

POOR DOCUMENT

degraded party—that the hon. leader was dragging it down to degradation. Was this contradicted? No; then it is dragged down to degradation without being degraded. He held that the Opposition dealt fairly with the Government, and he appealed to both sides of the House to support him. On his side of the House, there was no personal ill-will with reference to any other member on the other side of the House. The Hon. Surveyor General had never made such a long speech before; he had never gone into figures before and he (Ritchie) could not understand why it was. Was it the surroundings which had been referred to, or was it the coming event in June? It had been said that the Opposition would go to the people with the cry of the Eastern Extension claims. They would go upon all the questions that were raised against the Government—not upon any one but a per-view of the whole. It has been claimed that the Leader of the Opposition was a silent leader, but he thought that if he was, his remarks had very often called members of the Government to their feet to answer him. Was this being a silent leader? They said that he was day by day leading his party to degradation. Was he leading his party to degradation on the stand he took upon the Grand Southern Railway question? It had been said that a great many resolutions for returns and equity had been given which kept the Government busy answering them. The hon. gentlemen had labored over this, and yet it was the right of every member to do so—it was the right of the Opposition to do so. The Surveyor General denies in fact that there were any pretended sales of Crown Lands. Contrast this with his statement that a clerk in the department had bid on these lands and had a lot knocked down to him. If they were sold, why did he not take the money into the coffers of this Province. Could his hon. friend say that the money had? He was on the horns of a dilemma in view of his statements, his denial and admissions, and the Government should explain their position. In this connection he wanted to know if these sales were for the purpose of harassing a certain licensee, and said that formerly a committee had been asked for to investigate into these sales and it had been refused by the Government. In regard to the matter of Sheriff Vallis, oh, the Attorney General would tell us all about that and perhaps he (Adams) had done well to leave it to that hon. gentleman, the noblest Roman of them all. He hoped that the Hon. Attorney General would give them some information on the subject, as it was needed. The Provincial Secretary had given them the Government policy in regard to the stock farm, but something more was needed to show that the Government should have gone into this scheme without consulting the Legislature. It would be a dreadful thing if the Government did not consult the representatives of the people, and the Hon. Chief Commissioner had held that it should. The debate was adjourned until 2.30 on Monday.

The debate on the budget was resumed at 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon.

MR. RITCHIE

continuing said he was approaching the matter of the Stock Farm when he had moved the adjournment of the debate on Friday last. It was an important matter, not so much because there was a large amount of money involved, but because of the peculiar circumstances connected with its establishment. There was an important principle underlying it all, and could the House sanction the action of the Government in establishing it in view of the principle involved? The Provincial Secretary had said that the House had expressed satisfaction with the action of the Government when they had passed the Address in reply to the Speech. He pointed out that there was no division on the Address, and that it was the custom of Legislatures now-a-days to pass the Address without a division. But would the hon. gentleman hold now that they could not express their dissatisfaction at the present time, having passed the Address? Could the House on Monday expenditure during recess, involving large sums of money, without the sanction or the authority of the House having been obtained? If they did, where were they going to stop? Money had been granted for a certain purpose—that of the importation of stock—and it had been applied for the purposes of the stock farm. The Hon. Chief Commissioner of Public Works had thought it would have been well to have consulted the House, but had also pointed out that the newspapers were in favor of the scheme. He was glad to say that that delectable time had not yet arrived in this Province when the newspapers guided and controlled public opinion to so great an extent that a Government could take such action as they had and point to the newspapers as expressing public opinion in justification of their action. He dealt with the aspect of the scheme as shown in the Agricultural Report page 24, and said the facts there stated showed that they were only conducting negotiations and should never have gone so far as to close a bargain. He also quoted from page 25 of the report, and wanted to know what the people's representatives were going to do now with this lease for ten years and the men who had been appointed to positions in connection with the farm. He attacked the whole principle of the Government's action, and condemned it, pointing out that \$15,000 worth of stock had been purchased when an expenditure of only \$10,000 was authorized. If this stock had been lost on the passage out, where would this Government have been? There was no insurance. Why, because it cost more than the value of the stock to insure them. Why, he asked, if they had thought fit to start this stock farm, had they not tried it for only a year instead of taking a lease of

