

1293. You swear, then, that after the remark made by Mr. Boyle, that he would leave the matter in your hands, you had no negotiations with him?—Yes.

1294. And that the next transaction in which you were concerned was the payment of this money to Mr. Cotton?—Yes.

1295. Did you understand that Mr. Boyle authorized you to pay the money to Mr. Cotton for Mr. Boyle?—Yes.

*By Mr. Trow :*

1296. You received the money and notes from Mr. Roger?—Yes.

1297. He gave it to you in good faith, expecting Mr. Boyle to get it?—Yes.

1298. You have heard, I suppose, that the payment of the notes have been repudiated?—Yes.

1299. How do you account for that?—Well, Mr. Roger gave the notes to me to be given Mr. Boyle, and Mr. Boyle swore that he did not get them, and Mr. Cotton said that they had gone into the hands of Mr. Starrs, and Mr. Starrs said that he was keeping them for Mr. Cotton. I presume that Mr. Roger thought that the money was obtained under false pretences.

1300. Are you aware that Mr. Starrs has paid Mr. Boyle a portion of that money?—I am not aware of it, I heard Mr. Starrs swear that he gave Mr. Boyle some money, but that he lent it to him on some other business.

*By Mr. Costigan :*

1301. Might it not be possible that the reference in Mr. Boyle's remark was to an arrangement that might be made between those parties and himself for a partnership instead of for this cash payment?—If that had not been followed up by this letter of withdrawal being brought to me by Mr. Cotton for the \$3,000, I might have imagined that, but I think I was right in coming to the conclusion that Mr. Cotton had full power to act for him in the matter.

*By Hon. Mr. Bowell :*

1302. Do I understand that you told Mr. Boyle previous to this that he could not have a partnership?—Yes.

*By Mr. Costigan :*

1303. Were you aware of more than that being told to Mr. Boyle—that it was impossible for him to get the contract?—By whom?

1304. By anybody—by yourself for instance?—Yes; I told him the contract would not go to him, because it would be done by myself in connection with Mr. Roger.

1305. That there was no chance of his getting the contract at all?—Yes; for that reason.

*By Hon. Mr. Macfarlane :*

1306. Had you withdrawn your tender?—No, sir; my tender was not withdrawn.

1307. Then you were, in reality, holding your tender as a species of influence over Mr. Boyle?—Yes; I was the third.

1308. It was coercion on your part?—It was a mild sort of coercion to pay him \$3,000 for the tender.

*By Hon. Mr. Aikins :*

1309. Did you tell Mr. Boyle that you had an arrangement with MacLean, Roger & Co. in reference to your tender?—Yes; Mr. Boyle knew very well that my tender was in the interest of MacLean, Roger & Co.

*By Hon. Mr. Bureau :*

1310. Who furnished you with the \$500 to accompany your tender?—Mr. Roger.

1311. And you returned the cheque to Mr. Roger when your tender was withdrawn?—Yes. I may say I thought the Committee must have understood that the whole thing was arranged, because I looked upon it as a very queer circumstance that the Committee was giving back all the cheques.

*By Hon. Mr. Aikins :*

1312. And did you labor under the impression that the Committee knew that there was a conspiracy outside?—I did. I concluded that the Committee thought, as I did, that they were getting the work done very cheaply at the highest tender. I