

Tuesday, 3rd June, 1856.

Committee met,—

MEMBERS PRESENT:

JAMES MOIR FERRES ESQ.,
(Chairman.)

Mr. Stevenson,
Mr. Sanborn,
Mr. Masson,

Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Felton,
Mr. Clarke,—7.

THE Room was cleared of strangers and the Committee deliberated.

On motion of Mr. Masson the Committee adjourned at half-past 1 o'clock, P.M., until 11 o'clock, A.M., on Thursday next.

Thursday, 5th June, 1856.

Committee met,—

MEMBERS PRESENT.

JAMES MOIR FERRES, ESQ.,
(Chairman.)

Mr. Stevenson,
Mr. Sanborn,
Mr. Clarke,

Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Masson,
Mr. Felton —7.

MINUTES of the two last days proceedings were read, and approved.

Mr. *Stevenson* submitted the following draft of a report, and moved that it be adopted.

The Select Committee appointed to inquire, and report as to the truth of certain charges made in the course of debate, by the Honorable John A. Macdonald, Attorney General West, against Mr. George Brown, a Member of the House, while acting in 1848, as a member and Secretary of the Commissioners appointed by Government to inquire into the condition of the Provincial Penitentiary:

Beg leave to report,

That in obedience to the Order of Reference of Your Honorable House, of 27th February last, Your Committee have fully and carefully examined into the charges therein contained, and herewith beg leave to submit the whole proceedings had by them, and evidence taken before them, in connection with the subject.

Your Committee having maturely considered the same evidence, and diligently compared the testimony submitted to the Government by the Penitentiary Commissioners in 1849, with the written testimony taken by them, are of opinion that the testimony so reported by the said Commissioners, is not the true testimony given before them; they are further of opinion that to persons, such as the witnesses brought before Your Committee, acquainted with the complete evidence as really given, it would appear, that if the evidence reported by the Commissioners, was the evidence written down by their Secretary, there was a falsification of the original testimony. But how far Mr. Brown, who conducted the affairs of the Commission, and was in fact the Secretary also, was to blame separately from his colleagues, Your Committee express no opinion.

With reference to the subornation of perjury, and the promise of pardon to convicts to give evidence, Your Committee find that nearly all the witnesses, being officers of the Penitentiary, who had given evidence in favor of Mr. Smith the Warden, were dismissed, and that several, who had been dismissed by the