this land for a farm for ten years? The question was not would the stock farm be successful, but had the Government a right to go outside of the law in expending the money necessary to establish this farm. The Secretary for Agriculture points out that this farm is a new departure—true, it is a new departure in that the Government has made expenditures without law or the authority of this House—and that it marks a new era in the agriculture of this Province. He (Ritchie) thought it was a new era, but not so much in connection with agriculture as with the principle underlying the Government's action. It was a dreadful thing for this Government to have such a responsibility as the incurring of such expenditures during recess. They might do it again this coming recess; and he thought that this House should at least say that the Government had been hasty in this matter and should have consulted the House before taking final action. The Board of Agriculture had not authority to establish this stock farm, and while they had the right to memorialize the Government the Executive should not have been so hasty in acting upon the memorial. The revenue of the Province did not change much from year to year, yet there were means by which some of its branches could be more utilized and economized, but the Government did not always embrace the opportunity. He pointed out that many items of extraordinary expenditure which had been indicated by the Hon. Provincial Secretary were the same as had been trotted out before by the Hon. Attorney General in making the budget speech. There were the expenses connected with the extra session after the fire of June, 1877, in St. John, and the magnificent grant of \$25,000 to the sufferers by that fire, which was being dinned into our ears year after year. If one makes a gift there is no need of bringing it up continually. There was the Consolidated Statutes too and their expense of \$18,000, which also showed the faulty system of bookkeeping. The system was probably as good as politicians desire any system to be, it was a delightfully confusing mass of figures, and just such a system as a Government that wished to deceive would be most likely to adopt. The system of checks and warrants was de-lusive and wrong. There was, for instance, H. A. Cropley's account of \$677, on which \$350 was paid away back in June last, and had not yet appeared in the account. We find that just before the close of the fiscal year \$827 was paid Mr. Cropley by a warrant, and it had found its way into the accounts. We may be told that the \$350 was paid by check away back in June, but if we do not know where it is at present, but if it had been mixed up with some other accounts it would tell with equal force against the system of keeping the public accounts. It may be all right, but it does not appear that it is. The public accounts should be made up plainly and so that "the who runs may read." He took up the statement of warrants issued since 31st Oct., 1881, to Feb. 16th, 1882, and pointed out that work done during the fiscal year was only paid by warrant after the close of the fiscal year, but may have been paid before by check. This, as would appear by the statement, seems to be the case in the matter of Mr. Cropley's account. He thought a similar system than that of checks and warrants should be introduced, as the present one was wrong, delusive and deceptive. The Hon. Attorney General praised the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Public Works whenever there was a chance, and the Hon. Provincial Secretary took care of the Hon. Surveyor General, and he received an ample share when the Hon. Provincial Secretary laid himself out; but the Hon. Surveyor General was the only one who did not come in for a share of general praise, and he, perhaps, was one who should receive a double share. When they had been charged the other day with being a "Mutual Administration Society," it was said that the books would justify them in admitting one another; but he (Ritchie) thought that as the books were so delusive they would cut a sorry figure if praise or admiration was measured out to them by that standard. He defended the hon. leader of the Opposition from the slur of being "sincere in his pretensions," which had been cast upon him by the Government, and the hon. gentleman from Westmorland (Black), from the imputation of incorrectness thrown upon the figures he had used in his speech. Why had they not placed the correct figures, if his were incorrect, alongside of that hon. gentleman's so that the truth could have been seen at a glance? It had been claimed that the books were not meant to deceive, but a few years would show whether they were or not. In touching upon the travelling expenses of the Hon. Surveyor General, he said that although he had appeared to do a good deal of travelling, he (Ritchie) could say that there were some counties in the Province he had not been in for two years. In referring to the remarks of the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Public Works who had himself asked a good many questions, he would like to ask him about two bridges that had been built which would not stand after the scaffolding had been taken down. Perhaps the Government intended that the scaffolding should remain standing, but the hon. gentleman

