Weekly Colonist

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BY

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IRISH LAND PURCHASE.

The Land Purchase Bill, which is now before the Imperial Parliament, is not by any means a conservative measure. Its tendency is in the other direction. It is in reality not a new measure at all, but a bill necessary to keep an old law in operation. This law is what is known as the Ashbourne Act, which was enacted in order to enable Irish tenants to become freeholders. Under its provisions the Government is empowered to lend the tenant who is desirous of purchasing the freehold of his farm the money necessary to do so at a low rate of interest. The tenant has forty-nine years to pay the money in, and the interest is four per cent. These are apparently easy terms, but, easy as they are, there are comparatively few Irish tenants in a position to avail themselves of them. In the first place, the Government requires as security a deposit of one-fifth of the money required before it will advance the tenant a shilling. This of course makes the law inoperative as far as the poorest class of tenants on whom the yoke of landlordism presses most sorely and who are most in need of relief, are concerned. The poor tenant, who is not only unable to pay his rent but who finds it hardly possible to keep body and soul together, cannot raise the deposit money if his soul's salvation depended upon it. To him and to the class to which he belongs the Ashbourne Act is as if it did not exist. Then the law takes no account of arrears. The tenant who, it may be, has been paying or trying to pay an extortionate rent and has fallen into arrears will, while endeavoring to pay for the freehold of his farm, have these arrears hanging like a millstone round his neck. It may be said that he ought to pay the rent specified in his lease or in his agreement with his landlord or give up his land. It is very well for us who are thousands of miles away from him to say this, but when a man's little bit of land is all that is between him and starvation it is not so easy for him to give it up when prices are low, when crops are short, and when times are hard. That the case of the Irish tenant is exceptional may be inferred from the laws that have been made to regulate his relations with his landlord. Government has undertaken to interfere in the bargains made between Irish landlords and their tenants in various ways, and it has gone so far as to establish a court to determine what is and what is not a fair rent. This very Ashbourne Act is exceptional legislation, and shows that the tenant in Ireland does not stand upon the same footing as tenants in other parts of the Kingdom. What the Government wants now is another grant of five millions pounds to to lend to the Irish tenants to enable them to bec me peasant proprietors. The objection raised to the bill by Mr. Gladstone is that not dealing with arrears it will not put a stop to evictions or give relief to those tenants who stand most in need of help. The Government's reply is that the law has done good and is doing good, and the matter of arrears will be dealt with by and by. The Government has advanced to tenants under the Ashbourne Act £4,732,754 to 11,455 tenants. The number of applications was 14,067 but for want of sufficient security and other reasons 2,612 of the applications were rejected. There are also between 3,000 and 4,000 applications now under consideration, and consequently when the decisions have been arrived at, the Ashbourne Act will have the effect of making some 12,000 Irish tenants freeholders—or rather putting them on the way to become freeholders—for they will not be the possessors of the land until all their instalments have been paid which, as we have shown, will be forty-nine years from the date of the purchase. The Ashbourne Act having done so much towards freeing so many of the Irish tenants the Government consider that they are warranted in asking for another five millions to continue the experiment. But the Act is evidently but a partial solution of the land problem. There are hundreds of thousands of tenants, who cannot avail themselves of its provisions. The measure may appear to be an extreme one to many of our readers, but one of the provinces of the Dominion on which landlordism had been entailed by the folly and the short-sightedness of the Imperial Government got rid of the incubus by much more drastic legislation. The Prince Edward Island Land Purchase Act, passed by the provincial legislature and sanctioned by Lord Dufferin, compelled the landlords to sell a valuation fixed by a commission in which the landlord was represented. The Provincial Government purchased the land and re-sold it to the tenants on easy terms. The purchase money was provided by the Dominion, as by the terms of Confederation $900,000 were given to the Island in place of the public lands of which it had been deprived by the Home Government. The consequence of this legislation has been that there is not at present a landed proprietor on Prince Edward Island, and the great bulk of the tenants have become freeholders. The difference between the Canadian Land Purchase Act and the Imperial Land Purchase Act, is that the Colonial Act was compulsory, and that the Government bought the estates instead of advancing money to the tenants. The object of both laws was alike, which was to convert tenants into freeholders. If the Ashbourne Act can be made as effective as the Prince Edward Island Land Purchase Act it will indeed be a blessing to the Irish tenantry.

A CANADIAN'S IMPRESSIONS.

