

SUPPLY—WAGNER, PHILIP—*Con.*

Foster, Hon. George E. (North Toronto)—Con.

5596. Mr. Griesbach was not invited to carry his case before the court and unseat the minister of the province—5597. The jury pronounced Wagner guilty, and yet the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) still believes the conviction was more on account of party persecution than on the merits of the case—5598. No matter how many affidavits are sent in charging officials with complicities in elections the minister (Mr. Oliver) does not think it worth while taking up his time to examine them; quotes letter accompanying the declarations—5599. Quotes affidavit of Jacob Baronowski—5600-1. It is impossible for me to believe that you cannot get a good interpreter and a good man at the same time—5601. I am sorry that any man had to serve a sentence because of doing wrong, but that fact does not prevent our looking into the wrong conduct of a department—5602. We ask this House either to have this man dismissed or have the case investigated thoroughly and the proper punishment meted out—5603.

Fowler, G. W. (King's and Albert)—5570.

Moves amendment—5570-1. This Philip Wagner was appointed as an interpreter at Edmonton about Jan. 1, 1899; he was notified of his appointment about Dec. 28, 1899—5571. Quotes letter addressed to Mr. Philip Wagner, written by the secretary of the Department of the Interior, dated Nov. 9, 1900—5572. Quotes instructions written to H. & A. Allan, Montreal, by secretary of Interior Department, Mr. Keyes; quotes letter from Mr. Keyes to Wagner dated Dec. 1, 1900—5573. Quotes letter from Mr. Keyes to Mr. Wagner, dated Dec. 17; quotes letter from Mr. Frank Pedley, Superintendent of Immigration, addressed to Mr. Frank Oliver, M.P., Edmonton—5574. Quotes letter of Mr. Oliver to Mr. F. Pedley, Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa; quotes letter from Mr. J. Obed Smith, Commissioner, to Mr. Pedley, Superintendent of Immigration; quotes newspaper clipping—5575. Quotes letter from J. Obed Smith, dated March 19, 1901; quotes letter from Roman Catholic Bishop at Beaver Lake—5576. Quotes letter from Mr. Newcombe, the Deputy Minister of Justice, addressed to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior; quotes letter from Mr. Keyes, dated April 13—5577. Quotes letter from Mr. Frank Oliver, M.P., to J. G. Turriff, Dominion Lands Commissioner, Ottawa—5578. Quotes letter from Mr. Frank Pedley, Superintendent of Immigration, to Mr. J. O. Smith, Commissioner at Winnipeg. Quotes letter addressed to secretary of the Interior Department and signed by A. Power, for the Deputy Minister of Justice—5579. Quotes questions asked in House by Mr. Foster on March 14, 1906; quotes answer—5580. Quotes telegram from Mr. Oliver, dated June 11; quotes letter from Mr. Keyes, the secretary of the department—5581. Quotes telegram from Mr. Pedley to Mr. Smith; quotes letter from Mr. Pedley to Mr. Smith, dated July 18—5582. Quotes information against Philip Wagner, laid on

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Fowler, G. W. (King's and Albert)—Con.

April 27, 1900—5583. Quotes information laid against Philip Wagner on March 7, 1901; he was convicted on two charges and served five months in prison. In July, 1905, Mr. Philip Wagner was appointed assistant inspector at a salary of \$25 a month and immigration agent at \$75 per month—5584. Quotes Minister of Interior (Mr. Oliver) at a speech made in Edmonton on Nov. 6, 1905—5585-6. Reads declarations filed by Mr. Griesbach during month of January, 1906—5587. Quotes statement made by Prime Minister (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) two years ago—5588. What does my hon. friend (Mr. Oliver) say with respect to the letter from the Roman Catholic missionary bishop?—5591.

Laurier, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid (Prime Minister)—5603.

While it is obvious that any man in this country has a right to vote, he should have not only the right, but also the power to cast his vote; an official of the government should keep free from politics—5604. Is my hon. friend (Mr. Foster) prepared to say that, under these circumstances, because a man has been convicted of an offence, he is to be cast off forever from his fellow-man?—5605.

McCarthy, M. S. (Calgary)—5589.

What date was the appointment?—5589. Did you (Mr. Oliver) ask Mr. Griesbach to make a formal complaint?—5592. Will the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Oliver) deny that he addressed political meetings from the same platform with government officials?—5598.

Oliver, Hon. Frank (Minister of the Interior)—5588.

Mr. Wagner is to-day in the employ of the Department of the Interior—5589. Because this man was convicted and punished for his offence is that any reason why he should be blazoned before the world as a thief?—5590. Mr. Wagner is known as the best interpreter of the Little Russian language in that part of the country; this very missionary has repeatedly employed the same Philip Wagner to interpret for him since Wagner has come out of jail—5591. If Mr. Griesbach had faith in these affidavits he would have used them to unseat the sitting member—5592. I have not any faith in those affidavits; Wagner if a jailbird, could not be a power in elections for any party—5593. Mr. Wagner was appointed to the position which he holds from the position of a reputable citizen—5594.

Turriff, J. G. (East Assiniboia)—5610.

Mr. Nixon was not an officer of the department in the same sense that a land agent is; it was proven that the money which had miscarried had been made away with by his son. When hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) had the responsibility of office he took a different view from his presentation to-night—5610. Instances a case of embezzlement by the direct officer of the government in the old regime—5611.