would have ample opportunity to explain. At the first session of this House the Hon. Provincial Secretary had taken stock, so to speak, and had presented a clean sheet. The Eastern Extension claims were touched upon at that occasion, and it was hinted that they would soon be closed and settled. The penitentiary matter was also promised to be opened up. He asked why it was that nothing had been done in the past four years in connection with these two matters? The penitentiary question was a burning one in St. John, where they were in daily dread that something would happen from the overcrowded state of the county jail. If this Government had any influence with the Dominion Government, they should have pressed and enforced these matters upon the attention of the Dominion Government. He took up the statement that the Opposition was being degraded by the Hon. Leader, and said the hon. gentleman sitting opposite him took every opportunity to cast doubt upon any legal opinion he advanced, the stand the hon. Leader of the Opposition took on the Grand Southern was a purely legal one, and was sustained as good law to-day. He dealt at considerable length with the stand the Government had taken on the question, and mentioned the recent decision on the appeal in the Grand Southern case by the Supreme Court. He quoted from the speeches of the hon. members on the Government side of last session, and compared them with the manner in which things had turned out. He did not doubt but what a measure would be introduced to legalize the debentures which had been issued to the Company, and this would further show that the position taken by the Opposition was the correct one. He held that the Government had done nothing in the past four years, and had performed none but passive or negative acts. The action of the Government has been such all through as did not merit the support and endorsement of the people for all their acts as was claimed for them by the Hon. Chief Commissioner. The Opposition had been singularly active, and the time was not far distant when the present Government, like the last Government, would be hurled from power.

MR. RITCHIE was applauded on resuming his seat.

HON. MR. CRAWFORD

The Hon. Solicitor General said that the hon. gentleman who had just sat down had resorted to stock arguments, and he thought that if he could prove a charge of inconsistency against an individual member he scored a point against the Government. He went back to the time of the last election, and spoke of the policy of the hon. gentleman from St. John at that time, holding that he had been a supporter of the Government. He read from the Journal of the House to show how he had voted during the first days of the present House, and then preferred a charge of inconsistency against that gentleman. He said that while the individual actions of members were not controlled by the House, yet when a member made a charge of inconsistency against another hon. gentleman he should go back on his own record and see that it was free from a like charge. The hon. gentleman would see some queer things, as they bound a man down in black and white. He took up the charges made against the Hon. Surveyor General.

The debate was adjourned until Tuesday afternoon at 2.30.

The House met at 2.30, and at 2.45 the hon. member from Westmorland resumed his speech. In continuing, he took up the charges preferred against the Government by Mr. Ritchie, which he said amounted to incompetency and mismanagement. He defended the consolidation of the statutes by the Government, and after referring briefly to the remarks made by the hon. gentleman on the stock farm, he mentioned his remarks in regard to a measure for the better collecting of debts pointing out he could at any time have introduced a bill to bring about the ends he desired. In this connection he dealt at some length with the Garish Act and the attachment law which he had introduced. There were certainly cases of hardship and oppression under the laws, and now there was an agitation on foot to revive them again. With reference to the office of Solicitor General, he said that that office's time was very nearly entirely taken up, and at a salary of \$1,200 a year he was not apt to be rolling in wealth. He then read from a memorandum facts showing what had been done by the Solicitor General in the past year in conducting criminal prosecutions in County and Supreme Courts, and said he thought that in every case the ends of justice had been served. He mentioned that criminal business in the Courts had been on the increase for some time past, and was still on the increase. He said that the Opposition's strongest charge against the Stock Farm was that the Government had made the expenditure without consulting or asking the authority of the House for the same. He held that the Government was justified in doing what they did, and that the opposition would find themselves satisfied with his. He said that the hon. gentleman from Westmorland would not put himself on record against it.

Mr. Black said he would vote against it.

The Hon. Mr. Crawford continuing, defended this scheme and the Government's agricultural policy generally, and in connection with the Board of Agriculture, from the attacks of the Opposition. Fault had been found with the public accounts and the manner in which they were kept. He did not know that this House was any better judge of this matter than any previous Assembly. The accounts had been kept in this manner for twenty or thirty years, and he had never heard of any complaint having been made

before. He wanted those who had taken exception to the system to suggest or provide a better one, and defended the audit of public accounts. In regard to Cropley's account, which had been mentioned, its not appearing was probably due to some oversight—the memorandum of it lost, perhaps, and being covered by warrants it did not appear in this year's accounts. He defended the travelling expenses of the heads of department, and said they were under the mark when compared with the expenses of other persons in this connection. He claimed that the Government had been pressing the Eastern Extension claims ever since he could remember, and had done all they possibly could, but there was no power the Government could bring to bear to force the Dominion Government. They had also done all they could in regard to the penitentiary matter, to bring about a settlement and in favor of the Gov't. The Dominion Government had taken strong ground on the question. He explained the many steps the Government had taken to bring about a settlement, and passing on to the Grand Southern Railway question, said he thought that the opposition could claim nothing more on the recent decision in the Court than a mere division of two Judges against two others—the case was still pending in the Court. He next dealt with the present financial condition of the country and held that it was in a very good condition indeed, compared with that of Nova Scotia in the amount of public works performed in proportion to revenue, although New Brunswick had \$65,000 more revenue than Nova Scotia. In 1881, New Brunswick had paid out \$356,000 for education and public works and Nova Scotia \$235,000 for like purposes in the same year—a balance in favor of New Brunswick of nearly \$121,000 on these two branches. He did not credit the Government on this score, and pointed out the increase in some branches of revenue. It had been claimed that the Government had done nothing, and he glanced back over the past 10 years indicating what the Government had done, because if they got the blame for anything that was done in this time, they should also get any credit there was to be found in it. In concluding he said he thought that he had answered all the questions which had been raised by his hon. friend from the City and County of St. John, and if he had set his mind at rest or at ease upon any point, why his labor had not been in vain. (Applause.)

