# The Druce Mystery.

## History of the Claim For the Vast Portland Estate.

George Hollamby Druce, claimant to the title and estates of the Duke of Portland, has after several years spent in gathering fresh evidence in his support revived his case in the English courts, and the stories told by his new witnesses are of so sensational a nature that the keenest public interest has again been aroused over one of the most amazing mysteries the law has ever been called upon to unravel.

The dual life of the fifth Duke of Portland as pieced together by the claimant is as remarkable a romance as was ever met with between the covers of a book. The grounds upon which the claimant builds his case are as follows: He alleges that William John, fifth Duke of Portland, and Thomas Charles Druce were one and the same person; that the Duke adopted for reasons of his own the name of Druce and led a dual existence, and that in 1884 he arranged for a burial of "Druce" and resumed his life as the Duke.

The Druce claim is that the burial was a sham; that the coffin did not contain a body, and that there are direct descendants of the fifth duke living, inasmuch.

as the Duke.

The Druce claim is that the burial was a sham; that the coffin did not contain a body, and that there are direct descendants of the fifth duke living, inasmuch as he was married in the name of Druce and had children. When the duke died in 1879 he was buried as a bachelor and and the title and a portion of the estates, according to the law, passed into the possession of his cousin, the present duke. The first claimant was the late Anna Maria Druce, widow of Walter Thomas Druce, who is stated to have been the only legitimate son of Thomas Charles Druce. George Hollamby Druce, the present claimant, has evidence proving beyond doubt that Thomas C. Druce was twice married and that he is a grand son of Druce by the latter's first marriage to Elizabeth Crickmer, which took place in 1816 at Bury St. Edmunds.

Vast Estates Involved.

The Druce claim does not concern the title and estates of the Duke of Portland alone, but also the vast London estate now held by Lord Howard de Walden from his mother, the late dowager Lady Howard de Walden. The late dowager in the response of the content of the proposed as a woman hater the story is told that both he and his younger both the strength of the same young lady. This young lady was none other than the Annie May was a natural daughter of bruce. Upon this coincidence the claimant lays much stress.

Annie May was a natural daughter of the fifth Earl of Berkeley. For generations, marrying and intermarrying the cause of Lord George was intensely indignant over his brother's attachment to this girl. Assuming that alone, but also the vast London estate now held by Lord Howard de Walden from his mother, the late dowager lady Howard de Walden. The late dowager marriage to Elizabeth Crickmer and observed the strength of t

title and estates of the Duke of Portland alone, but also the vast London estate now held by Lord Howard de Walden from his mother, the late Dowager Lady Howard de Walden. The late dowager inherited the estate from her brother, the fifth Duke of Portland, who died without heirs, and thereupon the estate, according to the will of the fourth duke, went to the fifth duke's sister. This London estate has a rent roll of half a million sterling a year and covers some of the best revenue-producing parts of central London.

### Motives for the Masquerade.

Among the theories offered as to the motives of the fifth duke in adopting an alias there is one to the effect that when young he was an object of aversion to his father on account of the skin disease from which he suffered, and therefore left, home early in life with the determination of mapping out a caveer for himself under another mame. At about the age of 16 he met Elizabeth Crickner, a girl little older than himself, who attended a boarding school, at Bury St. Edmunds.

A boy and girl flirtation soon ended in

A boy and girl flirtation soon ended in

A boy and girl firstation soon ended in a marriage, which could only be brought about by subterfuges on account of their extreme youth. In order to secure the marriage license they both declared themselves to be of age.

It is urged that Druce must have realized the necessity of concealing his real identity, otherwise the authorities would have communicated with his father. have communicated with his father, would have been assured. If this was so ose active opposition to the wedding ice not only deceived the authorities also his wife, who knew him only

Alternation of Duke and Druce,

Alternation of Duke and Druce.

In 1824 Druce abandoned his wife and children, and the coincidence is noted that it was in the same year that Lord John Bentinck, as the future Duke was then known, succeeded his elder brother as the Marquis of Titchfield. Until 1824 there is no record of the movements of Lord John. From 1824 to 1835 there is no trace of Druce, but abundant record of the doings of the new Marquis of Titchfield.

