

Penitentiary, in giving his evidence, is asked by Mr. Moylan the following question :—

“Have you read the statement made in the Senate last session by Dr. McInnes of this place to the effect that abuses exist here?”

I never said “abuses.” Yet in every question about “irregularities” he includes the word “abuses,” a word I never uttered or referred to. The answer of the Warden us :

“I have, and it is untrue.

“Q. Could any abuses have existence without your knowledge?”

“A. Certainly not, because I have lived here since the Penitentiary was opened; if any such existed I would have either seen them or heard of them.

“Q. Can you assign any reason for Dr. McInnes making such a statement in the Senate here?”

Inspector Moylan is judge of our actions here and all our sayings. I hope the Government will not retain him in the service of this country for that purpose any longer. The Warden replies :

“I have reason to believe I offended him, at the beginning of my administration, because I did not appoint persons on the staff, on his application, who were unfit for the position.”

Twelve years ago, when that institution was opened, I happened then to have the honor to represent New Westminster district in the House of Commons, and I thought I had as good a right as any person to make recommendations to the Warden of persons that he should take on his staff. I did make recommendations. I am speaking now from memory when I say that every recommendation that I made, with the exception of one, was acceptable to the Warden of the penitentiary and that his refusal on that occasion actuated me, or that I ever thought of harboring a harsh feeling towards the Warden or any other official connected with the penitentiary is false as false can be. I am surprised that the Warden should be silly enough to attribute such mean, childish and unworthy motives to me as that. I will again refer to the report. The Inspector asks the Warden again :

“Had he opportunities of seeing how the affairs of this institution are conducted?”

“A. He was employed as substitute for the surgeon, several times.”

I never was employed there. That is a misleading term that he makes use of. I acted gratuitously for my brother surgeon whom I am sorry to say is dead. I acted several times during his absence in Victoria, and during a trip to the Eastern Pro-

vince here to his home, to see his poor old mother. I acted for him, and I never was employed by the Government or the Warden or any other person in that capacity.

“He attended on my family, also on his nephew, the steward, and was present at the investigation held here by Mr. Trutch, when Government Agent. I frequently asked him to visit the penitentiary; he promised to come in his capacity of Senator; but he has not done so.”

I had more reasons than one for not visiting that penitentiary, as often as I otherwise would. In the first place I have a nephew there who is steward of the penitentiary; and has been for years, and from the number of complaints made by reputable men of irregularities and abuses, of the grossest kind, in the penitentiary, I wanted to close my eyes and shut my ears to anything in connection with it, and that is the reason I would not visit that institution as often as I probably should have done. And as an evidence that there was no harsh or ill-feeling existing between the Warden and myself, he has employed me professionally whenever he could get me, to attend on his wife, his family and himself, ever since I went to British Columbia, sixteen years ago: and that of itself ought to be sufficient proof that I was not actuated by any unfriendly motives towards the Warden or his family. Inspector Moylan proceeds with his enquiry :—

“Have any other parties made or instituted charges against the administration of the penitentiary that you know of?”

“The only other parties who have done so are the Kenny Bros., publishers of the British Columbian Newspaper.

“Q. What did they say?”

“A. They endorsed Senator McInnes' remarks, and said that if half the stories told by discharged convicts were true, that an investigation was very much required.

I never received one word of information in connection with the management of that institution from a convict or an ex-convict, but I have from men whose veracity cannot be doubted for a moment, and whose bare word would be taken in preference to the sworn affidavit of Inspector Moylan, where they are known. Then the Deputy Warden was put under examination. He is asked this question :—

“Have you seen the statement made by Dr. McInnes, last Session of Parliament, about abuses existing in this Penitentiary?”

“A. I have read it.” He never fails to put in the word “abuses.”