who followed, said that the Hon. Solicitor General had gone over some of the acts of the Government in the past eight or nine years, but when we turn to the Dominion Statute book what do we find? Why, some of these poor pieces of legislation, such as common law procedure and attachment acts, are annulled. He referred in a jocular vein to the style of oratory in which the Hon. Provincial Secretary had made the opening speech, and said that he had not expected he came into office was going to do wonderful things, but he had found the office in such a condition he had done nothing. In speaking of the last election and the formation of the present Government, he made special reference to the hon. gentleman of the Government as the "Truthful Peter," the "Sincere Dan" and the "Honest Mike," which evoked roars of laughter and much applause. He touched upon the speech delivered by the Hon. Provincial Secretary in 1880. From the showing of the Hon. Surveyor General, it would seem that there had never been such a Surveyor General before. He had made a grand flourish of figures and took all the credit of the settlements under the Free Grant and Labor Acts unto himself. He charged that the Government had sold a large tract of land in Restigouche for settlement, which embraced some of the best timber land in that County, and if it had been sold as such it would have brought nearly ten times as much. The same thing had been done in Northumberland. No Government should be allowed to do this simply because they wanted a little cash. He took up some time in replying to statements made by the Hon. Surveyor General, and said he had not visited Restigouche County at all last year (nor had he the Hon. Chief Commissioner of Public Works (Adams) would have the House believe he had done a great deal of travelling last year. He also dealt with the matter of the travelling expenses, and at considerable length touched upon the departments of the Hon. Surveyor General and Chief Commissioner of Public Works, and passed on to the hemoack bark question, which he discussed very fully. The hon. gentleman commenced speaking at about 4.30, and held the floor and the undivided and at times trifling attention of the House until 5.45, when he said that as his throat was sore and he was getting slightly asthmatic—the building being a hard one to speak in—he would move the adjournment of the debate until Wednesday afternoon at 2.30. This was done. Mr. Barberie, during the course of his speech, reviewed all the acts of the Government in the past—the Stock Farm, the Grand Southern Railway—and condemned them all, and the policy and administration of the present Government generally. He holds the floor for this afternoon.

THURSDAY, March 9.

The House met at 10 o'clock. After routine, a message was received from the Legislative Council referring the bill incorporating the St. Croix Skating Rink Company back to the House with amendments.

The Hon. Solicitor General introduced a bill to establish a new polling place for elections to the General Assembly in the Parish of King's, King's Co., and said His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to sanction it.

The House passed Mr. Perley's bill to authorize the County Councilors of the Parish of St. Stephen, Charlotte County, to sell certain lands, after a final consideration in Committee.

The bill to incorporate certain districts in the parish of St. Stephen, Charlotte County, known as the Town of Milltown, was also passed, and the House rose for dinner.

In the afternoon Hon. Mr. Marshall introduced a bill to amend an Act making provisions for the returns of civic and municipal indebtedness.

FRIDAY, March 10.

The House met at 10 o'clock.

After routine, a bill to incorporate the St. Croix Skating Rink Company, and a bill to

incorporate certain districts in the parish of St. Stephen, Charlotte County, known as the Town of Milltown, were read a third time, and referred to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

Mr. Colter moved that the bill authorizing the County Council of York to erect a Record Office and other offices, in the basement of the County Court House, be referred to a select committee of seven members.—Carried.

Mr. McLeellan introduced a bill relating to rates and taxes in the City and County of St. John, and another bill relating to highways in the same.

Mr. Leighton introduced a bill relating to the County valuation made in the County of Carleton for 1881, and presented the usual petition praying that the same may pass and become law.

Mr. Ritchie introduced a bill relating to Slaughter Houses in the City and County of St. John, and presented a petition praying that the same may pass and become law.