Titchfield.
During these eleven years Druce's wife, left destitute, had a long and hard struggle with poverty. In 1835 she discovered her husband carrying in a furnishing pusiness at the Baker Stoot Bazaar in the name of Thomas C. Druce. He recognized her as his wife but refused to live with her again. She compelled him to allow her a weekly sum for maintenance and he aided their children, one of whom he took under his own charge.

own charge. From 1835 until 1864, the date of his From 1835 until 1864, the date or his "burial," Druce was in almost daily attendance at the Baker Street Bazaar. When Druce occupied the stage it is always and the stage of t leged that the Duke was mysteriously absent, and when the Duke was in evidence there was no Mr. Druce about.

Those who maintain that the Duke and Druce were different individuals

to one great contrast in their na-The Duke was a bachelor and, it is stated, as a woman hater. described as a man who could not formed an attachment to any woman and in whose life no love episode found

and in whose life no love episode found a place.

On the other hand Druce was known always to be partial to the society of women, and all through his career he seems never to have been free from several attachments at the same time. During the lifetime of his first wife he was living with Annie May, whom he afterward married.

In order to reconcile these two conflicting characteristics it has been suggested that the Duk in his proper station found it impossible to enjoy the mode of life he wished to lead, but secured the opportunity when passing as an ordinary citizen of no great importance.

Underground Passages.

The evidence offered in support of the aimant's case volunteered by many peole, if true, would seem to prove consistively that the Duke and Druce were not prove consistively that the Duke and Druce were not people in the complex of Druce tell. This mysterious entrances and east the Baker Street Bazaar, and how hould suddenly appear among them, merging through trapdoors leading from the immigration of the grave, and for reasons best known to himself he refuses to allow it to be out suddenly appear among them, merging through trapdoors leading from the many underground passages which indermined the premises, Having transted his business he would depart by a same means.

It is exted that one of these passages maneted the chord with Cavendish fores, the term residence of the Dike for producing form and adjoining room when it is body was still warm; that he attend the premises of the major's appearances and disappearances through the producing form the bands of at least thirty persons who could vouch for its authenticity.

Miss Robinson asserts that she has been shadowed since her arrival in Eng. Miss Robinson has led the prosecution to the conclusion that no conclusion tha Underground Passages.

The evidence offered in support of the claimant's case voluntered by many people, if true, would seem to prove conclusively that the Duke and Druce were one. People in the employ of Druce tell of his mysterious entrances and exits at the Baker Street Bazar, and how he would suddenly appear among them, emerging through trapdoors leading from the many underground passages which undermined the premises. Having transected his business he would depart by the same means.

It is stated that one of these passages connected the short with Cavendish Hersa, the term residence of the Duke of Partland, and servants in the employ of the Duke tell similar stories of their master's appearances and disappearances through the various transders.

gate Cemetery had been made out. In an affidavit Mrs. Hamilton has stated:
Before December, 1864, "Druce" became filled with a desire to sink his identity as "Druce," and said to my father: "I must die," and suggested a mock burial for himself. My father besought him not to adopt such a course, but unavailingly.

When the sham burial took place my father was present. On his return my father was present. On his return my father said to me:

"It's gone off better than I expected, though I don't know how they took the coffin without any certificate. I tried to prevent Portland, but he would do it. There will be a terrible expose some day, and if ever they get the coffin up they will, of course, be floored; but, anyhow, I prevented him putting the corpse of another person in the coffin. It is better to put lead in or anything than the corpse of another person."

Failure of the First Case.

Failure of the First Case.

The fact that the formality invariably has been so prominent an issue in the Druce, case that it has come to be regarded as the only issue. It was Mrs. Anna Druce, the former claimant, who carried on the long fight in an attempt to secure the exhumation, her cyponents being the owners of the grave.

When victory seemed within her reach her case collapsed through an unfortinate mistake. She understood that the Home Secretary gave an undertaking to have the grave opened on condition that she withdrew from the whole proceedings. She withdrew, and it was then discovered that no such undertaking had been given by the Home Secretary.

