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The Toronto World.

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ELEVENTH YEAR. THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 20, 1890. ONE CENT.

NOT GUILTY

The World Wins Its Big Libel Suit

H. A. MASSEY MUST PAY THE COSTS

A Day Spent in Addressing the Gentlemen of the Jury—Mr. King, Mr. Lount and Mr. Justice MacMahon Turn Over a Pile of Legal Phrases and Sayings—The Verdict Returned in Less than an Hour—What the Alleged Libel Consisted Of—A Notable Array of Witnesses—The Shining Lights of the Methodist Body.

"Not Guilty!"

The jury in the Massey-Maclean libel case brought in the above verdict late yesterday afternoon. In addition to this Mr. King, the senior counsel for The World, moved for and succeeded in securing costs against the prosecutor, Mr. Hart A. Massey. The World's victory is, therefore, complete.

At an early hour crowds thronged the halls and stairways leading to Mr. Justice McMahon's court-room. Seldom had there been so great an interest manifested, and the fact that the important question of federation, as applied to Cobourg's Victoria University, brought many a Methodist light into the old court-room. They were not called as witnesses; they were there only as interested spectators and as men deeply interested in federation. When the verdict of "Not Guilty" was returned Mr. Maclean was on hand but Mr. Massey was conspicuously absent. A low murmur of applause, immediately suppressed by the sheriff's cry of "Order," was heard when the foreman of the jury announced the verdict.

That "Punshon Subscription" Plays an Important Part.

What appeared to influence the jury and the spectators more than anything else was the incident of the "Punshon Subscription." Mr. Maclean put in and proved as part of his defence that fifteen years or more ago Mr. Massey wrote a letter to Dr. Punshon, who was at that time charged with the duty of raising an endowment fund for Victoria University, that he (Mr. Massey) would give $1000 toward the same when it reached $100,000. Dr. Punshon, when he left the country, gave that letter over to Dr. Rose, then bursar of Victoria University, and when Dr. Rose had the $100,000 subscribed he wrote to Mr. Massey informing him thereof and requesting payment of the $1000. Mr. Massey replied that he had met with a business reverse, but that he had made provision for the $1000 in his will.

In answer to this allegation Mr. Massey produced his will in court, dated 1887, year, and its predecessor, dated 1887, to prove that he had provided for this undertaking of his; but when Mr. King, counsel for Mr. Maclean, insisted on the clause being read from the will it was found to be to the effect that by the will (subject of course to still other revocations and alterations) Mr. Massey left $1000 to Victoria University *provided* it remained independent! This as a matter of fact was no discharge of the letter to Dr. Punshon to give $1000 when the then endowment fund reached $100,000, although it was pretended that it was; and with this provision for $1000 for Victoria University *provided* it remained independent went the still more galling fact to the anti-federationists that as a matter of fact, notwithstanding Mr. Massey's statements at the Metropolitan Church in Toronto and at the celebrated Senate meeting at Cobourg, whereat Mr. Massey said he would give $30,000 to $100,000 to Victoria as *an independent university*, he had deliberately made his will without any provision for that independent university other than the $1000 aforesaid; and that even this $1000 he tried to show was as a matter of fact a discharge of the $1000 obligation given to Dr. Punshon and therefore in his estimation no bequest to the independent scheme at all!

And this was the broken reed that the anti-federationists were leaning on and the great and substantial foundation of their policy of obstruction. The thing collapsed thereupon like a house of cards, and the way that Mr. King elicited this information and referred to it in his address produced a genuine sensation in court, as it will produce genuine consternation among the anti-federationists.

Mr. King Talks for Nearly Three Hours.

Not a material item in the big budget of evidence was overlooked by Mr. King in his able address, lasting nearly three hours, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. All the salient points were dealt with and fairly dealt with; the serious, the fatal blow against the liberty of the press—and, by implication, the liberty of the people—should a verdict of "guilty" be returned, the evidence for justification, the reliability of the evidence produced by the defence, all these points were exhaustively dealt with.

Mr. King pointed out that the publication complained of was printed in good faith and from proper motives, as a matter of bona fide public interest and on a subject which the public should have information. By reason of the acts and circumstances under which the publication was made it was a privileged publication, robbed of any libelous sting, and really no libel at all. The duty of the jury was a very simple duty. If they had a doubt they should return a verdict of not guilty; if they thought it a libel, then they had a right to consider the plea of justification set up by the defendant as against the prosecutor. The publication had been simply a criticism upon the acts of a public man and in the interests of a public question. Until Mr. Massey had assumed a public, or a quasi public position with respect to this movement towards federation, not a single unkind word appeared in The World about him. But as soon as Mr. Massey took a public position in regard to that question—appeared as it were on a public platform and gave expression to certain views with regard to the federation movement—that moment the press had a right to deal with it. At a public meeting held at Cobourg Mr. Massey had sought to hamper and to embarrass that movement. Mr. Maclean took the side of federation because he considered it to be the right side. He considered it his duty in the interests of higher education and of Victoria College herself to ally himself with the advocates of federation who aimed to establish at Toronto a strong, central, national university. The defendant had taken that side and he had battled like a man for it. "And whether he wins or not, as far as that is concerned, you can have no doubt but that he had **a right to take that position.**"

Not in the Hayfork Line.

