

The Department of Public Works necessarily assumed the responsibility of completing the construction of the work, and tenders were let by it, and the work carried to completion under the immediate supervision of the Minister and his engineer and other officials.

The relations which the several parties implicated in the charges referred to us stood to each other and to the Government of Canada and to the Quebec Harbour Commissioners, are important to an intelligent understanding of the evidence submitted.

The members of the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Company, during the time that our investigation covered, consisted of Patrick Larkin, Nicholas Connolly, Michael Connolly and Owen E. Murphy. Robert H. McGreevy had an interest given him in the profits of the firm in all the contracts taken by them at Quebec and British Columbia, excepting that relating to the Graving Dock at Lévis.

Mr. Robert H. McGreevy was a brother of the Hon. Thomas McGreevy, and for very many years had been his trusted and confidential agent, and the manager of his private affairs. The intercourse between the two brothers appears to have been harmonious and unbroken until the beginning of the year 1889. A large part of the correspondence which passed between them during this period, and which appears to have been very voluminous, could not be obtained by your Committee, as it was alleged to have been lost or stolen, but a number of letters written from Thomas McGreevy to his brother were produced and put in evidence, and as they contained statements made contemporaneously with the facts to which they relate, and on which the charges bore, they were of great assistance to your Committee in arriving at conclusions upon points with respect to which the memories of the witnesses were at fault or varied from each other.

The relations existing between the Hon. Thomas McGreevy and Sir Hector Langevin have for the past twenty years, and more, been of the closest and most intimate kind. As far back as 1876 Mr. McGreevy appears to have advanced for Sir Hector a large sum of money (\$10,000) to pay his election expenses, and have taken his notes of hand therefor. These notes have been renewed every three or four months since then, and are still outstanding.

The interest appears to have been paid by Mr. McGreevy, and Sir Hector says that he understood Mr. McGreevy was to look after and protect the principal sum also. When Sir Hector became Minister, in 1878, he invited Mr. McGreevy to make his house in Ottawa his home. Mr. McGreevy did so, and ever since then had his own room in Sir Hector's house, and resided there during the Sessions of Parliament. He also had access to and a seat in Sir Hector's private room in the Parliament Buildings and kept there all his papers. Each of them had contributed largely towards the support of *Le Monde* newspaper, Mr. McGreevy's contribution at one time amounting to \$25,000. The amounts paid by Sir Hector he (Sir Hector) could not recollect, but it was of such amount, and given, as he himself said, in such way, as to enable him to control the paper if and when necessary.

The Hon. Thomas McGreevy further appears to have been, during the whole period under investigation, the treasurer of the political funds of the Conservative party in the District of Quebec, and during the same period Sir Hector Langevin was the recognized political head or chief of the party in that district, and in many instances personally directed the application, for party purposes, of the moneys in Thomas McGreevy's hands.

The large sums which were received by Thomas McGreevy from these contractors went to form a part of this political fund, and his refusal to give information to the Committee as to his disposition of these sums leaves it impossible to state definitely to what extent Sir Hector Langevin received the benefit of them politically or otherwise.

The relations between Sir Hector Langevin, in his official capacity as Minister of Public Works, and Mr. Thomas McGreevy as agent of Larkin, Connolly & Company, will fully appear hereinafter, when in this report we consider the effect of the evidence as it bears upon the different charges under investigation, and the circumstances connected with those charges.