Even then her cause might have been revived, but it was suddenly dispersed to the winds by the discovery of Druce's previous marriage to Elizabeth Crickmer.

During Mrs. Druce's search for evitorial that they kin that they kin de to the winds by the discovery of Druce's like street by "Pardon in the street by "Pardon" in the street by "San Show in the street by "Pardon" in the street by "Pardon" in the street by "San Show in the str Failure of the First Case.

mer.
During Mrs. Druce's search for evidence she unearthed a fact which showed beyond disproof that a remarkable connection existed between the Bentincks and the Druces. She found that Themas Charles Druce had transferred enormous tracts of land to a member of the Bentinck family for the sum of tensibilings.

### Dickens in the Secret.

Dickens in the Secret.

The most surprising new evidence offered by George Hollamby Drúce comes from two witnesses whose names have not hitherto appeared in the case. One of them is Miss Mary Robinson, who came from America when still a girl at the invitation of Charles Dickens, the movelist, in order to act as amanuensis to Thomas Charles Druce. Her evidence is supported by extracts from a voluminous diary which she kept for some years and in which she recorded many events of considerable value to the claimant's case. The interesting feature of her evidence is the intimacy which she shows existed between Dickens and Druce.

In January, 1869, the diarist says, "Mr. Druce said he had known Mr. Dickens for years. He (Mr. Dickens) knew more about his affairs than any other man. Mr. Dickens could keep a secret when paid for it as well as he could keep one himself."

Other extracts from the diary read as follows:

April, 1870—I return to London, taking lodgings near Hyde Park. There I find Mr. Dickens, who looks very ill and run down. On one occasion, when in the life-of Mr. Druce as he knew it. He said:

"I want to have a quiet talk with you.

"I want to have a quiet talk with you. You have mentioned to me more than once that you knew Mr. Druce before you ever saw him at Welbeck, and also you knew that he was at that time the Duke of Portland. You are the Duke's confidant in many things and therefore you must now be trusted." I will try to evalue to you as simple.

directly the cause of Lord George's untimely death.

For some reason Lord George was intensely indignant over his brother's attachment to this girl. Assuming that the Duke and Druce were the same person it is regarded as probable that Lord George may have known of his brother's marriage to Elizabeth Crickmer and objected to his conduct when he was not his a position to make Annie May his lawful wife.

Words between the two brothers are stated to have ended in an exchange of blows. The younger brother is reported to have been the aggressor and to have struck the Duke again and again with a stick, calling him opprobrious names and among other things taunting him with being a leper.

In self-defence, it is urged, the Duke of the Marquish of Tichfield, as how then, at last struck back, hitting Lord George in the chest. Lord George fell expiring in a few minutes.

Such is the outline of a story which is vehemently affirmed and as vehemently affirmed and as vehemently denied. In the same year that to a child.

The Alleged Burial.

Regarding the alleged sham burial, of Druce in 1864 there are several witnesses tready to come forward and swear that they saw Druce alive after that date, that they spoke to him and even had business dealings with him. Mrs. Hamilton, one of the witnesses in the case in ow before the courts, knew Druce well, and she affirms that she saw him and conversed with him after the supposed.

Some facts within her experience were produced by her before Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a

some facts within her experience very report to dated september 17th, 18th produced by her before Sir Francis Jeune in the former Druce proceedings, and as a result of her evidence Sir Francis Jeune stated that a prima facie case for opening the Druce grave in High-gate Cemetery had been made out. In an affidavit Mrs. Hamilton has stated:

18th Thruce Druce Proceedings and runs:

My cavalier has arrived. He said:

My cavalier has arrived.

My cavalier has arrived.

My cavalier has arrived.

My cavalie

made to him in this diary. They assert made to him in this diary. They assert that they know nothing whatever of the circumstances therein narrated, and so far as they are aware Charles Dickens was never at Welbeck, despite what Miss Robinson has to say on the con-

trary.

A dramatic incident has happened in

A dramatic incident has happened in connection with this diary. Until a few days ago it was intrusted to a firm of London solicitors for safe keeping.

Miss Robinson wished to make some extracts, and for that purpose obtained possession of the diary. She was carrying it home when she was accosted in the street by an unknown man.