Mr. King then dealt fully with **The World's** article of Dec. 8, 1888, headed "Not in the Hayfork Line," which constituted the alleged libel. When Mr. Massey went to The World office and made a complaint yth regard to certain language used he had a personal interview with Mr. Maclean and told him that he did not make hayforks. He wanted the statement corrected, and The World came out next day and gave Mr. Massey the full benefit of his contradiction. Mr. Maclean had never insinuated, and The World had never insinuated, that Mr. Massey was a hayfork man of the Jones order. It was a pure delusion on Mr. Massey's part that anything of the kind was said in The World.

Next the meeting of Mr. Massey's employes was mentioned. He had heard it stated, said the counsel, that up there there was a place called "Whitewash Hall," and there it was where the resolution was passed. So far as The World was concerned, the whole matter was at an end when Mr. Massey called at The World office, but for the fact that the men came to The World office and asked for the publication of their resolutions.

This sentence in the heading "Wherein Mr. Massey is a Hayfork Man" was the crucial part of this alleged libel. By "working the hay fork racket on the Senate" and in calling Mr. Massey a "hayfork man" simply meant that he was a humbug—"an unmitigated humbug, if you like," added the counsel—a man who made delusive, deceptive and deceitful promises to Dr. Potts, Dr. Dewart and others.

His Cleveland record was touched upon and many of the facts brought out in evidence were mentioned, going to show the prosecutor to be a man who made promises which he did not carry out. When he said he would contribute twice as much to Victoria University under a scheme of independence as against the scheme of federation he knew that the Methodist Church was committed to a policy of federation and therefore could not entertain his offer—something like Gordon Bennett's offer to pay off the debt of the United States under certain conditions. There was no other policy before the country; federation was the policy of the church, and therefore Mr. Massey was perfectly safe in making the offer at that time, because it could not possibly have been accepted.

The Plea of Justification.

Mr. King then read The World's plea of justification from beginning to end, explaining fully the meaning of each paragraph. The evidence submitted with regard to the proceedings of the Senate Conference held in September, 1886, when the Board of Regents voted that the university should enter into the federation movement, making it the ruling policy of the Methodist Church, was mentioned, and with this fact Mr. Massey was fully acquainted. At the earlier meetings held to consider federation nothing was said by Mr. Massey to indicate that he was not in favor of the movement. Therefore, when Drs. Potts and Dewart called upon him it was only natural that they should expect his subscription to be in support of federation. These three interviews were mentioned: Dr. Potts was appointed; Mr. Massey knew he had been appointed to collect subscriptions in aid of the federation movement. Mr. Massey said he intended doing something for the university; "or if you like, for the university; I don't care which way you take it, for it amounts to the same thing," added Mr. King. But certain difficulties, litigation, etc., had stood in the way. In 1885, 1887, they again visited him and the difficulty had been removed and he promised them a subscription of from $20,000 to $30,000. Could there be a shadow, a scintilla of doubt in the minds of those who had heard the evidence that this was other than a promise to aid the federation movement? Had he ever carried out that promise? Never to this day.

"He will go down in the history of Federation as Conditional Promiser Massey," said the counsel.

A change had certainly come over Mr. Massey since the time he landed at Quebec, and, according to Mr. Daniel MacLean's evidence, seemed so delighted at the news that federation had carried. The Punshon letter and other evidence proving that the prosecutor's name was down for subscriptions not yet paid, were all touched upon, as was also the evidence of ex-Judge Barber of Cleveland and other material witnesses for the defence. The high positions and perfect reliability of men like Dr. Dewart, Chancellor Burwash, Dr. Potts and Treasurer Cox were strongly urged. These men called for the defence were all friends of Mr. Massey and had come with the greatest reluctance to give evidence.

In closing his address Mr. King strongly advocated the liberty of the press in its criticism of public men, and the grave consequences which must follow a verdict of guilty in this case, consequences which would be felt by the entire Canadian press.

The Crown Prosecutor's Able Reply.

