

- Q. Where was it?—In O'Meara's hotel.
- Q. Do you remember what day of the week?—All that I know is that I expected the Committee to meet on the following day; I cannot fix the date.
- Q. Here are Exhibits 19, 20 and 21. Can you fix the date from these?—Yes; it was the 23rd April. I can see now that that was the day; Mr. Charlton and Mr. Cotton were present.
- Q. Was that the first time you had seen Mr. Cotton that day?—No.
- Q. Where had you seen him before?—I had seen him before at the same place.
- Q. What hour of the day was it that the letter was delivered to you?—It was about noon.
- Q. What hour earlier in the same day had you seen Cotton?—10 o'clock.
- Q. What part of O'Meara's hotel?—Private sitting-room. Charlton was present besides us, and no one else was present. I never met Mr. Starrs on any occasion.
- Q. Was any arrangement made on the first meeting, between you and Charlton and Cotton, about getting this letter?—Yes; there was an arrangement between Charlton and myself; I had left the matter in Charlton's hands.
- Q. What matter?—The matter of getting Mr. Boyle's tender withdrawn.
- Q. When, as a matter of fact, did you sign that cheque and those two notes?—I signed it on Wednesday, the 23rd April.
- Q. Were those the only documents signed that day?—There were four notes—\$2,500 in notes, and this cheque.
- Q. These two notes which are here are \$500 each?—Yes.
- Q. What were the others?—\$500 each; there must have been five.
- Q. What did you do with those notes after signing them?—I handed them to Mr. Cotton on his witnessing that paper; he witnessed that paper at my instance.
- Q. What did you do with the paper after you got it?—I handed it in to Mr. Hartney. I do not know exactly the day. It was the day before the Committee met.
- Q. Have you paid those two notes and that cheque?—Yes; we have.
- Q. I observe M. Starrs on one of these, and I observe that the stamp is cancelled?—I do not know anything in reference to Starrs in the matter at all. Starrs was endorser when I got the note back. It was taken up at our bank. Cotton endorsed this note himself.
- Q. It is "pay James Cotton?"—The cheque was made payable to Charlton, and beyond that I do not know anything about it.
- Q. Are these the only two of the five notes which you have paid?—That is all.
- Q. Are the others due yet?—One is due on the 26th, Monday, since I came up. I do not think it has been paid.
- Q. As I understand you, these notes were given by you for the withdrawal of that tender?—They were.
- Q. Did you pay any money, or give any notes or securities of any kind for the withdrawal of any other tenders?—On that occasion I did not.
- Q. Of any one of that class of tenders ahead of you—Mackintosh's, Hope's or any of the rest?—I did. It was not a transaction of the same order. Mackintosh's was the lowest tender. It was necessary that he should send in a letter.
- Q. What consideration did he get?—He got \$10,000. That was after the matter was settled by the House.
- Q. Some negotiation took place before he sent the letter of withdrawal?—Yes; there was.
- Q. What was he to get?—He was to get \$12,000 altogether. I think there were notes to be given at the time for \$2,000. He was to get \$2,000 a year. We have actually paid \$4,000 of that.
- Q. Have you paid Hope anything?—I have not; Mr. Charlton negotiated that.
- Q. Messrs. Boyce & Co. were got out of the way?—I had nothing to do with that.
- Q. Do you know who had?—From hearsay I do. Beyond that I do not know.
- Q. Has your firm paid any money since then in consequence of that?—No; I think not.