"Pardon me, madam," he said, "but there is a spider on your neck,"
Miss Robinson hastily raised her hand to brush the insect away and the next moment she found that the politic strauger had disappeared with her bag containing the diary.

The claimant says that some such attempt had been anticipated. Every page had been carefully copied and certified before a commissioner of oaths, and the original had been in the bands of at least thirty persons who could youch



Papers stolen on two separate occa-sions from Mr. George Hollamby Druce's

apartments; and
Further papers, a will and what was
known as the Druce bag stolen from the
office of Mr. Farmer, the solicitor for

office of Mr. Farmer, the solution for Mrs. Anna Druce, The other new witness for the elaimant is Robert Caldwell, a full cabled sum-mary of whose evidence has been pub-lished in the American newspapers.

CERTAINTY. To the Editor of the Times:

Sir,—According to some tolks' views of the Subject, it would seem that the element of cursainty concerning the vital essentials of a saving Christian talta, is sometimed in which is so occoming to avoid activities and the sometime of the sometime of the solution of the sol larly in mentioning her benefactor. The record is dated September 17th, 1870, and runs:

My cavalier has arrived. He said:

My cavalier has arrived. He said:

Now that I am quict I wish to say something to you which is well known in France, but not in this part of England.

Now that Mr. Dickens is dead I do not think any other jerson can come forward and call me Mr. Druce except my own people by marriage and those who knew me on the Continent.

"To hold my own pesition of fifth Duke of Portland I live nearly always at Webbeck Abbey," \* Some of the people who write to me know me well as at Webbeck Abbey, \* \* Some of the people who write to me know me well as at Thomas Druce. As Duke of Portland I am unknown to them.

"It is for this purpose that I use my utmost endeavors to get these people from having any conversation with me. It is one of the secrets of my life. You have my confidence and must keep it as long as I live."

The Duke Blackmailed.

It will be noticed that these extracts are dated some years after the "burial" and the secondary of the secrets of my life. You have my confidence and must keep it as long as I live."

The Duke Blackmailed.

### Hamilton Young Men Read

The TIMES' Sporting Page Every Day, Because it Has All the News

And is Always Reliable.

# A SURPLUS OF 16 MILLIONS.

BUSINESS LOOMING UP FOR PAR-LIAMENT ALREADY.

Resolution to Provide for Extension of Intercolonial-Government Will Be Asked to Abolish Bonuses-Old Age Pensions-Ottawa Notes.

ng laid on the table of the House today the public accounts for the last fiscal period of nine months, ending March 31. They show receipts on ac March 31. Incl. show recepts count of the consolidated fund of \$67, 1969,328. The expenditure on the same account was \$51,542,161. leaving a surphis in the total receipts over ordinary expenditure chargeable to capital total-led \$11,329,143;

expenditure transcator of capital graph (led \$11,329,143; Railway subsidies to the amount of \$1,324,889 were paid. Other charges amounted to \$1,581,944, so that the grand total of consolidated fund and capital disbursements was \$95,778,138. In addition to the consolidated fundreceipts there were other receipts of \$2,781, bringing the grand aggregate receipts to \$67,972,169, making a difference in favor of receipts over expenditures of \$2,193,971. If to this is added investments of \$1,117,146 on account of thres of \$2,133,371. It to this is made investments of \$1,117,146 on account of the sinking funds of the various loans the net difference between receipts and expenditures on both capital and con-solidated fused account is \$3371.117, which was applied to a reduction of the public debt.

public debt.

The net debt of the Dominion was \$8263.671.859, a reduction of \$3.371.117 from that in June last.

The total number of civil service officials of all ranks coming under the sup-erannuation and retirement acts is 5.045, and the aggregate salaries \$4,752,069,

### To Extend Intercolonial Railway.

Hon, H. R. Emmerson has given resolution notice of the following resolution will move in the House: The Duke Blackmailed.

