

THE QUEBEC BOODLERS.

YET MORE AND MORE REVELATIONS.

Fraud—Deceit—Perjury—Excuses Still Being Exposed—A Sad Exhibition for the Public.

Ottawa, September 2.—The Railway Committee of the Senate met again today, Mr. Vidal presiding. The chairman stated that messengers had been sent all over the city yesterday so as to be able to serve a subpoena on Mr. R. McGreevy, who was said to be in Ottawa then, but they were not able to find him.

Mr. Power then examined Mr. C. N. Armstrong in reference to some matters affecting the Ontario bank and its connection with the Baie des Chaleurs railway, but which had no particular reference to the matter under enquiry. The witness said that all the subsidies, both Provincial and Dominion, were paid over to him on his order. The amount of subsidies paid on the first sixty miles was \$87,000, and in addition to this sum, which was all paid out, he also paid out of his own pocket on the road about \$10,000 and \$15,000 of borrowed money. Every cent was expended on the work. In regard to purchasing Mr. McGreevy's stock in the road, witness said that he paid him \$10,000 in cash and \$32,000 out of the subsidies, and still owed him \$5,000. To his knowledge Senator Robitaille never got one cent from the company, but he put into the company many sums of money out of his private funds. All that Mr. Robitaille got was the \$24,000 from the new company. In answer to a question as to whether he had dealings with Mr. Pacaud besides the \$100,000 transaction, he said that in June last Mr. Pacaud accepted a draft of his for \$2,000. In reply to Mr. Kaulbach, witness said that he did not understand that the \$100,000 was to be paid in claims of Mr. Mercier's. Mr. Pacaud telling him only that he had urgent claims to pay. The inducements brought to bear on Mr. Garneau to issue these letters of credit was told to him by Pacaud that he (Pacaud) threatened to cable Mr. Mercier if he (Garneau) would not issue these letters, so that the men might be at work on the road before Mr. Mercier returned. The Premier gave instructions to have the matter settled before he returned.

To Mr. Barwick, witness said that the reason for his paying McGreevy \$50,000 was to get him

out of the company,

as he would not go on with the contract if he had anything to do with it. The money was paid out of witness' own pocket as he earned it. So far he received \$12,000 and the remaining \$8,000 he would receive when witness got the remaining portion of his subsidy, which was not yet earned.

The witness then filed a document from Mr. J. Murray Smith, and which gave the details of \$85,000 of the remaining sum of \$118,000 said to be embezzled (embezzled).

Mr. Langelier objected to the statement going in as evidence, but the committee decided to receive it, it being understood so yesterday.

Mr. Barwick fully explained this. The statement gave full particulars of the disposition of money, showing the parties to whom it was paid, and that the money had gone into the road. To this Mr. Armstrong bore testimony. At this stage of the proceedings Mr. O'Leary, inspector of Dominion police, was called and said that he served Mr. Lesage, deputy minister of public works, with a subpoena on Saturday. Mr. Lesage said it was "all right."

Mr. M. S. Longman, one of the directors and counsel of the new company, was called and examined by Mr. Langelier. He examined his connection with the company. The arrangements, he said, were organized by Mr. Thom. The first thing the company recognized had to be done was to remove Armstrong. He seemed to know very little of what had been done prior to the organization and there was nothing new in his evidence.

Mr. Power was asking some mysterious question of witness regarding certain names of some one offering to take so much and to oppose the bill, when Mr. McInnes asked: "Is it true that a member of Parliament offered to take a sum of money and withdraw his opposition?" Witness replied, "No."

Mr. Tasse said that he would like to examine Mr. F. Langelier, the counsel for the Quebec Government, on oath.

Ottawa, September 3.—The Senate Railway Committee closed its investigation this morning into the Baie des Chaleurs railway matter. Mr. Vidal occupied the chair. L. P. Godin, of the Dominion police force, appeared before the committee and testified to having served summonses to attend the committee on P. Valliers in Quebec. Mr. Valliers laughed, and said it was all right.

Mr. Tasse said that as the evidence desired from Mr. Lesage had been obtained from others there would be no object gained by insisting on his presence. The names of Messrs. Garneau, Pacaud and Grenier were reported to the House for their disobedience in refusing to attend the summonses served on them to appear before the committee.

