

The Attorney-General concluded by saying that he did not propose to go into a discussion of that at the present time. It has been discussed pretty fully. But the course of the leader of the Opposition in dealing with the Provincial elections was a fair comparison of a man straining at a gnat while swallowing a camel with any number of humps of very large dimensions. (Government applause.) The Liberal party wanted a full and fair expression of the popular will in the elections, and had no inclination to either obtain or retain power that was not the legitimate outcome of the open and honestly expressed preponderating desire of the people of this Province. (Loud and long-continued Government applause.)

J. G. PRITCHETT'S CASE.

In the Session of 1900, Mr. Whitney read in the Ontario Legislature an affidavit signed by one J. G. Pritchett of the City of London.

It appears that a warrant had been sworn out for the arrest of J. G. Pritchett for a violation of the Election Law in West Elgin. Being warned that he might be arrested at any time, Pritchett fled to the City of Detroit in order to evade arrest. While in the City of Detroit, according to his evidence before the Royal Commission, communication was opened between him and Mr. Sam. Barker, organizer for the Conservative party, and also Mr. Fleming, a barrister of the City of Windsor. As a result of this communication, Pritchett made an affidavit before William L. Carpenter, Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit, Michigan, containing a number of statements which have been since contradicted on oath:—

(1) Pritchett said that he saw Cornelius O'Gorman, Sullivan, Squire Hunt and John Lyle at the Duke House in the City of St. Thomas and had conversation with some of these gentlemen with regard to his acting as Deputy Returning Officer at Polling Division Number 6, Southwold.

In the evidence before the Royal Commission it was proven that these gentlemen had no communication whatever with John G. Pritchett. So the first statement in his affidavit was proven to be false.

(2) In applying to Sheriff Brown for the papers required by a Deputy Returning Officer, he gave his name as Marshall F. Johnson.

This statement was also admitted by Pritchett to be false.

(3) He stated that he "slipped," i.e., counted 19 votes for Macnish that should have been counted for McDiarnid (when the ballots were being counted at the close of the polls) the Conservative candidate.

It was shewn at the trial that he could not have done this, as the scrutineers for both parties were present when the ballots were counted, and Mr. Luton, Conservative scrutineer, swore that he believed Pritchett could not have "slipped" the ballots without being caught, as Mr. Luton said Pritchett was very closely watched.

(4) He swore that William O'Gorman gave him \$25 for acting as scrutineer at St. Thomas, and that John O'Gorman at London gave him \$100. O'Gorman swore that this statement is false.