Some time ago we showed our readers what a United States newspaper man thought of Ireland and Irish affairs from personal observation; to-day we reproduce for their information the impression which a visit to the Green Isle made upon a Canadian journalist. The Canadian is of French extraction, and it may fairly be concluded that his predelictions were not in favor of the Irish. Although the French Canadians and the Irish are in Quebec co-religionists as well as neighbors, they have no great love for each other. The French population of Quebec are not by any means enthusiastic on the Irish question. Those of them that are not politicians are disposed to be critical when Irish subjects come up for discussion, and their sympathies are not always with the Home Rule agitators. We may say further, that if Mr. Tardivel has seen much of pioneer life in Quebec he is able to compare the condition of the Irish tenantry with the poorest class of Canadian settlers. The backwoodsman in the province of Quebec has many difficulties to face and many hardships to endure which the settlers on wild lands in other provinces are not required to overcome and to suffer. The land is hard to clear, the climate is severe, and the market, when he has anything to sell, is distant, and not always so lively as it might be. A poor settler in Quebec is pretty nearly as badly off as any one in Canada except the idle and vicious inhabitants of the cities. But as the reader will see the Canadian observer considered the very poorest of the struggling settlers of his province far better off than many of the Irish tenants. This is his description of the condition in which he found them:

"I have been through the new settlements in the Canadian forests; I have seen the least advanced and the very poorest of our settlers; but I have never seen anything to compare with the shocking state of things here. And our settlers, miserably poor as they may be, painful as may be their work, and great as may be the hardships which they have to endure, have at least the consolation of hope. They know that, after a few years their labor will be crowned with comfort and independence, and that they will be their own masters; but these unfortunates have no hope of improving their condition. They barely get the most miserable subsistence from the holdings they cultivate. After paying the ruinous rent imposed on them for having improved the land, they are obliged to go or send their children to England to earn a few pounds every year. Such in a few words is the result of the landlord system in this part of the country * * * And these tillers of the soil are obliged to pay rent. The thing had to be repeated to me several times before I could believe it. The idea of a man, were he even the most heartless landlord, being impudent enough to demand rent for such places and from people who can hardly keep soul and body together, is not iniquitous, but supremely ridiculous. * * On landing I was anxious to witness an eviction. I do not want any longer to see one, for I am certain I would either die or say something that would place me in the grip of the police and prolong my stay indefinitely in Ireland."

There is no room to doubt the sincerity of the man who wrote these indignant sentences. He was shocked and horrified at the misery he witnessed and at the utter unreasonableness of compelling people in such a wretched condition to pay rent. We may say that he was *en route* for Killarney, one of the most beautiful places on the face of the earth, when he saw these specimens of the Irish tenantry.

VICTORIA'S MARKET REPORT.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE WEEKLY.
November 29th, 1888.

FLOUR—Hungarian	$ 7.40
Strong Bakers	7.30
Royal	6.20
Premier	6.30
Snowflake	6.30
Superfine	5.20
Wheat, per ton	35.05
Oats, per ton	35.05
Barley, per ton	30.05
Middlings, per ton	28.00
Bran, per ton	28.00
Ground Feed, per ton	32.50
Oil Cake, per ton	37.50
Corn, whole	40.05
" cracked	45.00
Cornmeal, per 100 lbs. Canadian	2.70
Oatmeal " "	4.20
" " Saanich	3.50
Bean, large white, per 100 lbs	5.00
" small " "	4.00
" Rayo " "	3.75
Peas, for feed, per ton	28.05
Potatoes	15.00
" Sweet, per 100 lbs	4.00
Onions, "	1.20
Hay, baled, per ton	20.05
Straw, per bale	1.25 @ 1.50
Apples, Granvenstein, per bx 50lbs	1.50
Bananas, per bunch	4.00
Pears, choice Bartlett, per box	2.00
Peaches " " "	1.25
Plums, Island, per lb	3 to 3
Grapes, Muscatelle, 25 lbs	1.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	11.00
Tomatoes, Cal. 25 lb box	1.00
Eggs, Island, per dozen	50
" Imported "	30
Butter, roll, Island, per lb	40
" Imported "	37
" tub or firkin, creamery	29
" " " dairy	24
Cheese, local, per lb	16
" Canadian	13½ @ 15
" California	17 @ 18
Hams, Evans, per lb	15
" American "	17 @ 18
Bacon, Evans, Breakfast, per lb	14 @ 16
" American "	16½
" Rolled "	14
Shoulders "	12
Lard "	12½
Meats—Beef "	8
Mutton "	7
Pork, fresh "	12½
Veal, dressed "	12½ 15
Tallow "	3½
Hides "	4 to 7
Skins, sheep, each	25to35
Fish, Salmon "	7
Halibut "	5

CAPITAL NOTES.