Mr. Lount followed for the prosecution, and in that able and eloquent style of which he is a master addressed the jury for upwards of an hour. None appreciated the liberty of the press more than he, yet in considering the rights of the press the rights of the person must not be lost sight of. Mr. King in the early part of his address had referred to the fact that no regular crown prosecutor appeared to conduct the case for the crown as indicating that the Attorney-General was not in harmony with proceedings of the nature of criminal libel. But an action for criminal libel was of a quasi civil nature, and so it was provided that if an information was laid by one person against another for criminal libel, the person laying that information shall proceed with the action at his own expense and not at the cost of the country. The reason that Mr. Massey had brought a criminal instead of a civil libel was because he did not seek money, "and," said Mr. Lount, "I say to him (the defendant) now if he will retract that which is manifestly and clearly defamatory of this prosecutor we want no money." He denied that there had been any undue pressing of the case against the defendant. Speaking of the province of newspapers, he considered that while it is right to criticise the actions of public men, that criticism should not follow them into their private life. While his work should be criticised the individual should not be. There was no doubt but that the article complained of intended to convey the impression that Mr. Massey resembled "Hayfork Jones" although the bald statement was not made. Mr. Lount devoted some time in explaining to the jury the true meaning of the word "metaphorical" as used in The World's article. The interpretation placed upon Mr. Massey's promise to subscribe to federation was unfounded.

His Lordship's Charge.

His Lordship in delivering his charge explained fully the nature of the indictment and read the alleged libel, which The World reprints as follows:

(From The World, Dec. 8, 1888.)

NOT IN THE HAYFORK LINE.

THE MASSEY MEN OF THEIR OWN ACCORD PASS A FUNNY RESOLUTION.

Rough on "Hayfork Jones"—What "Hayfork Man" Means Figuratively and in the Concrete Signification—Wherein Mr. Massey is a Hayfork Man.

At 6 o'clock last evening 510 employes of the Massey Manufacturing Company met in the large machine shop of the works in order to take some action in connection with the comments of certain city papers with reference to the president of the company, H. A. Massey. Thomas Owen was called to the chair and briefly stated the object of the meeting, upon which Samuel McNab moved, seconded by D. A. Carey, the following resolution, which was most enthusiastically carried:

Whereas certain articles have appeared in the public press of Toronto to the effect that the firm of the Massey Manufacturing Company, of which H. A. Massey is president, are not the most exemplary (re Saturday Night) firm in existence, and whereas certain statements have been made derogatory to the firm and its employes, be it therefore resolved,

That, while not knowing anything about H. A. Massey in connection with the federation of college schemes, we most emphatically say that, in so far as the impression (by innuendo) tried to be conveyed that the Massey Manufacturing Company do manufacture or ever have manufactured hayforks, is a cowardly and malicious falsehood, made with the evident intention of conveying the idea that this firm had some connection with the notorious hayfork frauds perpetrated upon the farmers of this country some two years ago by an unscrupulous agent, Jones by name. Now this is utterly false, as we, some of whom have worked for the firm for forty years, can, and will if necessary, make affidavit that there never was a hayfork made in any of the shops over which the Massey Manufacturing Company had any control.

And further be it resolved, that in so far as the statement made through the same medium concerning our treatment by the company and the wages paid us by them we have but this to say, that we receive as much if not more wages than any body of men engaged at the same class of work, and that our treatment by them is just such as we make it, for the simple reason that we have their assurance that if our condition is not what it ought to be then it is our own fault, they being willing to at all times listen to any and all real or imaginary grievances that may exist and rectify them if possible.

And further, we do not propose to sit quietly by and allow any article which might affect the sale of the work we produce to go unchallenged, nor to allow any slur to be cast upon us as men.

The insinuation conveying the idea that we are engaged in the manufacture of hayforks, which we are not, but in the production of the very highest class of harvesting machinery.

And that a copy of this resolution be sent to each of the city papers.

Signed on behalf of the 510 employes of the Massey Manufacturing Company,

SAMUEL MCNAB. THOS. OWEN.
C. J. MCLENNAN. D. A. CAREY.

The World has read many funny things in its day, but nothing quite so funny as the above resolution.

Now, the hayfork is a useful implement on every farm, in every barn and stable. Why, then, should these men be ashamed of it? The ordinary farmer and stableman is not ashamed of a hayfork; why should a mechanic? For the poem runs:

I'd like to be a granger
And with the grangers stand
A horny-fisted farmer
With a hayfork in my hand.

But evidently it is not this kind of a hayfork that the Massey men repudiate (even if they do not make it), but the hayfork that will lift half a ton at once from off a load and transfer it to the mow, and which some time ago was swindlingly sold to farmers by fakirs who came to be called "hayfork men." The operations and methods of these hayfork men were laid bare by Adam Brown's committee last session and in many a division court before to-day. So that a man who humbugs, or swindles, or pulls the wool over the eyes of another is said to be a hayfork man. "Hayfork Jones," referred to in the resolution, was the brightest example of the hayfork man in actual life. The World does not know of a better example of the hayfork man, in the metaphorical or tropical sense, than Mr. H. A. Massey of the Massey Company, the gentleman referred to in the letter of Dr. Dewart and Dr. Potts, and whose name is to be found on the subscription lists of Victoria College, down for sums that have not yet been paid, and who is also well known in Cleveland in connection with a subscription toward a church fund there and which got into the courts before it was settled.

