not exceed \$1,500. AN ILLEGAL CLAIM,

But the gross overcharging of which OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co., or rather Mr.

OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co., or rather Mr. Brown, the Dominion agent, was guilty, is not by any means the ugliest feature in this transaction. Clearly if OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co. erected this structure on lots which they knew to be in the Government reserve, they were guilty of an attempt to extort money under false pretences, and their claim was vitiated and bogus. For if they knew the land would be required for railway purposes, they knew also it could not be used for hotel purposes. The evidence that they were well aware that they were building on land in the Government reserve is very strong. Hender ment reserve is very strong. HENDER-son's examination, p. 113: valua

son's examination, p. 113:

Had you any reason to believe or had you heard before the building was commenced, that the land would be required by the Government for railway purposes. After I was started. I was working on the cellar about the time when Mr. Middleton, the engineer up there, came along and tood me it seemed to be foolish to be building a hotel there when the land was reserved for railway purposes.

Was he one of the railway engineers yes: he was stationary engineer at the Was he was stationary engineer at the town plot?

Was he next to Mr. Hazlewood? Yes

Did you report that to Mr. Oliver?

Treported that to Mr. Oliver.

Did Mr. Oliver seem to be aware of that before? He did not seem to be aware of

what is

region

43 \$1.50

16 223

23

000 65,752 ost of the

on (p. 113) rice for it. VER DAVIDmittee following

ort, 1878

Charged to

\$92,52

15,872

it before?
Was he surprised; what did he say? h there Was he said if it was a Government reserve the Government would have to pay a farcy price for the building.

Did he tell you to go on with it? Yes; he told me to go on with it. labs and which And again at p. 115:

And again at p. 115:

From the time that you got notice from the engineer that the lots would be required by the Government, did you feel that you were really going on with that hotel for the Neebing Hotel Company, or simply for the purpose of making up a bill against the Government? As soon as I commenced to build I was bothered with people coming along telling me that the building would never be a hotel, and I lost all interest in the affair after that. Several parties told me that the ground was reserved for railway purposes at that time.

Was this before you had made much progress with the building? Yes; first when I had started excavating the cellar.

Moreover, while this hotel was not conwas the Moreover, while this hotel was not conceived until June, 1875, it is on record that Mr. Davidson as early as November, 1874, knew exactly what land the Government would require, and even had a facsimile of the Government plan

had a facsimile of the Government plan in his possession.

Even the valuators clearly saw the impropriety of paying Oriver, Davidson & Co.'s claim under such circumstances, and they made a special report to the Government on the subject, as follows: it large In the claim of the Neebing Hotel Company, we are not prepared to recognize the erection of this hotel, commenced in report July, 1875, about six mo They threw the responsibility on the Government, warning the Public Works Department that OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co. had no legal claim, and urging the Minister to demand OLIVER & Co.'s affi-OLIVER, davit as to the value of the hotel (Mr. Rein's evidence, p. 47). But the Government, without securing the affidavit, and ignoring the opinion of the valuators as to the illegality of the claim, paid OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co.'s bills at sight, \$5 029

The bill paid by the country for the lots and the hotel will be found in the Public Accounts for 1877, part 2, p. 234:

\$68,708 26

SUMMARY OF THE FACTS. From what has gone before, these facts

From what has gone before, these facts are patent:

(1.) That in November, 1874, OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co. were aware that Mr. MACKENZIE intended to select the Town Plot the site for the terminus, although his selection was not made officially until January, 1875; and that with this information in their possession they bought up lots adjoining their own property which they afterward sold to the Government at an enormous profit.

(2.) That Mr. DAVIDSON declared that he obtained this advance information

the Government at an enormous profit.

(2.) That Mr. Davidson declared that he obtained this advance information from Mr. Mackenzie; and at the same time exhibited a tracing showing the intended Government reserve, which proved to be an exact facsimile of the map or plan subsequently issued by the Public Works Department.

(3.) That in selecting the site, Mr. Mackenzie ignored the report of his engineer recommending the Mckenzar farm property, and chose Oliver, Davidson & Co.'s property in the face of his engineer's grave objections to it.

(4.) That while the Mckenzar farm was offered at \$75 an acre, Oliver, Davidson & Co were permitted to charge \$500 an acre for lands intrinsically, and but for the railway, werthless.

(5.) That Mr. Mackenzie ignored the the very less.
(5.) That Mr. MACKENZIE ignored the

(5.) That Mr. MACKENZIE ignored the arbitration system in acquiring these lands, and appointed two valuators and a solicitor and adviser in the person of Mr. P. J. Brown, of the firm of OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co., the vendors.

(6.) That by the advice and at the instigation of this interested agent, the Act of 1868 providing that the factatious values lent to property by the proposed construction of a public work through or near it, shall not be recognized as intrinsic values, was wholly ignored by the valuators, and the fictitious values recognized and accepted. -did you,

the valuators, and the fictations valuators, tells a recognized and accepted.

(7.) That OLIVER, DAVIDSON & Co. were allowed for an alleged hotel which they erected on land well knowing that the same was required for railway purposes; that the Public Works Department set aside the report of the valuations of the Law tors that this claim was

Structure structure say, estimated as recommended by the valuators, so since shows a second as recommended by the valuators, so since shows as recommended by the valuators, so side shows as recommended by the valuators, side shows as recommended by the valuators, as recommended by the va

THE ENGLISH MAIL teresting Summary of News.

OUR PARIS LETTER.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.] PARIS, May 7 ags of the united world were still floating batons, and both sides were reinforced by civilians. The souffle lasted for about twenty minutes, when a posse of policemen came up and took the ringleaders into custody. About a dozen soldiers were carried to the nearest hospital, none seriously injured. Several policemen were much hurt. A large crowd thronged the street, completely stopping the traffic, and there was great excitement among the spectators.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS. n the breeze, and Paris in a whirl of ex

ISIT FROM SIR JOHN MACDONALD.

Handsome Presentation to Lady Macdonald.

A BATCH OF ADDRESSES.