Parliament will be Summoned for 31st of January.

Tuberculosis Communicable to Humans by Milk and Meat—Chapleau Again Ill—New Drill Book for the Militia—The Skeena Announcement Somewhat Premature.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Nov. 28.—At to-day's meeting of the cabinet it was decided to summon parliament for the despatch of business on Thursday, January 31st.

Replies to circulars from the department of agriculture re tuberculosis show that the disease is communicable to human beings, by milk and meat. Parliament will probably be asked to adopt precautionary legislation.

A new drill book is being prepared by the war office authorities and will be adopted by the Canadian militia.

Hon. Mr. Chapleau is ill. He is urged to go to Paris for another operation.

The announcement about the expense of the Skeena expedition is premature. I learn at the Indian department that Mr. Robson has gone west for a few days and will return to Ottawa before leaving for Victoria.

WESTMINSTER NEWS.

WESTMINSTER, Nov. 28.—Senator McInnes of this city being interviewed relative to an Ottawa despatch, which stated he had made alarming reports as to the prevalence of leprosy amongst the Chinese and Indians in this province, declares the despatch to be an unqualified falsehood; that he never made any such statement, and, further, he does not believe that there is now or ever has been a case of leprosy among the Indians in this province, and even doubts whether a case has been found amongst the Chinese.

Further developments concerning the reported murderous attack by the negro barber last Sunday on the two Englishmen seems to show that the former used a gun in self-defense only.

Col. Woodford commences work here tomorrow.

CABLE NEWS.

The Parnell Commission.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—Before the Parnell commission to-day Farmer Kennedy, of Castle Island, deposed that he was a member of the local branch of the national league. He had heard the word "roaster" at the meetings, but didn't know the meaning. Mr. Shannon, a Dublin solicitor, who is assisting the *Times'* counsel, deposed that Kennedy had told him that the local branch of the league had a list of "roasters" hung up in its office. "Roasters," Kennedy had explained, meant turnspits for roasting or boycotting landlords. People were forbidden to work for men whose names were on the list of "roasters."

Parliamentary Proceedings.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—In the commons this afternoon Mr. Balfour said that Edward Harrington would not be arrested under the pending warrant against him during the debates on the Irish estimates. W. H. Smith announced that the government had withdrawn the wheel tax bill. Continuing, he appealed to the house to assist in terminating the discussion on the land purchase bill. The government, he said, was desirous to meet the views of the opposition as far as possible, and would accept the amendments offered by Mr. Healy relating to submitting holdings to laborers, and also the provision that the commission shall not advance rent unless it appears that the application of the tenant was not made under duress. Morley and Shaw Lafevre expressed themselves as satisfied with these concessions. Smith then moved the third reading of the bill, but Healy objecting to the haste of the government in finally passing the bill, moved to adjourn the discussion, which was carried.

The Sheehy Incident.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—The *Telegraph* has taken up the cudgel in favor of fair dealing with members of parliament as such, and advises Balfour to amend the treatment he has hitherto meted out to the Irish commoners. The *Telegraph's* strictures are undoubtedly the outcome of the Sheehy incident, since the paper expresses its belief that it would be eminently wise for the authorities to direct the policemen and jailors to respect the precincts of parliament as well as the persons of members in pursuit of their delegated duties, but there is in its article an undercurrent of sentiment that the general policy pursued by the government towards its political opponents has not redounded to its credit or advantage.

A Juvenile Whitechapel Murderer.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—A boy named Ausband, aged 11 years, who was the first to give notice of the discovery of the body of the boy Searl, who was found dying in the streets yesterday morning, with his throat cut from ear to ear, has been arrested for murder. The crime was undoubtedly committed in imitation of "Jack the Ripper," chronicles of whose butcheries have incited depraved youth in many parts of the kingdom to the emulation of his deeds, the police throughout the country are thus confronted with a new problem. The Spitalfield's vigilance committee, organized to aid the constabulary in detecting the Whitechapel murderer, and preventing further crimes, have secured the approval of the police to their appointment of ten men each night to watch the courts and alleys of the east-end, and otherwise act conjointly with the metropolitan force.

John Bright Somewhat Better.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—Mr. John Bright has rallied from his illness, and is somewhat better to-day.

Will be Asked to Explain.

MADRID, Nov. 28.—Count Penoman will be required to explain before the Council of State his reasons for attempting to discharge the duties of Minister to Berlin after he had been recalled from that position. An explanation will be asked concerning the charge that he informed Senor Canovas of the negotiations that had taken place between Germany and Spain.

