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Per half do. 8.25  
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**A. MACDONALD,**  
Sole Agent for P. E. I.

## SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

HIS DEFENCE AGAINST MR. ARTHUR PETERS' PERSONAL ATTACK.

A friend of THE EXAMINER has sent us a copy of Hansard for June 21st, with a request that we publish Sir Charles Tupper's reply to Mr. Arthur Peters. So we quote:

"I may just say in passing that I was subjected to insult by—I will not say a gentleman, because he is no gentleman—a representative in the legislature of Prince Edward Island. What does he say?"

"Sir Charles had the effrontery to make a charge of this kind in face of the fact that he himself was at one time a poor medical practitioner, in Halifax, a man who made no money in his profession, and yet to-day we find him one of the richest men in Canada. From politics, and from no other source under heaven did Sir Charles derive his wealth. Much of it, we know, was gained from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company."

Now, sir, it would be impossible to crowd more base, unfounded, and malicious falsehoods into a few lines than Mr. Arthur Peters succeeded in crowding into this statement made on the floor of the legislature of Prince Edward Island; and as this matter has come up here I think it not improper to refer to it. I fought the battle of the Canadian Pacific Railway contract in this House, and subsequently it was proved to a demonstration that we did not give enough to accomplish the work with all the monopolies and privileges which that contract gave to the company; they were utterly broken down in 1884, and all the men with one single exception, were ready to throw up their hands and abandon everything they had put into it, and give it up as a hopeless task. The credit was assailed in New York by the Northern Pacific Company, it was assailed in London by the Grand Trunk Railway Company, they were paralysed, they were unable to pay their men, and the whole enterprise was in the utmost peril, simply because, with all the concessions granted them, they could not carry their work through. What did I do? At the request of Sir John A. Macdonald, I came out from England, I came to this parliament, and I asked Parliament to lend them \$30,000,000 more in order to prevent that work from becoming a wreck, and to secure its prompt completion, and parliament granted the money. Mr. Blake said: Do not call it a loan, you know it is a gift, you know we will never see a dollar of the money. The money was all repaid before it was due and one of the most successful enterprises that has ever redounded to the honour and progress of Canada was that Canadian Pacific Railway enterprise. I say that unhesitatingly.

But I say that if there is a man in this country who is in a position to vindicate himself from having forfeited his independence as a member of this parliament in reference to that great work that man is myself. Why, sir, the time came when the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, no doubt under the impression that they were entitled to it, made a claim on the government of Canada for \$5,000,000 in connection with that work, basing that claim upon statements made by myself to them, as they recollect the statements, at the time the contract was signed. Arbitration was resorted to, a body of high-minded and able arbitrators was appointed. The Hon. Edward Blake was the advocate of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and Mr. Christopher Robinson, a very eminent lawyer, defended the government against that claim. I was sent for to come out from England because I was the party who had made the contract, and with whom these conversations were alleged to have taken place upon which they had based their claim. I admitted frankly that about half a million dollars was practically due, because it would require something like that sum to complete the work with the degree of efficiency that

was contemplated under the contract. But something over four millions of money rested upon the claim that I had lowered the character of the work after the contract was made, and contrary to the understanding with these gentlemen; and therefore, it would take \$4,000,000 to bring the work up to the standard that we demanded. I came out here and went to see Sir John A. Macdonald. I said: 'Sir John, you surely remember when the contract was signed that there was no conversation of this kind.' 'Well,' he said, 'Tupper, I really do not remember anything about it. I had such entire confidence in your management of railway matters that I confess I did not give the subject attention at all; I depended upon you.' I therefore went single-handed into the witness box in the presence of these arbitrators, and under the cross-examination of Mr. Blake, I entirely destroyed the claim; these gentlemen had put forward for about four millions of money. Now I ask whether I did not there and then give clear and incontrovertible evidence of my thorough independence as a public man. I may say here that never with respect to anything I did for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in this House, or as a member of the Government of Canada, did any person connected with that great organization ever insult me by the offer of the slightest compensation or return whatever—because I should have treated it as nothing else than the grossest insult.

This gentleman who appears to have studied my career with great care, says that I was a poor medical practitioner in Halifax. Well, I may have been a poor practitioner, because a man who is not skilful may be called a poor practitioner. But if he means to say that I was a poor man, his statements are false. I went to the city of Halifax after fourteen years of laborious practice in my profession, where I had a great and most profitable practice; I went to the city of Halifax as a public man, and when I took office in 1887 I was an independent man. Therefore, the statement that I went there impoverished is a falsehood of the most glaring character, as can be established in the most incontrovertible manner. When we were defeated at the end of three years, I went into practice in the city of Halifax, and at the end of a little over three years, when we carried the province from end to end, when there were only fifteen Liberal members elected in the whole province of Nova Scotia in a House of fifty-five members, I had at that time acquired so valuable and important a medical practice that I could not afford to give it up. It was worth three or four times what my salary as provincial secretary would be worth, and I was compelled to take a medical partner and to remain in the profession, because I could not abandon my lucrative practice. I spent twenty-nine years of my life in the arduous practice of the medical profession, and it is not for me to say with what success. But I certainly never had reason to complain of a lack of lucrative practice wherever I was engaged. So much for that falsehood.