When The World said that Mr. Massey was a hayfork man and that he "hayforked" the senate meeting at Cobourg it did not mean that he made or sold hayforks in the concrete, but in the abstract or metaphorical sense. And when on Thanksgiving Day the old gentleman came into The World office and said, "I do not make hayforks, but reapers and mowers," we gave full publication of his assertion the next day.

The men, whose repudiation we are only too glad to publish, will therefore understand that The World never attempted to convey the idea that they made hayforks, or worked for a hayfork firm, but that Mr. Massey himself was, in the metaphorical sense, a hayfork man, and worked the hayfork racket on the Senate meeting.

Poor Old Hayfork, innocent 510 employes, much abused Hayfork Jones!

And yet The World laughs.

The salient points of the evidence were carefully gone over. Those matters of public interest which a newspaper is entitled to criticise were mentioned. Such power of criticism, applied to such matters of public interest, His Lordship believed very wisely existed. The main point after summing up the evidence was this:

That if they found that Mr. Massey had, metaphorically speaking, using the words of the alleged libel, deluded and humbugged Dr. Potts, Dr. Dewart and the other promoters of the Federation scheme in the same way, metaphorically speaking, as Hayfork Jones had humbugged, swindled and deceived the farmers, then Mr. Maclean's plea of justification was substantially established, and a verdict of not guilty should be returned.

The jury remained out an hour.

"Gentlemen of the Jury, have you agreed upon your verdict?" asked Clerk Nichol.

"Not guilty!" replied the foreman.

Then Mr. King moved for costs as against the plaintiff. After some delay and reference to the statute His Lordship accorded costs for the defendant.

The Gentlemen of the Jury.

Henry Snider, lot 2, con. 4, Vaughan, farmer, foreman.
Daniel Chew, lot 11, con. 3, York, farmer.
John Rose, Huron-street, Toronto, builder.
Thomas Smith, lot 22, con. 8, Markham, farmer.
Samuel Dain, lot 11, con. 1, York, farmer.
David Moyer, lot 15, con. 7, Markham, farmer.
George Bowes, lot 3, con. 2, Vaughan, farmer.
Robert Leary, Manning-ave., Toronto, builder.
J. Harvey, Main-st., Scarlboro, carpenter.
Stuart Brody, lot 30, con. 5, Markham, farmer.
Robert McCutcheon, lot 29, con. 5, King, farmer.
H. W. Copson, lot 8, con. 5, King, farmer.

A Great Array of Witnesses.

Said an old Q.C. yesterday: "I've seen a good many trials in Toronto and been connected with many cases, but I never saw such a defence as that of The World for the sustained character of its witnesses. It began with ex-Judge Barber, a distinguished jurist of Cleveland, followed by Dr. Dewart, Dr. Rose, Dr. Potts, Dr. Rykman, Dr. Burwash, the foremost men in the Methodist connection, followed by such respected laymen as George S. Cox and Daniel Maclean, and had Senator John Macdonald and Williamson to back them before they would have been in the number."

Mass meeting, Association Hall, Thursday night, under the auspices Canada's New Party.

A Prosperous Department.

Ald. Hill, chairman of the Waterworks Committee, had the members out for the spring inspection of the various properties yesterday. From 10 o'clock in the morning until 1, the aldermen spent the time in making a thorough examination of the main pumping station and the old Parkdale pumps. At 1 o'clock the chairman conducted his colleagues to Harry Webb's, where he entertained them to an elegant lunch. An hour later the party drove up to the high level pumping station and the Rosehill reservoir. The chairman explained his views in the matter of certain improvements proposed and the committee got through its work before dark, thoroughly satisfied with the state of affairs in the department and the officials thereof.

Manufacturers, by warehousing their surplus stock with Mitchell, Miller & Co., receive negotiable warehouse receipts.

London Water Commissioners in Court.

The Water Commissioners of London were lately summoned by John Chapman before Justice of the Peace Jarvis charging them with creating a public nuisance about four miles from the city by building a dam across the River Thames. The Commissioners thereupon moved at Osgoode Hall for a prohibition against Chapman and Jarvis to prevent further proceedings against them, on the ground that being a corporate body they were not liable to be proceeded against before the justice of the peace under the Criminal Procedure Act, and the justice was exceeding his jurisdiction in doing so.

Mr. Justice Robertson, before whom the motion was made, yesterday decided in favor of the commissioners and grants prohibition according, but made no order as to costs.

Opening day next Saturday. Low prices the motto. Model Clothing Store, 219 and 221 Yonge-street.

An Attractive Store.

On Saturday next there will be opened at the corner of Yonge and Adelaide-streets the most attractive jewelry store in the city. Messrs. Ryrie Bros., who have for so many years been known to the jewel loving public, having found it absolutely necessary to remove to larger premises, have secured a lease for a term of years of the above property and at very great expense have remodeled the interior, making it beyond doubt the most handsome jewelry store this side of New York. In making this move they secure to themselves one of the choicest business locations of the city, and this, added to their superb stock and well-known reputation, places them at once in the foremost rank of the jewelry trade of Toronto.