Turkish Seamen Revolt.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 28.—A revolt on the part of two thousand men employed on the government transports, whose time has expired, has taken place. The mutineers raked the fire from under the boilers of the transports in order to prevent them sailing until the arrears of their wages had been paid. The minister of war with great difficulty raised the money with which to pay the men and the vessels have sailed. The Sultan has ordered an enquiry to be made into the matter.

One Good Point

Out of the many possessed by Burdock Blood Bitters is that it may be taken at all seasons of the year, and by either young or old. In this way the three busy B's are always at work and doing good. ttz

The barns on the Ontario government farm near Guelph have been destroyed by fire. Loss $30,000.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, Nov. 29.

FALL ASSIZES.

(Before Sir M. B. Begbie, Chief Justice.)

The last case on the docket, that of the Queen *v.* Dr. Gustavus Hamilton Griffin, charged with sending letters containing threats of murder to the Hon. Robert Dunsmuir, was the case called on the court opening yesterday morning at 10:25 o'clock. Deputy attorney-general Irving appeared with his associate, Mr. Taylor, for the crown, while Mr. F. G. Walker represented the prisoner. Almost every eye in the courtroom was turned towards the doctor as he stood up in the dock and the registrar called—"Gustavus Hamilton Griffin."

"That's my name," replied the prisoner.

The registrar then proceeded to read the indictment of the grand jury, and asked of the prisoner—

"How say you?"

Mr. Walker—I appear for the prisoner, your lordship, and wish to demur to the indictment before pleading on the ground that the face of the indictment does not show any offence. He quoted authority in support of his contention.

The objection was overruled by his lordship.

Mr. Walker enquired if his lordship would reserve the point.

His lordship—I don't see any necessity for doing so.

Will your lordship note the objection then?

His lordship—I have no objection to doing so. Your objection is that the translation of the letters should be in the indictment?

Mr. Walker—Yes, my lord.

His lordship—I overrule the objection.

Mr. Walker—Then, subject to the demurrer, we plead "not guilty."

The following jury was empannelled: A. Donaldson, foreman; Thomas Irving, A. McGregor, W. J. Tippens, P. Dempster, R. K. McLaughlin, S. Wilson, M. Willis, H. J. Pridham, W. L. Burgess, A. McKeown and W. S. Beckwith. William Ingraham, W. H. Spofford, A. McLaren, E. J. Walls, C. Webb, D. Gibb and Alexander McDonald were asked to "stand aside" by the counsel for the Crown.

The counsel for the Crown on opening the case said: The prisoner, Dr. Griffin, is arraigned on a charge of sending letters containing threats to murder. It was very reasonable for anyone looking on the face of the case to ask: What reason would the prisoner have to threaten Mr. Dunsmuir's life? A charge against a person for blackmail would be entirely different from the one laid. It was not for the jury to decide whether there was any motive for the sending of the letters. The question with them was, did the prisoner write or send the letters. He briefly reviewed the line of evidence which would be brought forward by the prosecution, and asked the jury to pay careful attention to each link in the chain of circumstantial evidence that would be produced, and called his first witness, Henry Heywood.

Mr. Heywood, on being sworn, gave substantially the same evidence as he previously had in the police court. He said Dr. Griffin was talking of buying *The Star*, a paper owned by the witness. Dr. Griffin in a conversation with the witness said Mr. Dunsmuir was his worst enemy, but did not give his reasons for the statement. The prisoner and himself were the only ones present.

Hon. Robert Dunsmuir substantiated his former evidence. He said that Dr. Griffin had bonded certain coal lands. It was stated in a newspaper article. He refused to purchase the lands which it was stated Dr. Griffin had bonded. Did not know whether the person who offered the lands for sale was acting for Dr. Griffin or not. He told them he did not want to buy any more coal lands. He had enough. Identified the threatening letters and the envelopes in which they were received. On getting the second letter, sent for Mr. Bloomfield and instructed him to put special constables to work at the expense of witness. First saw Dr. Griffin on the opening of the railway bridge across the harbor. Saw him again during a legislative session. Dr. Griffin sent a messenger to him and he (witness) came out. Dr. Griffin said he had bonded certain coal lands and wanted to make arrangements for the transportation of his coal. He (witness) told Dr. Griffin that it would be enough to consider the question of transportation when he got some coal.

The witness was subjected to a lengthy crogs-examination by Mr. Walker. In the course of his cross-examination, he said: I have not been trying to get up any other charge against Dr. Griffin, either directly or indirectly. I've had something else to do.

Mr. Walker—Was it with your knowledge that Mr. Whyte, your secretary, has done so?