Then there is another greater and still more monstrous falsehood in this

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That nicely situated residence, with out buildings, one mile from the Malpeque Road, one mile from Post office, with 9 or 32 acres of land, as desired.

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statement of Mr. Peters', and that is that I am one of the richest men in Canada. I have no hesitation in saying frankly to this House that I profess to have some ability, some financial and commercial ability, the same ability to manage a business that every person requires in his own interest, and I have had opportunities of a very admirable character to give me a field for the development of that talent, whatever it was. I do not hesitate to say that I should be greatly ashamed of myself, if under those circumstances I was a pauper; I should feel it would be a great reflection upon my character as a business man, which I always profess to be, and not only a business man but a great economist. I may say that when I was asked to take the position of Prime Minister of Canada, I resigned positions of high character and standing in the city of London that gave me £900 sterling a year over and above the income I was receiving from the country. That was as director of the Bank of British Columbia, director of a cable Company, connected with Brazil, and director of the General Mining Association, positions

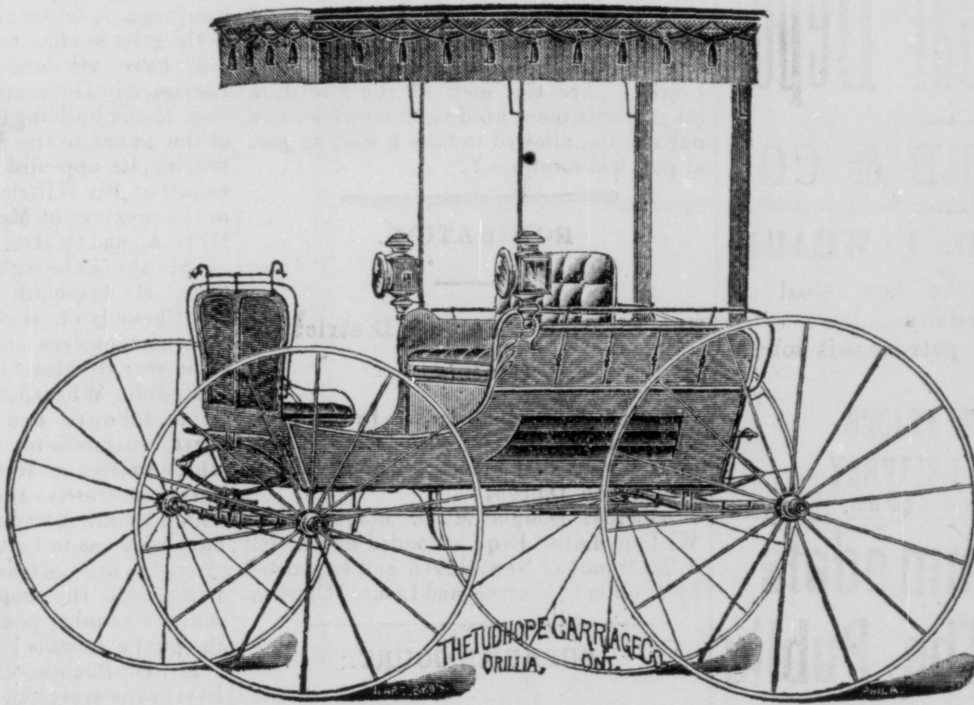
which, instead of impairing my usefulness to the country, I think greatly increased it, because they brought me into contact with men of standing and of character in business life, and enabled me to serve Canada more fully than otherwise I could have done. But when I took the position of Prime Minister I felt bound to relieve myself of all these obligations and connections, and I did so. When I was invited to become the leader of the Liberal-Conservative party, and when I accepted that leadership, my financial position was such, and such obligations rested upon me, that I felt the necessity of doing something to increase my annual income. I was, therefore, compelled to accept positions in connection with the development of our gold mining industry in this country, in order to increase my annual income so as to enable me to discharge my duty to the great Liberal-Conservative party that had done me the honour to invest me with its leadership. I feel bound to meet this slander of my being a rich man, which I am sorry to say, brings constant claims upon me that I am unable to respond to. In

self-defence I am obliged to protect myself against such slanders, because this is a bare falsehood uttered by a man who is no gentleman, and it is without any ground whatever. Do not mistake me, Mr. Speaker, I do not deny Mr. Peters' right, or the right of any man in this House, or even any man taking an interest in public affairs, if he knows that a man has dishonoured and degraded himself by attempting, as a member of the parliament of this country, to enrich himself, to make the charge public. There is no higher crime, in my judgment, which can be brought against a man, and any man has a right, and he would be fully justified if he has such knowledge, to make that charge against me, if he could. I have shown the House how utterly unfounded it is, and I regard Mr. Peters as having disgraced himself by this attempt to injure a man whom, I am happy to say, is out of his power to reach or injure. I shall join the right hon. First Minister with great pleasure in voting down the resolution which is the most illogical and the most unreasonable that I have ever seen offered in this House.

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ALSO—The Walter A. Wood, American bull bearing Hay Mowers, FROST & WOOD Hay Mowers, Hay Rakes, Reapers and Binders, (This little 2 horse Steel Binder is a dandy.) Prices low and terms easy—agencies in all parts of the Island. Remember the place, Brick Building sunny side of Kent Street.

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