It will be noticed that these extracts are dated some years after the "burial" of Mr. Druce in Highgate Cemetory, The diarist's father was a plantation owner in Virginia at the time of the civil war. The family of Charles Dickens are very much annoyed at the references are well annoyed at the references. railway now connecting with the Inter-colonial as will serve as direct and pro-fitable feeders to the traffic of the said railway, and by providing for the ex-tension of the Government operation of the said railway to the industrial point or points on the great lakes of

of the said railway to the industrial point or points on the great lakes of Canada.

Mr. Cockshutt has given notice of a resolution that in view of the great congestion at present prevailing in the labor market in many of the industrial centres throughout the country the Government should abolish the payment of bonuses to booking agents except for the agricultural and domestic servant class of immigrants.

Militia orders issued to-day announce that the Board of Officers appointed last month to report upon the Ross rifle will hold a sitting this week at Ottawa. It is stated on good authority that after pending Government legislation to increase the personnel of the Railway Commission has passed one of the new commissionerships will be offered to Mr. Wm. Whyte, of Winnipeg, Fourth Vice-President of the C. P. R. Mr. Whyte's long experience as a railway administrator, and his thorough knew-ledge of transportation matters in Canada, especially in the west, would make him a most invaluable addition to the board.

Prof. Odhum, of Vancouver, has been

District of the Board of Conciliation and Investigation in connection with the grievances of the C, P. R. car men in the west.

Mr. Borden will on Monday ask for a copy of all orders in Council, correspondence, documents and papers during the present year relating to the immigration of Chinese and Japanese. The leader of the Opposition has also put on the order paper a question as to whether increased subsidies have been placed to any of the Provinces.

Bears the Gib kied You Have Always Bought Signature Chart H. Fletchire.

# PRITCHETT CONTRADICTED.

Exorganizer Said Pritchett Had Introorganizer Said Pritchett Had Intro-duced Himself in North Hastings— James Farr Was Sober When Affi-davit Regarding West Huron Was Made—Deputies Were Heard.

sordid story of John Garrett Pritchett regarding ballot-switching and illegal regarding ballot-switching and illegal election engineering in various constituencies in ontario met with a flat denial in the London briberty case before Judge Winenester yesterday. So far the story of corruption and crookedness which Pritchett told in the Police Court affect year ago and in the County Court within the Last lew days, had gone undisputed. Lesterday James vance, an exhiberal organizer, demed that certain statements made by Pritchett were true. Mr. vance, who is a witness in the defence of the four men caurged with election conspiracy, stated that, he had first met Pritchett, the bound-switcher, in North Hastings. The latter had introduced minsein, but as he had no credentials, air, vance said he had had nothing to do with him. In lact, he even went so far, according to his testimony, as to warn people against Pritchett. The Crown proscutor questioned air, vance closery as to what part any of the four defendats had payed at an election in North Waterlaot, but her having actually done anything. Another leature of jesterday's proceedings, when Crown witherses were neard, was the Juneas Parr incident respecting the famous afridavit winch was orongale out by Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, and the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong the proceedings of the Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, arong ction engineering in various constituneard, was the James Farr incident respecting the famous affidavit which was orought out by Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, K. C., that Farr had voluntarily made the affidavit denying that there had been any crookedness in West Huron, and that he appeared perfectly sober when he made it, now this tanding Farr. statement to the contrary in the court recently. In fact, Farr had, according to the evidence, really dictated parts of the evidence really dictated parts of the evidence for the evidence that fair terwards made corrections in it. The evidence yesterday showed that Fair terwards made corrections in it. The evidence yesterday showed that Farr had not been somented for the affidavit. A large number of deputy returning officers in London swore that there had been nothing corrupt in their smotty-sions in 1905 as far as they knew. The imquiry continues to-day.

Thomas keid, a barrister of Toronto, and a brother of one of the defendants, said he had done business for his brother for some years. On August 12, 1899, the witness remembered having had a visit from J. Vance and a mainamed Farr. The latter, commented air. Johnston, had sworn he had not made certain scatements to the witness.

certain statements to the witness.

Vance had telephoned him, wanting him to arrange for an afridavit for Farr. who came from West Huron, and the at-fidavit was regarding the West Huron

The witness further stated that Farr

The witness further stated that Farrwas perfectly sober at the time of making the afficavit.