Witness—No. I don't know that Mr. Whyte has done so. He has been, like me, pretty busy with this.

Mr. Walker—Do you know that Mr. Whyte had got a certain prescription that Dr. Griffin had written out for his wife, and taken it to Dr. Milne, and asked him if it was not a powerful drug?

Witness—I know that a certain prescription was put up in Morison's drug store.

Mr. Walker—Oh, it was Morison's store was it?

Witness, continuing, said that the druggist might have told him, himself. He had offered no reward for information that would lead to the conviction of the author of the threatening letters. Expected his firm would pay the detectives.

Mr. Lopatecki, called, deposed to the substantial accuracy of the translations. He reviewed his evidence given at the investigation. He had seen some of Dr Griffin's handwriting. Dr. Griffin had occasionally written articles for witness' paper—the *Standard*.

His lordship—This witness is connected with the *Standard* is he? The last witness (Heywood) was on the *Times*?

Mr. Taylor—No, your lordship, the *Star*.

His lordship—I thought he said *Times*. That is the way I understood him.

Mr. Taylor—No it was the *Star*.

His lordship—I suppose the *Times* is running in my head.

A juror becoming sick, the court adjourned for an hour at 1 o'clock, Mr. Lopatecki on the stand.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

M. Lopatecki again took the stand on the court resuming at 2 o'clock, and his evidence was continued. He identified the letter received by Mr. Howard as one he had seen before in Mr. Howard's hands.

Mr. Walker—Don't you think it would be well to have the prisoner brought in?

His lordship ordered the prisoner to be brought in.

Witness continuing, read and translated the letter received by detective Howard. The letter was written in Spanish throughout, no Greek, and bore the date of October 11th. The paper on which it was written is identical with that on which all the letters to Mr. Dunsmuir and the one to myself were written.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walker—I came to this country in November, 1887. Mr. Dunsmuir gave me the first letter to translate in August. I met Mr. Howard in our office in September. I met Mr. Mahoney a few days ago. I first met Mr. Whyte in Mr. Dunsmuir's office when I was given the first letter to translate. Mr. Dunsmuir gave me the letter himself. I have conversed with Dr. Griffin several times. At the Windsor Hotel and on the street. I have a degree of Dr. Ph., and am a civil and mining engineer. I studied Greek before I went to Germany. I have taught Greek to Mr. Robb since I came to Victoria. I consider myself the best Greek scholar in Europe or America for my age. Don't know Mr. Atherton. I know Russian as well as a native Russian. It was when Moody was here that Dr. Griffin told me he had lived in the Orient. I swore to a translation of the letters received by Mr. Dunsmuir, in the police court. (Photograph of the first letter and translation produced). I swore in the police court that the translation was correct.

His lordship—You don't mean to say that it was a verbal translation but a correct translation of the meaning to the best of your knowledge?

Witness—Yes, your lordship.—(continuing to Mr. Walker) Exhibit F is a correct translation of the five letters. The witness proceeded to analyse and explain several Greek words in the first exhibit—the first words.

His lordship thought that the points upon which Mr. Walker was cross-examining were utterly immaterial. Anyone with any knowledge of Spanish or who had access to a Spanish dictionary could understand the portion of the letter written in bad Spanish and French, and this was the substance part of the letter. The prisoner was not arraigned on a charge of writing bad grammar, but of threatening to kill. Mr. Lopatecki had deposed to the substance meaning of the letters, which he could translate; doubtless Mr. Walker could not.

Witness (continuing)—Noticed in the Greek portion of the letters, one letter which was written in a peculiar fashion, not used in continental Europe generally, but generally in England and America.

Mr. Walker—And now the letter "pi."

Witness—"P?"

His lordship—P.

Mr. Walker—Is there any difference in the English and continental way in writing the letter?

Witness—No. I never had any important conversation with Mr. Whyte. I met Mr. Whyte first in Mr. Dunsmuir's office. I am not sure that I saw a letter in Dr. Griffin's handwriting which resembled the writing on the threatening letters. I think it was the same writing. (Several letters produced by Mr. Walker.) It was neither of these letters that I saw.

