I regarded it as unfortunate that his Government had not settled this question of the contract of the Pacific Railway before the elections, because, I added, that this question would militate against him in the Province of Quebec, and particularly in Montreal East. I said to him also that Sir Hugh Allan had told me that he owed his commercial prosperity in a great measure to the Conservative party, and that I thought that Sir Hugh or his Company would aid him by influence or otherwise in his election. Sir George thereupon said that he could not entertain much hope that Sir Hugh Allan or his Company, meaning the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company, would come to his assistance, but as for himself (Sir George) he had several times put his portfolio in danger to maintain or obtain the subsidy for the Allan Company. Sir George told me this in that energetic language which he ordinarily used, and which is well known to those who were familiar with him. I had the honour to occupy myself in the election of Sir George at the last elections, and, notwithstanding that his friends urged him to let us make his election on the basis of the railway policy, and particularly the Pacific, he would not consent, saying that he would conduct his election on his own personal merits.

I have not any knowledge that Sir Hugh Allan advanced a sum of money to aid in the election of Ministers and their supporters. I went a few times to Sir George's Central Election Committee, but I know nothing of the distribution of the money. Of course I know from personal experience that it was necessary to spend money on that as on other elections.

No members of the Government ever told me that Sir H. Allan had advanced money for the elections, nor did Sir H. Allan ever tell me.

This conversation with Sir George Cartier, in reference to the road that I have mentioned, took place at several intervals, and I think that the last conversation I had with him was two or three days before the polling in the Eastern Division of Montreal, in which Sir George was a candidate.

Q.—Do you know the date on which the polling took place?

A.—Late in the month of August.

Being asked if I can give any explanation, or if I have any idea why my name is mentioned in McMullen's letter, as having received \$6,000, I declare that I have no idea how my name came to be mentioned. The charge is wholly false.

And further deponent saith not, and this his deposition having been read to him, he declares that it contains the truth, persists therein, and hath signed.

Sworn and taken and acknowledged on the } (Signed) GEDÉON OUMET.
thirtieth day of September, 1873.

(Signed) CHARLES DEWEY DAY, Chairman.
A. POLETTE,
JAMES ROBERT GOWAN, Commissioners.