Afterwards, because the matter was a political one, Ar. kiek had said he had got Henry aliekte to take the declaration.

"At that time had the Committee on Privileges and blackings at Ottawa got

Privileges and Elections at Ottawa got through with their West Huron investi-

gation?"
"I cannot say."
During the Police Court proceedings a. man named Kelly, father in-law of Edward Sifton, had called upon Mr. Reid, A business proposition had come up in which Sifton was interested and Mr. Reid, the defendant, had also come into the deal.

Kelly had stated that there was some hitch. Kelly wanted some assurance.

hitch. Kelly wanted some assurance that the deal would go through, or else Sifton would come back and "make it hot for the London fellows."

"My brother told him he would have

nothing to do with any agreement of that kind. It looked as if he would be

that sind. It looked as if he would be paying Sifton to stay away."
This statement, according to the witness, had been repeated rather savagely, and Kelly had stated he would telephone Sifton at the Mansion House in Buffalo, which had been done.

Was It a Hold-up. "Did you know at the time Vance and Farr had called upon you they were wanted to go before the Committee on. Elections and Privileges at Ottawa?" asked the crown counsel.

ness as to what he thought.

"It looked to me as if Kelly was trying to get my brother to pay him money to keep Sifton away," said the witness. H. W. Mickle, a barrister, who had taken the declaration referred to, said he had never seen either man before that day.

day.
"Was Farr sober?"
"I think he was perfectly s

Pritchett Took the Oath.

Pritchett Took the Oath.

George King, of Southwold, in West Elgin, remembered the McNish-McDermott election, and he was poll clerk where John G. Pritchett was deputy returning officer at Middlemarch.

"I administered it to me."

King said he had simply gone to the poll to vote and Pritchett had picked him up there. Edward Burton, another witness, was called regarding the same election. He was a scrutineer at the same poll, but had seen none of the defendants there.

"I didn't know of any crooked work there," said Burton, who added that he had seen Pritchett take the oath. Chas. Heidt, another scrutineer, had also seen the deputy take the oath, and this deputy looked like Pritchett.

William Corocran, of London, testified to having received \$9.50 from Jerry Collins. The witness had also delivered one envelope for Collins.

James Vance a Witness.

### James Vance a Witness

James Vance, for some time Liberal organizer for Ontario, said he commenced that work in 1808, and continued till three years ago. Mr. Alexander Smith was the chief organizer when he began his duties. Mr. Johnston then questioned regarding the by-election of 1898 in North Hastings, Brockville, South Ontario, West Huron and West Elgin.

"No, sir."
"Did you know of any wrongdoing on

he part of any person in these

"No, sir."

"No, sir."

Mr. Vance then told of a's meeting with Pritchett in North Hastings.

"What was the conversation?"

"He came to Bancroft. I had been there over three weeks, and he came four or five days before the election. I had been out in the country driving, and it was late at night when we met. He said he had come to help with the elections. He said his name was Roberts. I asked him to tell me who had sent him there, and he could not tell me. Neither had he any letters from any person. I refused to have anything to do with him."

"Was he used by you in any way in that election?"

"No. I had no use for him at all. The whole work we had there was driving around and getting out votes."

"Was any money used or any wrong-doing as far as you knew?" A.—No.

"Was it true that you were his superior officer there?"

"No, I told no person to speak to him, and I warned the Liberals against him."

Here Mr. Johnston read extracts from Pritchett's evidence regarding South Ontario, in which he said he met Vance there.

"Did you see him there?"

"Never saw him there at all."

"Pritchett says he met you at Brook-lim."

"That is not true."

Mr. Vance avide the said he was the said he met ware the true."

"That is not true."

"Pritchett says he met you at Brooklin."
"That is not true."

Mr. Vance said he had never seen.
Pritchett there at all. Mr. Johnston
read again from the evidence regarding
Hastings, where Pritchett said he had
been sent to give instructions regarding
ballot-switching, etc.
"Is there a word of truth in that?"
"No, there wasn't very much to spoil
up there."
"Dhe you know anything at that time
about spoiling ballots?"
"Yes, it was in the literature issued
from our office as a warning against
it."