$12.50 is our price for a full size hardwood bedroom set and we will give you credit. Adams', 177 Yonge-street. ed

The Crush Tourist or Evening Sun—The New Hat for Gentlemen.

Soft, easy fitting, dressy and far ahead of any stiff hat we have seen is the new hat just introduced by Dineen. The firm predict a very large sale on this hat as it is very popular across the ocean as well as the States. They are made in several colors and principally in fine qualities, and the prices are very moderate, being sold at $2.50 and $3. Ask to see them at Dineen's hat store, corner King and Yonge-streets.

Adams' Tutti Frutti Gum Strengthens the Voice and Throat and Cleans the Teeth.

A Tale of Two Cities.

It was midnight in Hamilton, also in Dundas, but that made no difference. A denizen of the former place had just returned from Toronto, where he had purchased a pair of silk striped flannel shirts and a pajama suit from quinn. When his wife saw the lovely goods her arms were about his neck and tears of joy fell softly upon the carpet.

Fine rubber coats just to hand—a case of fine goods, all sewed seams, in black and drab; inverness capes; also fine tweed covered goods. Wheaten & Co., 17 King-street west, corner Jordan. 24

THE OLD GENTLEMEN DIVIDE

A VOTE IN THE SENATE ON THE ORANGE BILL.

The Second Reading Passed, 32 to 20, and a Reference to the Banking Committee Ordered—Another Discussion in the House Over Timber Limits—The Alien Labor Bill Read a Second Time.

OTTAWA, March 19.—The Orange Bill was read a second time in the Senate to-day and referred to the Banking Committee. The division was 32 to 20, as follows:

CONTENTS.

Abbott.	McCallum.	Perley.
Archibald.	McInnes. (B.C.)	Prowse.
Botsford.	McKay.	Read.
Boulton.	McKindsey.	Reesor.
Clemow.	McMillan.	Reid.
Drummond.	Macdonald (B.C)	Sanford.
Glasier.	Macfarlane.	Stevens.
Grant.	MacInnes. (Bur.)	Sutherland.
Kaulbach.	Merner.	Vidal.
Loughead.	Montgomery.	Wark—32.
McClelan.	Odell.	

NON-CONTENTS.

Armand.	Dever.	O'Donohoe.
Baillargeon.	Girard.	Paquet.
Bellerose.	Guevremont.	Pelletier.
Bolduc.	Haythorne.	Power.
Casgrain.	Hewian.	Robitaille.
Chaffers.	Lewin.	Scott—20.
De Blois.	Murphy.	

THE ALIEN LABOR BILL

Read a Second Time and Referred to a Special Committee.

OTTAWA, March 19.—Mr. Charlton to-day moved for a return respecting timber limits granted by the Dominion Government since March 1, 1885. A warm discussion arose on this, Messrs. Dawson and Ward explaining that there was no warrant for connecting their names with timber limit transactions.

Sir John Macdonald vigorously criticised Mr. Charlton's speech of a few evenings ago, which he said was plainly an attempt to cast a slur upon members supporting the Government and to give the impression that for favoritism the members quoted had been granted timber limits. Mr. Charlton had even brought up again the allegation that the late Hon. Thos. White had secured limits for himself, notwithstanding the explicit denial and satisfactory explanation given by him in his lifetime. The charge was brought again as if to throw a stain upon the grave of that hon. gentleman. It was significant that in discussing the matter in 1886 Mr. Charlton had included the name of Mr. McCarthy in his list but left it out on this occasion because they were both Equal Rights men. [Laughter.] He did not know what should be done with Mr. Charlton, but he thought he should be made to sit upon him as he had done before. [Laughter.]

After further discussion the resolution was adopted.

The second reading of Mr. Taylor's Alien Labor Bill was then moved and carried on a division on the understanding that the House was not committed to its principle.

Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. Blake both argued that if Canada was represented by a recognized agent at Washington such troubles as the present would not be apt to arise.

In speaking in support of reference to a committee who could report upon the whole subject, Sir John Macdonald said the Government had not by any means been inattentive to this matter and that remonstrances received from various quarters against the enforcement of the Act of Congress of 1885 had been forwarded to Washington, where this, like many other questions of international interest, was now being discussed.

The bill was then referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Colby, Taylor, Gerrard, Lepine, Weldon of St. John, Albert, McKay, Muloch, Ferguson of Welland, Wilson of Elgin, Daly, Davin, Earle, Ward, Gillmor, McDougald of Pictou, Mills of Annapolis, Brien and Lister.

The Franchise Amendment Hoisted.