Rev. A. J. Beanlands sworn, said I am a clergyman of the Church of England. I am a tolerable Greek scholar, but know nothing of Spanish. The first sentence in the first letter is very difficult to translate. One literal translation would be: "Thou dost not fear lest you may be now an old man, if ye regard even this." The following part may be translated in two ways: "Because you are held in most esteem of all," or "Because you cling very closely to everything." On the 5th of August letter the postscript also is in Greek. This means: "It is necessary that the unjust man should be brought before the judges to pay the penalty." On the letter of the 14th August the postscript translated reads: "The time is short suitably to narrate the things that have been done." On comparing the originals with depositions, the witness pronounced the copy quite right. I have never been in the Orient. I should pronounce the Greek, classical Greek, with very varying degrees of accuracy. (Dr. Curtis' Greek Grammar produced). The book contains the translation of the sentence: "He who acts unjustly must be brought before the judges to be punished." I was subpoenaed as a witness for the defence this morning.

Before Mr. Walker—I think the man that wrote this Greek must have been in the habit of writing Greek. The greater part of the Greek is good, classical Greek. I could not write as good Greek myself. (In looking at the individual letters in Greek,) the letters are made in the old fashioned way. The "theta" is made as we would be taught to make it in England. One of the "Pi" is made in a rather peculiar way. I am not sufficiently familiar with the German to say that it resembles a German letter. I don't know what a German "N" is like. The "K" is also somewhat unusual in its formation. I have seen Russian writing, the "Ka" and "Ls" in this Greek remind me very much of the Russian. I would consider the translations of the Greek on exhibits B. and C. an impossible translation.

To his lordship—I should consider the words translated, "The time is too short to describe," to relate to some scrap of history. I do not recall any oracle in the words mentioned having been used in modern Grecian history when a man was desired to leave the country.

Henry Heywood, recalled—I have received several letters from Dr. Griffin (one produced); that is one. I received the enclosure produced in the first one. The letters read:

Dear Mr. Haywood:—Permit me to hand you the enclosed, which are quite correct, and I hope will assist you in placing me right before your readers.

Yours gratefully,
G. H. GRIFFIN, M. D.

(ENCLOSURE.)

Dr. Griffin.—French extraction, his father being James Hewittson Griffin, Q. C., of Edinburgh, Scotland, died 1862. His mother being Marie, third daughter of Dr. Thos. Hardiene, of Toulon, France. Dr. Griffin was born in London, England, January 1st, 1840. M. D. Scotland 1858, B. A. London 1872. Degree in surgery, Paris, France, 1876. Speaks and writes seven languages. Married Miss Nellie Lennox, of London, Ontario, a pupil of Prof. Meirs, and one of the finest amateur vocalists and pianists in that city. Dr. Griffin is a musician, playing several instruments, and has a tenor voice. He intends to reside here, and has purchased property on the Island and at Vancouver.

These letters are in Dr. Griffin's writing. He wanted me to publish the fact set out in the enclosure and afterwards received this letter:

Dear Mr. Haywood.—If your article promised in the next issue is as friendly in its spirit as found you after giving the other side of my case, I shall require 20 copies. Please be good enough to strike off this extra number accordingly.

Yours truly,
G. H. GRIFFIN, M.D.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walker—Q.—Did Dr. Griffin threaten to give you a horse-whipping?

A.—Yes.

Q.—That's all (laughter).

Mr. Taylor—Did he say anything else?

Witness—Oh, yes. He said he would either horsewhip me or kill me.

Mr. Walker—I object.

Mr. Taylor pressed his question and the witness replied that Dr. Griffin had raised his right hand and sworn that he would either kill him (the witness) or horsewhip him if he again published articles in regard to him.

To his Lordship—He did not keep his word.

