

\$7,600,000, would have increased its liability for an additional amount of \$8,750,000. Then afterwards, where could the Quebec Government place these \$8,000,000 to obtain 5% interest. They had hardly \$2,000,000 to disburse since that time and they would now be vainly seeking an investment at 5% for \$6,000,000.

I naturally protest against the conclusion of the letter of Mr. Stephen who pretends to find in my letters the desire of urging you to have my bonds of the North Shore Railway sold. Since I refused, from the first day, to accept your offer in as much as I was concerned, it was not to harass you in future on the subject. But there was a question of veracity and good faith to settle and I believe it is now settled.

M. Stephen also "declines to enter into any further controversy on this matter" which goes to prove that he has a very great disposition to justify your assertion that the Pacific are willing to purchase the bonds of the North Shore Railway or the North Shore Railway itself. Are you able to tell me on what day the Pacific made an offer to anybody, not for the purchase of my bonds, which are nothing in the question, but for the purchase of the North Shore Railway? which is a great deal, considering the promises made by M. Van Horne and repeated to you in order to keep the members of Parliament in a false security.

All things considered, Honorable Sir, here is the position:

During a violent discussion in the press, you have lent all the authority of a party chief to the accusation brought against me: that I intended to blackmail the Pacific company in endeavoring to sell them my bonds of the North Shore Railway. As you were not certain of the correctness of what you announced in the caucus, you call me immediately after this caucus, relying on my probable acceptance of your offers, to enable you to say that what you had announced was true.

I peremptorily refused any transaction of the kind. In the same time I suggested you the means of obtaining from the Grand Trunk the possession of the North Shore Railway to make it the terminus of the Pacific.

I asked you afterwards the reasons why you caused a cry of distrust to be uttered against me by my friends at a solemn moment for the Province of Quebec. You have communicated to me as your answer a letter from Mr. Geo. Stephen who informed me that he had not even seen you on the subject, but that he had told another party certain indefinite things, a version of which could be arranged subsequently, things that could be even denied afterwards if it was thought pro-