After recess the bill respecting the Detroit Winter Railway Bridge Company was read a third time and passed, and the bill to incorporate the Dominion Mineral Company was read second time.

Mr. Casgrain's bill to further secure the independence of Parliament by requiring members to take an oath declaring that they have not committed and will not commit any bribery or corruption and have no interest in any Government contract was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. "Better order a hearse," ominously remarked Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Dawson then moved the second reading of his bill respecting the Dominion Elections Act and prohibiting promises of public works of any kind by the Government or by candidates during them in constituencies where elections may be pending. The bill was very sweeping in its provisions, and when Mr. Charlton made a strong political attack upon the Government in moving the second reading, the fate of the bill seemed assured.

Sir John Macdonald described the bill as a wanton insult to any and every Government in this country and declared it to be a parcel of nonsense from beginning to end. He moved that the second reading be this day six months.

After considerable discussion the hoist was decreed, 103 to 60, and the House adjourned at 10.35.

BREMNER'S FURS.

Mr. Lister's Committee Gets to Work—An Interesting Letter.

OTTAWA, March 19.—The charges against Gen. Middleton with reference to Bremner's furs were before Mr. Lister's Select Committee to-day. The General, through counsel, denied all the charges, and added that he never got the furs, which, however, he admitted he confiscated because Bremner, the half-breed, was a rebel. Mr. Hayter Reed gave a similar denial. He said the letter ordering the furs to be put in packages for Middleton, Warden, Benson and himself was written upon the General's instructions.

About the most interesting document laid before the committee was this letter, which speaks for itself:

BATTLEFORD, N.W.T., March 16, 1888.

Sir: In reply to your request for a statement from me bearing on a quantity of furs taken from one Charles Bremner in 1885, I have to say: During the rebellion of '85, while acting as quarter-master of the Home Guard, I was, by order of Col. Otter, assistant quarter-master sergeant of N. W. M. P. to issue rations to the settlers of this district, and that on the evening of Tuesday, May 26, several loads of furs were brought to the police store from Bremner's camp. They were placed in a position by themselves and covered from view to ensure protection from theft.

On Saturday, July 4, a stranger arrived overland from Fort Pitt, leaving a letter signed Hayter Reed, which stated that he (Reed) was ordered by General Middleton to have Warden (the police Q. M. sergt.) put up several packages of the furs placed in the store, one for S. L. Bedson, one for Hayter Reed, one for some name that I do not remember and two for the General. Warden being busy asked me to have the furs put up, which I did, assisted by one Darien, a storeman, and addressed them as above. Next morning, July 5, the boat with Reed and the General arrived from Fort Pitt. The General and Reed went to the barracks.

The General was not satisfied with the quality of the furs prepared for him and had the packages supplemented by a large saddle box filled with choice furs, with which the packages were sent to the boat.

There were a few remnants of fur left, but I am under the impression that they were given out on the order of the general. Next day, Monday, Mr. Reed called at the store and asked Warden for the order authorising the packing of the furs. Warden professed not knowing where it was, keeping it I suppose for his own protection, as there was no other order either for receiving, storing or disposing of them, and it was generally understood that General Middleton had confiscated the furs. RONALD C. MCDONALD.

To Col. Morris, N.W.M.P., Battleford.

THE DEAD MEAT COMPANY.

A Three Rivers Deputation Disappointed—The Rykert Case.

OTTAWA, March 19.—A deputation from Three Rivers to-day waited upon the Minister of Agriculture to ask that cattle might be allowed to be shipped in bond to that place and there slaughtered for export. The minister held out no hope that the request would be granted, but promised to consider the matter. The request was made in connection with the famous Three Rivers Dead Meat Company, so prominently before the public of late and concerning which Sir Richard Cartwright intends to question Sir Hector Langevin to-morrow.

The Rykert case came before the Privileges and Elections Committee of the House of Commons this morning. Mr. Girouard, M.P., was elected chairman. The committee only sat for a few minutes. Mr. Rykert asked that it be adjourned, as he had not got his witnesses ready. Sir John Thompson, Minister of Justice, said that Mr. Rykert would have to have them ready by Friday or the investigation would go on without them. The Government could not afford to wait. Mr. Rykert selected Hon. William McDougall, Q.C., as his counsel. The committee meets again on Friday. Mr. Rykert has been officially served with a statement of the charges.

UNDER THE PUBLIC MORALS ACT.

Michael Neelon on Trial for Seducing 17-Year-old Mary Jane Ennes of Sutton—The Girl's Mother Examined.

The trial of Michael Neelon on the charge of seducing Mary Jane Ennes of Sutton under promise of marriage was commenced at the Criminal Assizes yesterday afternoon. The girl is only 17 years of age, and the defendant is between 25 and 30. The first witness called was the mother of Mary Jane, who she proved a most unsatisfactory witness. She had known defendant since a year ago last January, but as to the date of the marriage proposal and seduction she was not so clear. The only other witness called before the adjournment was Rev. Father Rohleder, the priest at Georgina, who testified as to the age of the girl from the church resigtry book.

