

I hope in ten days or so to have the contract signed, and would like immediately after to go to England to raise the money to build the line. I have disbursed \$343,000 in gold, which I want to get repaid. I have still to pay \$13,500, which will close everything off.

I will go to New York as soon as the contract is signed, say about 7th October, and would be glad to meet you there at that time.

Yours truly,
(Signed,)

HUGH ALLAN.

G. W. McMULLEN, Esq.,
553 Washington St., Chicago, Ills.

Letter No. 18.

MONTREAL, 24th Oct., 1872.

DEAR MR. McMULLEN,—No action as yet (so far as I know) has been taken by the Government in the matter of the Pacific Railroad. The opposition of the Ontario party will, I think, have the effect of shutting out our American friends from any participation in the road, and I apprehend all that negotiation is at an end.

It is still uncertain how it will be given (the contract), but in any case the Government seem inclined to exact a declaration that no foreigner will have directly or indirectly any interest in it. But everything is in a state of uncertainty, and I think it unnecessary for you to visit New York, on this business at present, or at all, till you hear what the result is likely to be.

Public sentiment seems to be decided that the road shall be built by Canadians only.

Yours truly,
(Signed,)

HUGH ALLAN.

G. W. McMULLEN, Esq.,
Picton, Ont.

(The following reply was sent to the above.)

Letter No. 19.

PICTON, Nov. 6th, 1872.

MY DEAR SIR HUGH,—Since the receipt of your letter, the contents of which surprised me considerably, following so soon after our conversation at Montreal, and in view of the fact, that the Government seem so much at sixes and sevens about the whole matter. I have of course communicated the substance of it to my friends. They are anxious to know whether such a decision will be arrived at, after the various pledges made, as will debar our association from participating in the construction of the railway. Whatever skirmishing may be done by way of talk, they can hardly have an idea that you will prove recreant to your business associates, in an arrangement mainly of their own suggestion, (I mean the Government, who first requested you to write to Chicago). However much they may be beset with political problems, I do not believe they could get, in any other way, so difficult a one on their hands as they could by taking such a course. Mr. Ogden and party are now back from Puget Sound, and I shall take an early opportunity of meeting them.

I should like any possible positive information, and in case the affair goes so that our association, either directly or through you, cannot handle it, it would be well to know it. But as the Government could not expect you to go into it and leave the others out entirely, I should think you could have it arranged, as we have several times talked,