Mr. Tasse called attention to the evidence of Mr. Pelletier, where he said that all the notes which he signed in connection with the \$100,000—that is, the Pacaud transaction—were made after the elections on March 5. Mr. Pelletier's evidence was read in this regard. A telegram was produced from Mr. Webb, manager of the Union bank, showing that one of the notes for \$5,000 each was dated February 28, 1891, which was, of course, prior to the time mentioned by Mr. Pelletier.

Mr. C. N. Armstrong presented a certificate of work done on 20 miles, from the 40th to the 60th, by Mr. McFarlane as certified by Mr. Leduc, C.E., and which certificate is accepted as correct by Mr. McFarlane. The total amount to which Mr. McFarlane was entitled was \$200,814.55, against which he has received subsidies of \$198,000, leaving a balance still due to Mr. McFarlane of \$2,814.55. It was then decided that all the evidence had been received and that

the case was closed. The counsel for both sides were asked to address the committee if they were so inclined. Mr. Langelier was first heard. He said that as regards the charges against the Quebec Government he would say nothing; they would be tried in another place. He would also say that notwithstanding how much had been said over the French meaning of the word "embezzlement," there was not one word of it reported in the official report. It appeared to him that much time had been wasted by the committee in that respect. At any rate, in looking over Mr. C. L. Langelier's evidence before the committee, the word "misapplied" had been used by him, and the translator had used the words "detournement des fonds." That, in his opinion, was better testimony than hunting up French and English dictionaries. He would like to know whether the statement filled by Mr. Armstrong was taken as evidence because, if so, the Ontario bank would have no legal standing before that committee. They could have no justification, real or pretended, if there was no such claim as that of McFarlane.

The chairman replied that the statement was not to be accepted as evidence. Mr. Langelier then went on to speak of the expenditure on the railway. He said that by the figures of Mr. J. J. Macdonald there were from \$12,000 to \$13,000 per mile spent on the road. According to Mr. Light the cost would be \$14,000, therefore, he would take \$13,000 as the estimated cost, which would amount to \$780,000. From the statement put in by the Railway company there remained to be paid on the first sixty miles \$299,000. Mr. McFarlane has a claim for \$200,000, which makes the total liabilities \$499,000. What did the company receive for this? They got \$524,175 from the Dominion Government as subsidies and \$320,054 from the Quebec Government, making a total of \$844,229. There is work, therefore, paid by them of \$282,000, so that they have \$562,229 of local and Dominion subsidies which have been misapplied and which they cannot account for. There was also evidence that \$10,000 had been paid to Messrs. Riopel and Macdonald which was recouped and remains in the hands of the company. There was also the \$40,000 to Mr. Robert McGreevy paid out of the subsidies by Mr. Armstrong.

Mr. Barwick said that he appeared for Senator Robitaille because of that gentleman's physical infirmities; otherwise he would require no one to speak for him in answer to the charges which had been made against him. In the first place he desired to point out that in regard to the figures of Mr. Langelier, counsel for the Quebec Government, to the effect that \$282,000 had only been disbursed by the company, take two accounts alone and over \$510,000 had been paid. There was, for instance, \$262,000 paid to Mr. Taylor and \$278,000 to the Quebec bank. Again, as to the statement regarding the \$10,000 to Mr. Riopel, that \$10,000 was placed in the hands of the company. When it was discovered it was paid in error it was afterwards returned. The same is true in respect to the \$12,000 to pay Mr. Robert McGreevy that amount before he took hold of the road, as it was already in evidence that Mr. Armstrong would not go into it while Mr. McGreevy was connected with it. There is yet \$8,000 due to Mr. McGreevy before he assigns his stock. Mr. Armstrong in his evidence made that plain. The counsel for the Quebec Government knew that the record does not show a dollar against the old company.

Mr. Barwick then showed how Mr. F. Langelier had placed in the hands of the committee what he called a statutory, but what in reality was no statutory, document at all, to the effect that he was going to prove that \$118,000 of money of the company had been embezzled. These were his words. That document should not be put in as evidence at all. It was obtained from Mr. Taylor by Mr. C. J. Langelier for an entirely different object and used for one of the basest purposes. The evidence of Mr. Taylor was afterwards obtained and he contradicted the contents of the document. The object of all this was to injure Senator Robitaille. It, however, had been clearly proven, after Senator Robitaille demanding the fullest investigation, that he was wholly innocent of the charge.

Mr. Barwick showed that while Mr. Langelier maintained as counsel for the Quebec Government in the first instance that the committee had no jurisdiction, yet the moment that an opportunity was presented to injure Senator Robitaille he accepted of all the assistance the committee could render him in carrying out his object. Not only did Mr. Langelier say that he could prove his case by a statutory document, but he held that criminal proceedings were started in the Quebec courts and the money was therefore refunded. There were no criminal proceedings and no statutory document.