Mr. Vance further stated that he "nev

Mr. Vance further stated that he "never had any dealings" with Pritchett, nor did he ever have an agreement with him at any time.

"Did you ever pay Pritchett or any-body in his behalf any money in your life."

tion, and said he had never seen Mr. O'Gorman wearing a dark moustache, On August 16, 1899, the Farr declaration regarding the West Huron affair had appeared in the Globe when the Committee on Privileges and Elections was

meeting at Ottawa.
"De you know of anything wrong in the West Huron election?"

"No, sir."
"Did you know Farr then?"
"Not in West Huron. The first time
I met him was in Toronto."

Papers Were Roasting Farr.

Papers Were Roasting Farr.

Mr. Vance then described his going to Farr's boarding house on Church street to see if he would appear before the committee at Ottawa. Farr, he said, had been afraid to do 50 because of getting into twouble.

"A few days after I met him on Yonge street, and Farr then said he had made up his mind to go to Dakota. He appeared to have been drinking," said the wittees. "He always told me the allegations from West Hyron were false."

\*\*Continuing, Mr. Vance, said (Farr had afterwards come to his office voluntarily, but there was no truth in the statement that he had sent Farr to the "Drich Farm."

"Were you doing anything to get Farr to ge away from this committee at Ottawa?"

"No, nothing."

tawa?"
"No, nothing."
Farr, he said, had then come to him
because he wanted his side of the West
Huron case put before the public, because "the papers were roasting him
pretty hard." Farr was sober then and
the witness said he had taken him to
Mr. Reid's office.

Relations Were Not Pleasant.

"I suppose Pritchett had no quarrel with you?" said Mr. Lynch-Staunton in

with you? said Mr. Lynch-Staunton in heginning his cross-examination. "Our relations were not pleasant in North Hastings."
"Did you meet O'Gorman in Brockville? A.—No.
"Nor during that campaign?" A.—

o. Mr. Vance then further denied that he Mr. Vance then further denied that he had seen anything of O'Gornam. Then the West Huron matter was brought up by the Crown counsel.

"Why didn't you give evidence at Ottawa?"

"There were no charges against me. I telegraphed Hou. Mr. Sutherland offer-

asked the crown counsel.

"No."

Mr. Lynch-Staunton expressed surprise that the witness had not had such knowledge.

"I'm very dense," said the crown prosecutor.

"I quite believe that," retorted the witness.

Mr. Lynch-Staunton then reverted to the Kelly incident, and pressed the witness as to what he thought.

"It looked to me as if Kelly was trying to get my brother to pay him money to keep Sifton away," said the witness.

H. W. Mickle, a barrister, who had taken the declaration referred to, said

W. Brant had participated in that election.

"Is it a fact that you and Lewis were working together in that asked Mr. Lynch-Staunton.

"It is not a fact."
"If Mulloy, Wylie or O'Gorman were
there it was kept hidden from me," said

there it was kept hunder and the Mr. Vance.
Explaining the literature which had been sent out from the Central Liberal office regarding ballot-switching, Mr. Vance said that in it the methods of a Conservative organizer in Manitoba had been exposed.

Conservative organizer as been exposed.
The court then adjourned because the Crown prosecutor desired to look over certain papers before questioning Mr. Vance any further.

# 40,000 Children Gave.

Montreal, Nov. 28.—Over 40,000 school children contributed \$4,200 towards the memorial to Sarah Maxwell, the teacher who lost her life in the Hochelaga school fire. With additional contributions by sympathizers, a wing to be known as the Sarah Maxwell Memorial, will be added to the Children's Hospital.

Kingsten, Nov. 28.—For ealling "scab" and threatening a non-union tailor, George Leader and W. J. Robinson, strikers, were fined \$100 or one month in jail. Killed by Rock.

Georgetown, Nov. 28.—James Forgrave, of Gleu William, had his head crushed in by a rock while blasting in a quargy, and was killed. He leaves a widow and four children.

To cure a cold in one night—use Vapo-Gresoline. It has been used extensively during more than twenty-four years. All drag-gists.