

“interested in the Northern Pacific Railway. And they declare that the Interoceanic Company share this belief.

“That, in reality, is the chief ground stated by the Interoceanic Company for declining amalgamation; and as it is easy to show that this ground is entirely unsupported by facts, the Canada Company hope, that this erroneous impression being removed, the course of the Oceanic Company may be materially changed.

“With regard to the assertion that a belief ‘exists everywhere’ that the Canadian Company still intend to carry out the design of combination with American capitalists, it is only necessary to say that the gentlemen who say so no doubt speak truly as to some limited circle with which they are in immediate communication. But the Canada Company emphatically deny that beyond such a limited circle any such belief or even any idea of such a state of things is entertained.

“The Canada Company are aware that a negotiation was commenced during the summer of eighteen hundred and seventy-one, between Sir *Hugh Allan* and certain American capitalists for the formation of a Company to construct and run the Canada Pacific Railway; but they are informed by Sir *Hugh Allan*, and have satisfied themselves by a full enquiry into the circumstances and details of that negotiation, that it was not initiated by Sir *Hugh*, and that it was commenced and supported by influential persons in Canada, as being the only combination that offered itself at that time for the construction and running of the road; but they are satisfied that that negotiation never possessed the character attributed to it by the Interoceanic Company, and they know that Sir *Hugh Allan* would never have consented to embark with foreign capitalists in a Canadian enterprise in which he takes so great an interest without the most perfect securities and guarantees for its control and conduct in the interest of Canada. But the discussion of the negotiation is entirely foreign to the proposition now being considered. That negotiation terminated when Sir *Hugh Allan* engaged with others in the formation of the Canada Company, and it has never been renewed.

“The Canada Company never participated in that negotiation, and never considered or entertained any proposition, suggestion or intention of asking aid from American capitalists, or of combining with them for the prosecution of the Railway, or for any other purpose. The only negotiations they have carried on are those already alluded to with British capitalists, and they have never even communicated on the subject of the Railway, with any one outside of Canada or Great Britain.

“The Canada Company would further remark on this branch of the subject, that they are unwilling to attempt to gather from the terms of the statement of the Interoceanic Company any meaning which does not plainly appear upon its face. But they cannot omit noticing that the weight of this objection rests upon the suggestion, rather implied than expressed, that the Canada Company is prepared to lend itself to the obstruction of the Canada Pacific Railway, by placing the control of it in the hands of capitalists interested in a rival road. Unless the objection is taken as having this bearing, it would have no weight, and the Canada Company are therefore forced to make a single remark upon this view of it. They desire expressly to state that their Company is composed of gentlemen as fully alive to the interests of Canada, and as deeply interested in its welfare, as the Members of the Interoceanic Company, or any one else can be. And they protest formally and energetically against any imputation, whether expressed or implied, contemplating the possibility of their taking the course which they cannot but interpret as being imputed to them by the statement of the Interoceanic Company. Although probably the Interoceanic Company will accept the positive and unqualified disclaimer which the Canada Company now place on record, it may not be amiss to remark upon the impossibility of any such course being taken as that which is implied in the Interoceanic Company’s objection.

“It will be observed that the aid in money and lands is only to be granted by the Government as the work actually progresses. It is also necessary that the periods for