Mr. Barwick in conclusion, dwelt ably on the injury which was attempted to be cast on Senator Robitaille without a cause.

Mr. Langelier, in reply, said that if there were no criminal proceedings there might have been.

The committee will meet on Tuesday to prepare its report.

In the Morning.

"Four years ago," writes Col. David Wyllie, Brockville, Ont., May, 1888, "I had a severe attack of rheumatism, and could not stand on my feet. The pain was excruciating. I was blistered and purged in true orthodox style but all to no purpose. I was advised to try St. Jacob's Oil, which I did. I had my ankles well rubbed and then wrapped with flannel saturated with the remedy. In the morning I could walk without pain." Many get up and walk in the same way.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[The columns of the TRUE WITNESS are open to correspondents writing on subjects of interest. But it must be understood that no letter inserted is to be regarded as representing the opinions of the paper. Anonymous letters will not be noticed, though the names of writers will be held strictly in confidence.]

C. M. B. A.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS:

Sir,—I notice that some members of the C. M. B. A. (no doubt influenced by the misrepresentations, &c., of the two papers under the entire control of the family compact, viz.: the Catholic Record and the C. M. B. A. Journal) are taking advantage of the non-attendance of members to have resolutions passed at some of the branch meetings, demanding separation from the Supreme Council, as is evident by the paragraph in the August number of the C. M. B. A. Journal, wherein it is stated that six of the Montreal branches have passed such resolutions, and a promise of two other branches doing the same, which I am led to think will be only at such time as a favorable opportunity presents itself of springing such resolutions at their meetings. For the information of members of the C. M. B. A., more especially those who have been so influenced by the writings of the two aforesaid journals, I respectfully request an answer to the following questions from Brothers Coffey & Co.:

1st. Why is it that among all our Catholic papers the Catholic Record and C. M. B. A. Journal are the only ones who advocate separation from the Supreme Council?

2nd. Did not Brother Coffey, of the Catholic Record, vote against having a separate beneficiary granted to the Grand Council of Canada at the Cleveland Convention?

3rd. Was not said Brother Coffey an aspirant to the office of Supreme President at said Convention?

4th. Was it not from the time of the imagined indifference shown said Brother Coffey in not electing him to said office that the Catholic Record commenced its vigorous advocacy of separation?

5th. Was it not about the same time that another member of the family compact encouraged the starting of the C. M. B. A. Journal for the same purpose?

6th. Was it not about that time that the several deputies of Montreal and their friends commenced delivering their eloquent orations in favor of separation at the installing of officers of old and new branches?

7th. Will the annual saving of the paltry sum of 75 cents cents or so to each member of the C. M. B. A. in Canada justify in any measure the action of the aforesaid journals, in the course they have been pursuing to cause such division in our ranks, that may prove so disastrous to the grand objects for which the association was established.

Furthermore, I can positively assert, without fear of contradiction, that the action of six Montreal branches at this time of the year, passing resolutions in favor of separation, is no proof whatever that the officers elected in the several branches in Montreal last December were not elected because they were opposed to separation, and well the editor of the C. M. B. A. Journal, and his friends, (advocates of separation) can testify, as any one at all acquainted with societies must know how easy it is at some meetings to pass such resolutions.

J. O'FARRELL.

Ottawa, Aug. 31st, 1891.

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The Pope and the Irish Castle.

The new Nationalist daily paper in Belfast, the Irish News, which made its appearance for the first time on Saturday—and a very creditable first issue it was—has been launched under very high auspices. The Bishop of the diocese, who, so to speak, stood sponsor to it, has obtained, through the intermediary of Archbishop Kirby, the Pope's blessing on the new journal. The Venerable Archbishop of Ephesus and Rector of the Irish College in Rome, who feels a lively interest in all that concerns the welfare of the Irish Church and his native land, in a recent audience with the Holy Father brought under his consideration Dr. McAlister's project for the establishment of a daily journal in Belfast for the purpose of defending the civil and religious rights of the Catholics of Ulster. He informed his Holiness of the great disadvantage under which Catholics laboured with regard to the public Press in that province as contrasted with their fellow-subjects of other religious denominations. For whilst the Catholics, who are upwards of one half of the entire population, have only four weekly newspapers to represent them, the non-Catholics are represented by over 40 daily and weekly journals. To mitigate this grievance, Bishop McAlister, with the co-operation of many zealous priests and faithful laity, has established a daily newspaper to defend the interests of the Catholic population by making known their wants and their opinions, and by promptly repelling the calumnies and misrepresentations with which they are so continually assailed. His Holiness listened with marked attention to the statement, and expressed his cordial approbation of the Bishop's views and intentions, and charged Mgr. Kirby to write to his Lordship in his name, and to express to him his entire approbation of the project, with his best wishes for its success, together, with his Apostolic benediction for the Bishop and for those who will co-operate with him towards its realisation. Monsignor Kirby adds: "I feel confident that the approbation of the Vicar of Christ will