Benjamin F. Atherton, sworn: I first met the prisoner about a year and a half ago in Los Angeles. Also was employed as his private secretary up till the first of August of this year. Have had considerable experience with Dr. Griffin's writing. As a searcher of records at Los Angeles, it was part of my business as a searcher of records, to compare handwriting. (Photographs of letters produced). I have seen the letters of which these are photographs. (Originals produced). I have seen the body of a letter similar to that marked exhibit B without name, Robert Dunsmuir, in neighborhood of July last. I was asked to copy it, in Dr. Griffin's parlor at the Windsor Hotel, Government street. When I would go to Dr. Griffin's room he generally had work for me to do. Dr. Griffin read out the letters and I copied them out. I remarked it would take a Dutchman to read that word. He then read out to me the letters in each word separately. There may have been eight or ten words that I copied. Dr. Griffin took the paper from me. I don't know what he did with it. Dr. Griffin had spoken of Mr. Dunsmuir as a very dangerous man, said that he had hired assassins in the community to dog a man's footsteps. This conversation took place in Yates street in this city. Dr. Griffin was interested in some coal lands, and I was very anxious to find out all about them. Dr. Griffin introduced the conversation and I followed it up. Dr. Griffin said he had bonded some coal lands near Nanaimo. He always spoke of them as being owned by "us" or "we" suggesting that someone was connected with him. He gave me to understand that Mr. Dunsmuir prevented him from selling his coal lands. I did not know Mr. Dunsmuir, and from what Dr. Griffin said I came to regard him as a dangerous man. (Exhibit the envelope containing the Howard letter produced.) This was handed me to post at the Windsor Hotel by Dr. Griffin, about 11th October. I posted it at the box at the corner of Blanchard and Pandora streets. At the same time he gave me a letter to Sir W. P. Howland, Toronto. The letter addressed to Mr. Howard had no stamp on it. I dropped it in the box knowing that it would be got by the person to whom it was addressed on the postage being paid. Dr. Griffin told me to be sure and post the letter. (Envelopes and paper produced on which the letters in court were written.) The paper is similar to that used by Dr. Griffin when I first went to work for him. I should say the letters produced are in the handwriting similar to that I have seen Dr. Griffin write in California. Dr. Griffin is a very careful man in addressing letters. The style of address on the Howard letter is somewhat unusual for Dr. Griffin. (Copy of *Social World* exhibit produced.) The writing in blue pencil on the title page is in Dr. Griffin's handwriting. The *Social World* was supposed to be a weekly home journal published by Dr. Griffin and edited for a while by Dr. Griffin and Mr. Chalmers. During the time I was in the office I sometimes emptied the waste paper basket. Once I took it up stairs and put it in the garret under the boards. The landlord objected to my throwing the papers in the yard. The time I put the papers in the garret was about 20th July. I went back and looked over the papers in the garret shortly after I put them there. Was looking for a letter addressed to myself from Los Angeles. About a week or ten days ago I brought some of these papers that had Dr. Griffin's writing on away. Gave them to one of Mr. Mahoney's detectives. Saw some of these papers and identified them in the police court afterwards. I remember when I first saw any of these letters. One of Mr. Mahoney's detectives came to the house, I didn't know who he was at the time. He brought me the letter sent to Mr. Howard and asked me whose writing it was—

His lordship—How many more witnesses have you?

Mr. Taylor—Four, your honor.

Benjamin F. Atherton, cross-examined by Mr. Walker—I came to British Columbia in June of this year. Dr. Griffin offered to keep me employed and pay my bills. He did not pay my bills. He gave me orders for a pair of shoes and for some paint. I subsequently have been called on to pay for both. I acted as his correspondent until the *Social World* closed. I was in his office off and on every day while the office was running. From June 25th or thereabouts till about August 15th. During that time was often in the office. I dug post-holes around Mr. Caton's house. I worked for a man named Millar several days. His wife did not discharge me. I worked for Mr. Sehl from August to September. I saw I wasn't needed and I went. He did not discharge me. I took the papers referred to up in the garret of the office at the corner of Yates and Broad street. I never saw Mr. Lopatecki till I met him in the police court. Mr. Lopatecki did not come out of court and speak to me. I spoke to him. I asked him "how Greek was getting along?" He said he could not coincide with his lordship's Greek, but it might be good Greek. (Laughter.) I don't understand Greek. I am sorry to say. I spoke to Mr. Whyte once before this case came on in the police court. I never saw Mr. Howard until after the trial in the police court. I know Dr. Griffin's writing pretty well. (Letter produced by Mr. Walker.) I should say the greater portion of this is Dr. Griffin's handwriting.

To his lordship—The doctor sometimes would write several distinct styles in handwriting in a single letter. I should say that this was his writing. I am not an expert in handwriting. The greater part of the handwriting looks like the handwriting of Dr. Griffin. (Several envelopes and papers produced by Mr. Walker.) I have seen that name, Rev. Donald Fraser, similarly written by Dr. Griffin. I would not swear it is Dr. Griffin's writing. I think it is. I recognize the writing on several of these as Dr. Griffin's.