The House adjourned until 2.30.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The House met at 2.30.

The Hon. Surveyor General laid on the table in answer to Mr. Saye's resolution the returns relating to the sale of hemoack bark lands.

The Hon. Mr. Wedderburn laid on the table returns showing the sums received from the Dominion Government from the 1st of January 1881 to January 1st 1882, with the interest thereon; also a statement of account between the Dominion and the Province; returns showing what lines of steamers are receiving Government subsidy; and returns showing municipal and civic indebtedness.

Mr. Hutchison was given leave of absence until Tuesday next.

House adjourned until 10 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, March 11.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary laid on the table returns showing the number of cattle, etc., upon the Government Stock Farm, when they were sent there and the cost of the same.

On motion of the Hon. Provincial Secretary the House was suspended until Saturday next in order to allow of the introduction of private bills.

Mr. Elder introduced a bill to incorporate the Women's Christian Temperance Union of the Town of Portland, which was read a first time.

The House considered in committee a bill to further amend Chapter 57 of the Consolidated Statutes relating to the Civil Court of the Town of Portland, Mr. Woods in the chair.

Mr. Elder introduced a bill to amend an act authorizing the Board of School Trustees of Portland to issue debentures, which was read a first time.

Mr. Black gave notice of motion for Tuesday next.

The House adjourned until 2.30 afternoon session.

The House met again at 2.30, and in committee of the whole resumed consideration of the bill relating to the Town of Portland Civil Court. After considerable discussion, the bill was agreed to with amendments. The bill as amended extended the jurisdiction of the Court to the parishes of Musquash and St. Martins in actions of debt to the amount of \$80, and in actions of tort to \$16.

Mr. Lewis committed his bill to legalize the electoral list of Albert County for 1881. This provoked considerable debate, not so much upon the subject matter of the bill as upon the powers of revision. The bill was agreed to.

House adjourned until Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, March 13.

The House met at 10 o'clock.

After routine several bills were advanced a stage.

The House in Committee agreed to Mr. Hill's bill relating to the stock of the New Brunswick and Canada Railway, and it was ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of the Hon. Provincial Secretary the House went into Committee on a bill to authorize the Sun Publishing Company to increase its capital stock and to issue debentures on the security of its assets, Mr. Barberie in the chair.

The bill called forth considerable discussion and was then read section by section, the discussion still being continued when the Committee rose for dinner at one o'clock.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The House met again in committee at 2.30, when the discussion on the Sun Publishing Company's bill was continued and agreed to with amendments and an amended title.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary submitted the lease from Allen C. Oty and wife of the lands in King's County for the purposes of the Government stock farm.

Mr. Barberie moved, seconded by Mr. Kenny, that a committee be appointed with power to send for papers, examine witnesses, etc., to investigate the claim of Robert Sinclair, supervisor of great roads, Restigouche County, for a balance due him.

The Hon. Chief Commissioner of Public Works said that while he was not aware that any such claim had been made he would not oppose a committee being appointed.

The Hon. Attorney General said that the mover of the resolution had shown him papers and letters which made a good claim if substantiated. He proposed that the matter be left to the Chief Commissioner of Public Works to investigate and settle if the claim was found just, as the sum involved was only \$200, and by this mode the expenses of the committee would be saved.

Messrs. Barberie, McManus, Morton, Ritchie and White (Sunbury) were appointed a committee under the resolution which carried.

The House went into committee on Hon. Mr. Marshall's bill amending the act providing for returns of municipal and civic indebtedness, Dr. Lewis in the chair. The bill was agreed to with amendments and the House adjourned until 10 o'clock Tuesday morning.

TUESDAY, March 14.

The House met at 10 o'clock and after routine the amended bill of the Sun Publishing Company was referred back to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

Mr. Johnson gave notice of enquiry respecting the intention of the Government to take

action in regard to the readjustment of the representation of the counties of Kent and Gloucester.

Mr. Killam introduced a bill to amend the Act of incorporation of the Town of Moncton.

The House went into Committee on the Hon. Solicitor General's bill to encourage the establishment of manufactures, Mr. White (Carleton) in the chair. The object of the bill was to give the Municipal Councils the power, in their own discretion, to exempt any manufacturing enterprise in which at least \$10,000 is invested, from taxation.

Some discussion ensued, in which Messrs. Barberie, Turner, Johnson, McManus, Thompson, Willis, Killam, and the Hon. Solicitor General took part, and progress was reported with leave to sit again.

