The Weekly Mail.

VOL. II. NO. 101. TORONTO, FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1874. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Startling Revelations in Committee.

The Public Accounts Committee met Friday at ten o'clock, Mr. McLeod in the chair. The business transacted was with reference to work done for the Central Prison.

Mr. Rykert was called and sworn, and examined by Mr. Cameron. He said he was the time-keeper employed at the Central Prison, and generally went south the works twice in the morning and twice in the afternoon. He remembered the nomination of Mr. Moss in January last, and was time-keeper at the Prison then. He thinks were to report the time, to make up an account of it and hand it to the clerk. The time was first entered in a small book, and from that into a larger one, from which the pay sheets were made out. He did not consult any one respecting the sheet time. A man was only paid for the time he was working. It was probable that if a man was away from his work for a part of the day, that he himself would see at what time he returned, or he could find out from the foreman. He had nothing to do with the rate of wages the men received. He believed it was Mr. Lundie's duty to present the pay sheet. Witness, having been shown a pay sheet, said he had prepared it as Mr. Lundie was away at the time. He was at his absence the duty of preparing the pay sheets was his. He was time-keeper when Mr. Moss' first nomination took place in January last. On the day of nomination some of the men were absent from the works. They were allowed a half day, as many of them wanted to go away, but he believed that others of them did not. It was Mr. Wagner, he thought, who gave the order that they should be allowed a half day. The pay sheet would show whether the men had kept full days. No deduction was made for the time they were absent, as they were to be allowed their time the same as if they had been at work. He was told by Mr. Wagner to keep the half day paid time, but would not be certain.

By Mr. Simpson—The men had been paid a whole day's pay for half a day's work.

By Mr. Hardy—Did not hear the Commissioner issue orders that the men were to go; he believed the Commissioner issued orders, but was not certain. He received his orders from Mr. Wagner. He would not swear that Mr. Wagner told him the men were to have the half day, but he heard it somewhere about the prison.

By Mr. Mitchell—Witness was employed by Mr. Hilliard. When Mr. Wagner took the superintendence of the works witness was employed. He had more to do and therefore Mr. Wagner paid him 35c a day more.

By Mr. Farewell—Had not been having any conversation with any one lately about the matter in question. Had no idea Mr. McLeader spoke about five years ago. He only knew Mr. Bickford by sight.

By Mr. McLeod—The men had permission to be away on the afternoon referred to, but he was not certain that they all went; they might have gone.

By Mr. Rykert—Did not think that any men remained upon the works that afternoon.

By Mr. Farewell—Did not know how many men were in the employ, but he had no means of telling; did not know if any of them were 16 lb.

By Mr. Hardy—Was at the nomination.

By Mr. Latham—Was allowed to go to the nomination, and was paid for the time.

By Mr. Sinclair—They were not all supporters of Mr. Moss, but some were; he had Gold Cotton thread Albert Chain, pendant key, Gentleman's Hunting Case Watch, Silver Electro Plated Tea Set, with salver engraved and enamelled, five pieces, tea, sugar, coffee, cream and salver.

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4. 1874. THE MAIL" TING & PUBLISHING OMPANY, (LIMITED.) ENTS: "MAIL" OFFICE, TORONTO, November, 1873.

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GREAT VICTORY.

CAPTURE OF COOMASSIE.

Utter Defeat of the Ashantees.

(Per Dominion Lines.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 20, by cable from London, Feb. 26.—An official despatch, repeated at the War Office from General Wolseley, announces the utter defeat of the Ashantees, and the capture of Coomassie. This strongehold was captured on the 4th of February, after five days' hard fighting. (Associated Press Telegram.)

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The following is just received.

"COOMASSIE, Feb. 5.—We reached here yesterday, after five days' hard fighting. The troops behaved admirably. Our casualties are not great. The King has left the town, but is close by. He is promised to meet us to-day and sign a treaty of peace. We shall, probably, be able to return home in a month. The great mortality among the troops is not to be feared, as we hear, the ladies will try the fever cure."

MR. DISRAELI.

HIS LATEST ADDRESS.

On February 9 Mr. Disraeli addressed a meeting of the electors of Buckinghamshire, in the town hall of Buckingham. He was received on rising with much cheering. In the course of his speech he made the following remarks:—

Hon. Mr. Fraser and the paper showed otherwise.

By Mr. Cameron—Got a quantity of Ohio stone stocks for the buildings; it was bought by the square foot; had paid for it the ordinary price; had paid for it by the cubic foot; had paid for it by the square foot; and found that that ordinary price; had bought a little to go on with the work and had to pay a dollar per square foot for it; had been using Cleveland freestone; had seen stone before in the building; had not attended to the purchase for the Cleveland stone; had purchased 100,000 bricks, but had not attended to them at times were only two places in the city where such stone could be obtained; it would take two months to make the bricks; had purchased two kilns of bricks; for the first he had paid $6 55 per thousand; which was delivered at the works, for the other he had paid $6 25 on the ground. It was in November last that he made the contract; bricks for the stone work; Mr. Hillyard, Mr. McMillan; he believed, made between four and five hundred thousand bricks; he was quite positive.

By Mr. Farewell—That was on the ordinary kind of common bricks. They were not pressed bricks; they were not for front work; they were for back work; they were for front work; they were for front work; they were for front