This case is being tried under Sec. 4 (R.S.C.) of the act respecting public morals, which provides:

Every one above the age of 21 years who, under promise of marriage, seduces and has illicit connection with any unmarried female of previously chaste character and under 18 years of age, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to two years imprisonment.

MRS. BURCHELL IS DISCHARGED.

The Crown Offer No Evidence Against Her as Far as the Crime at Niagara is Concerned.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., March 19.—Mrs. Burchell was brought before Police Magistrate Hill at 11.50 this morning. Magistrate Chadwick of Ingersoll occupied a seat on the bench. County Crown Attorney T. D. Raymond of Welland and Detective Murray were present. Mrs. Burchell's features were completely concealed by her close veil. She seemed to be very nervous and her fingers twitched constantly. She was accompanied by her counsel, Barrister Hellmuth of London.

The Magistrate asked Detective Murray and Mr. Raymond if they had any evidence to offer that would warrant the holding of the prisoner any longer, and both responded in the negative.

Magistrate Hill then went over the case and said: "As far as the charge against Mrs. Burchell of being an accessory before the murder in this country is concerned there has been no evidence produced to prove the charge, and if she had been an accessory before the murder she must have committed this breach of the law in New York State, as the evidence went to show she was present when the murder took place on Feb. 17, and the prisoner did not arrive in this country until Feb. 18. If she was guilty as an accessory after the murder, as in accordance with the verdict of the coroner's jury, there would have had some other evidence that had not been submitted to him. The magistrate said he would dismiss the charge and give the prisoner her liberty.

The decision was applauded by the spectators. Mrs. Burchell immediately left the room with Mr. Hellmuth. She will go with her counsel to-morrow morning to Woodstock and appear before the magistrate, where it is understood she will be released on her own recognizance to appear at any time when wanted. Mrs. Burchell will return to Niagara Falls, where she intends to make her home for the present.

All of Benwell's baggage, as well as that of Burchell, was handed over to Detective Murray, who expressed it to Woodstock today.

Detective Murray went to Buffalo this afternoon in search of more evidence in connection with the visit of the party in that city.

Q. O. R. Notes.

A smoking concert will be held at the sergeants' mess on Monday evening next.

No regimental orders have been issued as yet, but the first battalion drill will commence about April 1.

"G" Company drilled last night for the prize in physical training. Sergeant Butcher of "C" school was instructor.

The non-commissioned officers who have been drilling all winter were examined last night by Adjutant McDonald. They number about 30 and are in excellent trim.

The spring drill for recruits opened last night. Over 60 presented themselves and they were divided into three squads, under the instruction of Sergeant Burns (G Co.), Sergeant Langton (B Co.), Captain Coeburn (F C.).

Canada's New Party. Hear J. W. Bengough Thursday Night, 8 o'clock, Association Hall.

Critical Condition of Principal McGregor.

To-morrow in St. Luke's Hospital, New York, the surgeons will open the spine of Dr. McGregor, principal of McMaster University. The treatment he has hitherto received at the hands of physicians has proved unavailing to arrest the malady. He has gradually been growing worse by reason of various complications, the outcome of the original disease.

Good Speaking Thursday Night, Association Hall, under the auspices of Canada's New Party.

A $1,000,000 Business Crash.

NEW YORK, March 19.—John F. Plummer, the well-known politician and drygoods merchant, made an assignment to-day. Liabilities about $1,000,000, assets nominally the same.

Canada's New Party, mass meeting tonight, Association Hall.

The New U. S. Consul at Brockville.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The President to-day sent to the Senate the nomination of James F. Ellis, Wisconsin, to be consul at Brockville, Ont.

To-night mass meeting, Association Hall.

Toronto General Trust Company.

The new building of this company on the corner of Yonge and Colborne-streets is rapidly approaching completion. The company will have ample room for their largely increased business. All the modern improvements will be found in the new building. The vaults of this company are admitted to be as fine as any in Ontario and will be lighted by electricity, and in addition the vaults will be protected by the Holmes Electric Alarm Company and connected with the central office system.

To-night, Canada's New Party, equal rights for all, Association Hall.

Eighty Thousand Dollar Building Permits.

Charles Moss, 4-story brick store at 129 King-street east, $10,000; R. McMullen, two pair of 2-story and attic brick dwellings, southwest corner Markham and Harbord-streets, $10,000; Saunders & McBurney, four attached 2-story and mansard brick dwellings in George-street; one pair of 2-story and mansard brick dwellings in Mutual-street, and six attached 2-story and attic brick dwellings, corner Shuter and Mutual-streets, total cost $60,000.

Watch out for the biggest sensation of the season—the opening of the Model Clothing Store, 219 and 221 Yonge-street.

