

to. I challenge him now to say whether what I have stated is correct. I am a living witness, and there are many in this city who can verify what I say, and it is unfair to those people that he should come forward at this late period and give a different version of why he became a Reformer. He said the other day that he came here as a Reformer. I deny that in toto. He came to this city as a Conservative, and was supported by the Conservative party. He claims that he made Ottawa the seat of government. He was not alone. My brother-in-law, the late Mr. Powell, at that time had a good deal of influence, and he was trusted to a certain extent at the time, but the hon. gentleman takes the whole credit to himself.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—No, I have done nothing of the kind.

Hon. Mr. CLEMOW—That is one of his ways of doing business. He takes credit for everything. No matter who does the work, he takes the credit for it. I am here for the purpose of denying in toto that he occupied such a position as he has stated. At that time he had very little influence. It was true he was returned to parliament, but I leave it to him to say who were the means of getting him returned at that time. It was not the Grits, certainly; it was the Conservative party, assisted by a few Protestants who took hold of him for the purpose of giving him an opportunity to make a position for himself. It is very unpalatable for me to have to come forward at this late date to make these observations. I should much rather not have been under the necessity of doing it, but I am in duty bound to the people who supported him at that time to give a flat contradiction to what he has stated to be the course he took on that occasion. I know perfectly well that the hon. Secretary of State in those days was ambitious for a position, and there was a proper way of getting it. Certainly it should not have been done by deceiving those who supported him through thick and thin, coming down here under false pretenses and accepting a position which he knew his friends would never have agreed to had they known the true state of affairs. I had a gentleman ready at that time, the late Philip Thompson, an extensive miller of this city, who was prepared to become

a candidate if anything occurred to show that the hon. gentleman was prepared to change his colours and become a Grit or Reformer instead of a Conservative. I would much rather this question had never been brought up. I felt very badly, as I always feel when any man turns his coat as a religious or a political representative. I have an abhorrence of any one who acts that way.

With respect to the Speech from the Throne, it contains a great many valuable suggestions and paragraphs, but I should like to have seen something more. I should like to have seen the opinion of the government with respect to the United States capitalists obtaining control of our railways. It appears to me, as the government cannot obtain reciprocity with the United States, they should see that United States capitalists do not get control of the means of transportation. They are talking now of controlling the vast mines of the country. They control the steel and coal industries of the maritime provinces. There is no knowing where this is going to end. It is due to the people that the government should give some indication of the policy they intend to adopt in this connection. There is nothing to prevent United States capitalists buying up the stock of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and what would be the result to this country if they obtained control of that great line for their own purposes? Should United States capitalists secure control we may rely upon it that whatever profits they realize from their operations in this country will be taken over to the United States, and Canada will lose the advantage of it. I would much rather have seen British capital employed to obtain possession of these railways if it was necessary at all. Whether it is going to be a benefit or not, time will tell; but it looks to be a very grave matter to me, and there is no knowing where it will stop. We hear that the Rockefellers and Vanderbilts and others who have any amount of capital, want to invest it in some way, and whether they will take this course for the purpose of trying to obtain control of the Dominion is a moot subject, and the proper policy to be pursued should be considered by the government in a way that the people will understand. If they wish the whole of the business of this country to be taken over