be a pledge to you of the divine blessing on your undertaking, and of the hearty co-operation of the Catholics of your diocese and of the entire province, who know so well that the true glory of Ireland is her undying fidelity to the Catholic faith, which is the true safeguard of the sanctity and purity of family life, and the source of all real happiness, both temporal and eternal."

TO PREVENT BOODLING.

The New Government Bill to Prevent Contract Corruption in the Future.

Ottawa, September 3.—The most important bill of the session was introduced in the Senate this afternoon by Hon. Premier Abbott. It is entitled an Act to Prevent Frauds Upon the Government, and is especially designed to cover all the cases which have been brought to light by the various investigating committees of Parliament. Under its provisions any employe of the Government who accepts a bribe, or is otherwise guilty of fraud or malversation in office; any person who bribes or attempts to bribe any Government official, or any contractor for the Government who may attempt to suborn an employe of the Government, will be liable to punishment. The penalty is fixed at a fine varying from \$100 to \$1,000 or six months imprisonment; and, moreover, any Government contractor found guilty of bribing or otherwise corrupting an official will be debarred from receiving any further contracts from the Crown. The measure is a most thorough one, carefully drafted and will prevent any attempts to defraud the Government. It will not, however, be retroactive. The introduction of this measure is another proof, if proof were needed, of the determination of the Government to stamp out all the frauds and irregularities which have been discovered in the public service.

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Le Canada says that it is rumored that ex-Superintendent Senecal has gone to Italy.

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FALL EXHIBITION, To be Held in Connection with the Provincial Exhibition.

The Fall Exhibition of this Society will be held in connection with the Provincial Exhibition, to be held at Exhibition Grounds, Mile End, from the 17th to the 25th of September inclusive.

Entries for competition for the Provincial Exhibition prizes must be made with Samuel C. Stevenson, Esq., Secretary and Manager, on or before the first of September next. Entries for competition for the County Society's prizes, which are open only to members of the Society resident in the county, must be made with the undersigned at his office, Room 32 New York Life Building, Place d'Armes, on or before the fifteenth September. Positively no entries will be received after that date as the room for receiving entries for county competition on the ground cannot be granted. For full particulars see Society's hand bills. By order, H. BRODIE, Sec'y-Treas. C. H. A. S. Montreal, 10th August, 1891.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. EXHIBITIONS. Round trip tickets will be issued from Montreal at the following reduced fares: Eastern Exhibition, Sherbrooke September 3 and 4, \$2.25 September 1, 2, and 3, \$3.35 Returning until September 7, 1891. Industrial Fair, Toronto September 12 and 14, \$7.00 September 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18, \$10.00 Returning until September 21, 1891. Central Canada Fair, Ottawa September 29 and Oct. 1, \$2.50 September 23, 24 and 30, \$3.50 Returning until October 3, 1891.

From other stations in proportion. Apply to the Company's agents and at ticket offices, Bonaventure station and 143 St. James street. WM. EDGAR, L. J. SERGEANT, Gen.-Pass. Agent, Gen.-Manager.

Ottawa College. Among the new professors at Ottawa University this year are Rev. Wm. Whelan, of Armagh county, Ireland, and Dr. McArdle, of Rome. The former will act as assistant prefect of discipline, in the senior department, and the latter will be professor in history. Rev. M. J. Fitzpatrick, an old and well known student, now of the diocese of Peterboro, has also returned to continue his theological studies at the seminary.—Citizen.

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VILLA MARIA CONVENT. The Classes re-open in this Institution September 3, 1891. 5-3

COLLEGE DE NOTRE DAME DES NEIGES. The return of scholars to this institution for children from 5 to 12 years is fixed for 1st September. Pupils taken at any time. 6-7

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