The George F. Blake Manufacturing Company of Boston shipped their engines from that city to Toronto on Saturday last and they will be at the high level pumping station in the course of the week.

Don't miss the big event—the Model Clothing Store, 219 and 221 Yonge-street, will open Saturday.

AGAINST A RED-HOT STOVE.

THE TERRIBLE CRIME OF TWO WEST END TOUGHS.

How They Tried to Make a Young Lady Surrender the Key of a Cash Drawer—A Murderous Assault on a York-street Old Clo' Man in St. John's Ward—The Villains All in Custody.

Two diabolical and dare-devil crimes were perpetrated in Toronto in broad daylight yesterday: one in St. John's Ward and the other in the West End. The latter, for downright brutality, exceeds anything ever heard of in the criminal records of this city for years.

At 4½ o'clock yesterday afternoon two young men entered Elias Rogers' branch coal office at No. 578 Queen-street west. The only person in the place at the time was Miss Eliza McCarron, who resides at 178 Mutual-street and who has charge of the office.

Before the young lady could address the two men they sprang over the counter. One of them caught her by the throat and rushed her up against the north wall of the room, while the other made a dash for the cash drawer, which contained $156. Miss McCarron had a few moments before locked the drawer and put the key in her pocket.

Finding himself foiled by the drawer being locked, Robber No. 2 made a spring at the unfortunate girl, demanding with a string of oaths that she surrender the key. Instead of doing so she began to scream for help, whereupon her first assailant threw her against the red-hot stove and held her there while the other attempted to find the pocket in which was the key.

Miss McCarron redoubled her cries for help and the two villains, becoming scared, dropped their victim, again jumped the counter and disappeared. When a gentleman passing by and hearing the screams entered the office, he found the lady half fainting on the floor. Her right ear and arm were badly burned, and the marks on her throat where the cruel villain had gripped her were plainly visible.

Meanwhile Detective Porter, who is stationed at St. Andrew's Market Station, had started out to look for a well-known thief named Charles Lappin, for whose arrest he had a warrant. He was in company with a man named Patterson, and the pair were walking in the company of Tom Patterson of 174 Farley-avenue, another young man well known to the police. As soon as Lappin caught sight of the officer he started to run, but after a five-minute chase Porter had secured his man, and in another 10 had him safely locked up. While there he was told of the outrage to which Miss McCarron had been subjected, and as the description of her assailants answered to that of Patterson and Lappin, Porter left the station to find the former. He caught him on Portland-street, and after seeing him safely housed brought down Miss McCarron to see if she could identify the prisoners. On seeing them she at once declared that they were the two who had so brutally attacked her. This morning they will be asked to plead to a charge on which, if convicted, they will receive long terms in the penitentiary.

BADLY BEATEN AND ROBBED.

Morris Goldstein's Terrible Experience With a Couple of Young Thieves.

Morris Goldstein, who keeps a second-hand store at No. 201 York-street, had quite an exciting an experience with thieves as Miss McCarron, but in the matter of injuries he was not quite so fortunate as the young lady, as he lays in the accident ward at the General Hospital with 37 wounds on his head and face and covered with bandages. The attack on Mr. Goldstein occurred during the afternoon in an upper room of No. 37 Elizabeth-street, occupied by a Mrs. Sturgess. Here is how Mr. Goldstein told the story himself to The World after he had had his wounds dressed by Drs. Allen, Cuthbertson and Chambers:

This afternoon a young man about 19 years of age came into my shop and stated that he had some clothing that he wished disposed of at 37 Elizabeth-street. I put about $200 in my pocket and accompanied him to the house. I was taken into a bedroom, where I saw another young man. As soon as I entered the room the latter demanded my money. I became frightened and gave them a couple of dollars and said that it was all I had in my pockets. One of the men then said, "D—n you, give us more than that or we will brain you." Mr. Goldstein then emptied his pockets and suiting the action to the words, he knocked me over the head with a water pitcher, felling me to the ground. I screamed and tried to break away, but I was again knocked down, the villains this time breaking a chair over my head. One of them threw me on the floor, while the other covered my face with a pillow, and while in this position I was robbed of the money I had, about $197.

They then took me by the arms and tried to throw me out of the window, but the sash caught from the top by the legs and I was unable to help myself. While I was trying to get free the two men washed themselves in a basin and ran out of the front door. I then fainted.

As soon as the news was received at Police Headquarters, detectives were stationed at the various railway stations to intercept the would-be murderers should they attempt to leave the city. Detective Johnston was assigned to Union Station, and just as he arrived the 2.50 express was pulling out for Hamilton. He made a race after it and swung on to the rear steps. From the correct description given by Mr. Goldstein his assistant, Mr. Cudde had no difficulty in recognizing two young men in the smoking-car as the parties wanted. They were securely handcuffed, the train was stopped and they were taken to police headquarters. They were searched but only about $12 and tickets for Buffalo were found on their persons.