

Q.—Was that reported to the Board ?

A.—I had better go on to say that the object was to put the payment by the Company on account of the *Chicora* into suspense, and there was no item of any classification to which it could be carried. It had simply to be put somewhere until it could be provided for. One account is just as good as another for that purpose, and it remains under suspense in that account until now.

By the Chairman :—

Q.—I suppose there was an account open at that time for Parliamentary Expenses ?

A.—There is always an account open for Parliamentary Expenses.

By Mr. Mowat :—

Q.—You got a bill of sale of the boat, I suppose, from the former owners, from whom was the purchase made ?

A.—From Milloys.

Q.—And to whom was the boat conveyed ?

A.—To the Hon. Frank Smith, Mr. Noah Barnhart and myself. (This was afterwards corrected, *see post*).

Q.—You were the three partners ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Was Mr. Frank Smith a member of the Board then ?

A.—No, he has only been a member since the time of amalgamation.

Q.—Was Mr. Barnhart a member of the Board ?

A.—No.

Q.—Never so ?

A.—Yes, he was, under an act of Parliament after the date of amalgamation for a few months.

Q.—This note was not charged to you ? It is mentioned as \$8,000.

A.—Yes, there was a draft of \$8,000, but the payment made on the boat was only \$7,600.

Q.—So you got \$8,000 on account of the Company ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—But that was never charged to you ?

A.—No, it was charged to Parliamentary Expenses.

Q.—But, as I understand, this \$12,593 was charged to you ?

A.—Yes, but this \$8,000 is no part of the notes. I had paid the first two instalments on the boat, being together \$9,166.34, as part of my share of the instalments falling due on the purchase in 1872. Then in March, 1873, came the instalment for which the draft was made, and for which the Company provided the funds. That was the \$7,600, which has been referred to as \$8,000.

Q.—Do you now say that the \$8,000 is or is not included in the \$10,411.92 ?

A.—It is not.

Q.—Was there any payment in the account of the *Chicora* included in that sum of 10,411.92 ?

A.—Yes. On the 31st of December, 1873, the Company's cheque was given for \$6,245.02 on account of the instalment falling due on that date.

Q.—Do you say this was included in the expenditure ?

A.—I say that was charged and was included in my personal account on the date of the cheque, the 31st December, 1873.

Q.—Is that part of the note for \$10,411.92 ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—That note is dated 15th April, 1873, and the note you now speak of was made in December of that year. How could it be included in the \$10,411 ?

A.—If I am wrong, it is because my clerk has misled me. (The witness here consulted his clerk) Yes, it is a clerical error—the date of December. The payment was made on the 10th of January, 1873.

Q.—What payment ?