The papers containing writing recognized as Dr. Griffin's by this witness were shown to the jury, and the cross-examination proceeded. I have had several conversations with Dr. Griffin about Mr. Dunsmuir. I have often heard Dr. Griffin use the word I mentioned. I have heard him call Mr. Dunsmuir by the name I mentioned twice. The other time was when the *Social World* office closed. The other time was shortly after I came here. The first conversation took place on Yates street when we were hunting for rooms. I don't remember where the other conversation took place. It might have been in the Windsor Hotel. I don't know. I posted the letter to Mr. Howard without a stamp. Mr. Howard never spoke to me about the letter. I presume he had to have it stamped before he got it from the Post Office. I first met Mr. Dunsmuir to speak to him in the office. I went to him for Dr. Griffin. No one was present when I wrote the Spanish words at Dr. Griffin's dictation. I never told anyone that I intended to get even with Dr. Griffin. I didn't think I could get even with him. I have told Mr. McDonald and Mr. Sehl that I intended to get even with him from a money point of view. I never told Mr. John Hilbert that Dr. Griffin swindled me out of $15,000. I never mentioned $15,000 in connection with Dr. Griffin. I have mentioned money matters to him, but never the sum of $15,000. It was in the *Social World* office at the corner of Broad and Yates streets that I saw Dr. Griffin take certain papers from his pocket. I received no money or promise of money for getting papers in this case. I got them by request of Mr. Cornell, of Mahoney's Detective Agency of San Francisco. I do not see Mr. Cornell in court nor do I know if he is here. Dr. Griffin made a peculiar capital M when he wished to disguise his writing. I have had a good many letters from him. The letters to me are at Los Angeles.

Mr. Taylor—There are two exhibits that have not been sent up from the police court—a stylographic pen and a drawing of the black hand," (producing exhibits 14 to 25). Are these in Dr. Griffin's handwriting.

Witness—They are. (Stylographic pen and penholder claimed to be missing, produced and identified by the witness as one belonging to Dr. Griffin).

Mr. Taylor—There is still one exhibit that we are unable to find. It was a drawing of a black hand that was lost while in evidence at the police court. We will prove the lost of the document, my lord, and then the witness can give evidence in regard to the contents of the document. The document was very small and could easily be lost among the quantity of documents in exhibit. We propose to prove its loss by putting the clerk of the police court in the box. The registrar says that the scrap of paper wanted, never came into court.

His lordship referred to the imputation that the witness was an ungrateful servant, first of Dr. Griffin and then the bribee of some one from San Francisco.

Mr. Atherton, to his lordship, said that he knew a gentleman calling himself Mr. Cornell. He (Mr. Cornell) asked him to get certain papers with Dr. Griffin's writing for him to compare with certain writing. Dr. Griffin introduced me to a number of people, but got me no employment. The witness left the box, subject to recall if the scrap of paper, now lost, could be found, or proved to have an existence.

James A. Cohen sworn, identified the blue writing on a copy of the *Social World*, marked exhibit J, as that of Dr. Griffin's, written in his presence. Had received letters from Dr. Griffin. Identified a number of letters produced as ones he had received from Dr. Griffin. I could not say these letters are in Dr. Griffin's writing. They look like it. I saw him write the part below the signature on exhibit 22, and I signed it.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walker—I began to print for Dr. Griffin about May 14th. Dr. Griffin often came to my office. The *Social World* office was not in the same building as my office. Mr. Atherton came to my office and asked if I could give him any readings of the *Social World*. He was alone. Mr. Whyte also came to my office several times for papers containing Dr. Griffin's writing. He came first several weeks ago. (Papers produced by Mr. Walker.) I gave these papers to Mr. Whyte. The writing on them looks to me like the doctor's. I am not an expert in hand-writing.

To Mr. Irving—Dr. Griffin had his editing office at the corner of Yates and Broad streets.

The court adjourned until 7:30 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

Wm. Whyte called: said I have known the prisoner by sight for about six months. Recognized the letters produced. Saw them before in Mr. Dunsmuir's office. Opened the letter of October 11th in my own room in the E. & N. Railway Co.'s office on Government street. Procured similar paper to that on which the letters are written, and envelopes similar to those in which the letters were received, at M. W. Waitt & Co.'s. The size of the envelops, the peculiar cutting, and the quality of the paper led me to the belief that the envelopes were the same. The paper in ruling, weight, etc., was similar, and was to be had padded, and the paper on which the letters had been written was evidently torn from a pad. Could only get the paper and envelopes at M. W. Wait & Co.'s, although I tried all the other stationers and compared the paper and envelopes with their stock.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walker—There was no water mark on the paper. I have not tried to get up another charge against Dr. Griffin. I have made enquiries in regard to prescriptions of Dr. Griffin's. I don't remember asking Dr. Milne any questions in regard to a prescription put up by Dr. Griffin. I asked him in regard to a certain prescription without mentioning Dr. Griffin's name. I asked if one ounce of opium or laudanum was a large dose in a prescription. He said it depended on the case. I was acting under no instructions, merely from curiosity. It was a prescription of Dr. Griffin's, I saw in Morrison's drug store.

I have enquired about Dr. Griffin's record in the east. I have tried to find out who was sending the threatening letters to my employer. I went to Mr. Sehl for a specimen of Mr. Atherton