

man in London which I marked "private and confidential," showing how in one matter alone—viz., that of contracts—a sum of not less than £60,000 a year could be saved to the Grand Trunk Company in Canada. That letter, by some improper means, was laid hold of by the Grand Trunk officials in London, and by them transmitted to Mr. Brydges, shortly after the Grand Trunk meeting in April, 1868. On the 19th of May I went to Montreal for the special purpose of laying before Mr. Brydges some charges of alleged gross irregularity by the Grand Trunk officials. I was desired to repeat the statement in the presence of Mr. Hickson, and I did so. I was then told by Mr. Brydges that an action for libel would be commenced against me, and to my surprise he produced my PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL letter to the gentleman in London, and upon the strength of it charged me with getting up the opposition in London which had so nearly deprived him of office. He and Mr. Hickson then requested that I would put my statement in writing. I went to my hotel and did so, and then transmitted it to Mr. Brydges, with this request:—

"In conclusion, I concur with you that the matter is not one which can rest here, and let me suggest that Mr. Hickson accompany me to Toronto at once. Bickford is there, and several of the gentlemen whose evidence I consider it indispensable you should have. I desire to return to Toronto this evening, and therefore will feel much obliged by your early reply."

The early reply was an action for ten thousand dollars damages for libel.

J. N.

4 December, 1869.