Mr. White (Carleton) gave notice that he would commit his bill abolishing the office of Solicitor General on Saturday next.

The House took recess until 11.50.

Bills were introduced to incorporate the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Portland; to provide for the winding up of the affairs of the Albert Mining Company; to amend Consolidated Statutes relating to attachment.

The bill to remedy a clerical error in the Act authorizing the Portland School Trustees to issue debentures, was agreed to.

Refund of the fees paid on the bills of the Bible Society, Historical Society, and S. P. C. A. was ordered, on motion of Mr. Elder.

Mr. Turner committed the bill providing for the payment of coroners in summoning juries and for attendance on court in Albert County (Mr. McManus in the chair).

Hon. Mr. Fraser favored the bill being made general, and progress was reported after recess, so as to permit the Attorney General to perfect it.

WEDNESDAY, Mar. 15.

After routine the bills in amendment of the Act of incorporation of the Town of Moncton and relating to the Albert Mining Company were referred to the Committee on Corporations, and the bill reviving and amending the Attachment Act to the Law Committee.

The Committee on Corporations reported favorably on the bills incorporating the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Portland, and the Y. M. C. A. of Moncton. Recess until 12 o'clock.

After recess a message was received from the Legislative Council stating that they had agreed to the amendments to the Sun Publishing Company's bill.

The Committee on Corporations reported in favor of the bill increasing the capital stock of the New Brunswick Antimony Company.

The House went into committee on Mr. Elder's bill to incorporate the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Portland, Mr. White (Sunbury) in the chair.

Mr. Elder explained the objects of the bill, and it was taken up section by section. Progress was reported with leave to sit again.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary submitted returns asked for by Mr. Blair in regard to the state of the estate and condition of the proceeds of the estate of the late John Woodford, who died without heirs and without making a will, and which was paid and handed over to the Auditor General by the executor of the said estate, John Edwards, Esq.

The House went into committee on Mr. Elder's bill to further increase the capital stock and to amend the act to verify and confirm the incorporation of the New Brunswick Antimony Company, Mr. Willis in the chair, and agreed to it with amendments.

Hon. Mr. Hanington committed his bill to incorporate the Young Men's Christian Association of Moncton, Mr. Hill in the chair. The bill was taken up section by section and the bill agreed to with amendments.

The House rose for dinner.

The Enquiry into the Clerk of the Pleas' Office.

FRIDAY, March 10.

Mr. Fraser's examination was continued yesterday. No important facts were elicited the enquiry being chiefly directed to the receipts from the Clerks of the Circuits. Mr. Hanington made himself very obnoxious and told Mr. Blair that he, Blair, would forget after a while that he had charged the members of the Government with personal dishonesty in respect to the fees of the Clerk of the Pleas. To which Mr. Blair replied, that he would not call the statement that he had made such a charge an unmitigated slander, but would call it an unmitigated lie.

Mr. Fraser afterwards in reply to Mr. Hanington, swore that no member of the Government had taken any of the fees. Mr. Hanington then cross-examined Mr. Fraser very severely in reference to the account of Mr. Peak, Clerk of the Circuits of Westmorland, but was unable to shake his testimony.

Mr. Carman was then recalled and gave some testimony on minor points.

To-day Mr. J. W. Smith was examined. His testimony is not of public interest. The Auditor General was then called, and being asked to state what Mr. Bliss had told him as to his agreement with the Government, Mr. Davidson objected at the suggestion of Mr. Hanington, and the question was ruled out by the committee.

Mr. Blair then asked Mr. Beck to relate his conversation with the Attorney General, and upon his proceeding to do so was stopped by Mr. Hanington, who claimed that only such evidence could be given as ought to be received in a trial in a court of law. In this he was sustained by the Committee. Mr. Hanington took occasion, in the course of some boisterous remarks, to tell Mr. Willis, the Chairman, that he might telegraph down to his paper a remark which he (Hanington) had made. Mr. Willis told him sharply to be silent, and that he would not allow him to repeat his insults. Mr. Hanington then subsided. Mr. Blair finding the Committee determined to block the enquiry, declined to question Mr. Beck any further.

Mr. Carman was then recalled and was cross-examined at length by Mr. Hanington.

According to the Danish paper Udg Hjeme, Mr. Bjorn Bjornstjern Bjornsen, the novelist, has a fine lighthouse in the beautiful Gausdal, and keeps it wide open in summer for brightjokers, to whom he gives the end of coffee and ekjakes.