

Q. There were present at your house yourself, Mr. James Cotton and Mr. Boyle?  
—Yes.

Q. Any person else?—No.

Q. Who came to your house with Boyle?—Well, I do not know who came on that occasion; I followed Mr. Boyle; I found them together.

Q. What time of the evening?—About seven or eight o'clock.

Q. What was the object of your meeting that time?—To see what I could do with the tender.

Q. Whose tender?—Mr. Boyle's tender.

Q. Why?—Because I believed that a number of the tenders that were in could be got out of the road for a consideration.

Q. Was Mr. Boyle's one of them?—It was. I [not for the purpose of seeing about that.

Q. You met some time in the evening of Saturday?—I did.

Q. Had you made any arrangement with Mr. Cotton before that to be there with Mr. Boyle?—I had asked Mr. Cotton to see Mr. Boyle; that I wanted to see him. I asked him that in my own house. I had heard at that time that Mr. Boyle had arrived in Ottawa. I, in fact, sent Mr. Cotton after him.

Q. What passed between you, as nearly as you can remember?—As near as I could; I told Mr. Boyle that evening I wanted to see what he was going to do in reference to the Parliamentary printing. He told me in so many words that he intended to carry out his tender. I told him then that there was quite a number below him. I mentioned the number, and he said that he thought it was folly at that stage of the proceedings; that I ought to begin at the bottom, that is, the lowest tender. I said that every one I took off the bottom would improve his position at the top. Mr. Boyle told me distinctly he would not sell; that if anything could be done, it would be, in the matter. I do not know if he said he would do anything that night. He said it was a matter he would have to give consideration. We made no arrangement then.

Q. What inducement did you offer?—I did not offer any inducement on that occasion. I simply told him what I wanted him for. I do not know as I can recollect the exact language. I told him plainly what I had wanted to see him about—to get it out of the road.

Q. Did you think he would involuntarily draw it?—Mr. Cotton told him himself—

*McCarthy, Q.C., objects.*

Q. Did Cotton take any part in this conversation that night?—I do not know that he did. I would not even swear positively that he was in the room.

Q. How long were you and Boyle together that night?—I should not say 20 minutes. It was a very short interview, at all events. I had seen Mr. Boyle in Quebec. I was not personally acquainted with him.

Q. Who introduced you to him, or him to you?—A Mr. Cotton.

Q. When did you see him next?—I met him the following Sunday afternoon, in my own house.

Q. Do you remember what day of the month Sunday was?—I do not.

Q. Had you arranged Saturday night to meet on the Sunday?—We had.

Q. And who came with him on Sunday?—He came alone.

Q. Was Cotton present on the Sunday?—Yes; he was there.

Q. How long were you discussing the matter on Sunday?—A very short time; not many minutes, I should say.

Q. What passed on the Sunday?—Well, as near as I can recollect, Mr. Boyle told me that he would not sell his tender; in fact, I do not know that he exactly told me that he would not sell his tender at that time; he told me that if it reached his tender, he would take a third interest in the concern. I was rather amused at this. I asked him if that was all he would do. He said that he had never done anything wrong that would injure his character.