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VINDICATED!

Parnell's Innocence Demonstrated.

Egan's letters were genuine. When making the statement to Mr. Labouchere, I was afraid of a prosecution for forgery. Mr. Labouchere promised me that I would not be prosecuted if I made a statement. He also said he pledged his word of honor that the Parnellites would give me my children £2,000. I have been in difficulties and great distress for the last twenty years, and to support myself and family I have been guilty of many acts that must disgrace me. The Attorney-General produced Pigott's affidavit, stating the contents of the letter were true.

ROUSSEAU IN THE BOX. Sir Charles Russell demanded that the court summon the constable and detectives who were with Pigott in order that they might explain how he succeeded in getting away.

Mr. Houston testified that Pigott had not taken his luggage with him. He produced the letters left for Pigott at Anderson's, but they contained nothing of importance. He also produced a letter Pigott had addressed to him on Saturday asking for a balance of £33 which Pigott said he had been often promised. Pigott in the letter said he was told that he would be prosecuted for perjury and he wanted the money to send to his children.

SOME INNER HISTORY REVEALED.

Mr. Soames was called and produced letters Pigott had written to him. In one letter dated Nov 30, 1888, Pigott complained that Houston, after informing him that the Times had agreed to pay him £5,000, refused to make such a promise. Pigott claimed that according to agreement his name was to be called, and he said that if called as a witness he would refuse to testify. He enclosed a letter from Mr. Macdonald, in which the letter guaranteed that Pigott's name should not be given in any court. Pigott wrote that if he were compelled to appear in court he would consider it unfair treatment. He said he was convinced that the cross-examination would discredit his evidence. (Laughter.) He offered to make an affidavit, but hoped he would be allowed to leave the country. Mr. Soames replied that

THE AGREEMENT AS TO SECRECY

had been removed as Pigott's visit to Mr. Labouchere and others rendered full disclosure necessary. The Times would see that Pigott was not harmed as he confirmed in court the evidence he had given Mr. Soames and afterwards verified under oath. Mr. Soames was unable to sanction giving Pigott money to enable him to leave the country, but he consented to pay his expenses and recomp him for loss of work. He enclosed £10 in the letter. Pigott replied that he had not relieved the Times from the obligation to maintain secrecy and that he had not promised to testify. Houston had deceived Mr. Soames just as he had deceived Pigott. Pigott said he was informed that if he testified, his opponents would produce evidence that would neutralize his testimony and endanger his life. He declared that Houston was responsible for his (Pigott's) negotiations with Labouchere. Mr. Soames wrote to Pigott that the pledges given by the latter must be performed. Pigott told Soames he had an interview with McCarthy. Mr. Soames testified that to the best of his belief he had not informed counsel that Pigott was the source of the letters before the commission and was charged. He did not enquire into Pigott's character. He saw Mr. Walker constantly and did not doubt that he had mentioned to him that Pigott was the source of the letters. Witness did not know what arrangements had been made to watch Pigott. He sent Sergeant Fawcett to Anderson's hotel on Thursday to see that no one interfered with Pigott. Fawcett stayed at the hotel until yesterday. Witness was not aware that detectives had been employed to watch Pigott. Mr. Shannon saw Pigott at noon yesterday. On October 19 Pigott released witness from the obligation of secrecy. Until then he had not mentioned Pigott's name to counsel. Pigott wrote on Saturday asking for money, but witness did not send him any.

A FORGER FOR MANY YEARS.

Sir Charles Russell stated that he would prove by a Glasgow agent that Pigott had committed a series of forgeries. The court, however, would not allow the evidence to be presented. Mr. Lewis, of counsel for the Parnellites, testified that he had subpoenaed Pigott in September. R-gardiaz Pigott's confession, witness said Mr. Labouchere wrote the confession and Pigott signed it. Even after the confession witness expected that Pigott would be in court to-day.

THE "TIMES" TO ADAMANT THE CASE.

Attorney-General Webster here asked that an adjournment be taken until to-morrow to enable his clients to consider their position and decide what part of the case they should abandon. His clients also wished to ascertain whether Pigott was accessible. He proposed to announce to-morrow the course to be pursued by the Times. The commission, therefore, adjourned. The greatest excitement prevailed in the court when the commission adjourned. Messrs. Parnell and Davitt, Mr. Gladstone and a larger number than usual of the Irish members of Parliament against whom charges were made were present. Sir Charles Russell and Messrs. Labouchere, Healy and Parnell had an earnest conversation after the court adjourned.

A WARRANT OUT FOR PIGOTT.

The magistrates sitting in Bow street police court, at the instance of Messrs. Parnell and Lewis, this evening issued a warrant for the arrest of Pigott on the charges of perjury and forgery. Constables Gallagher and Fawcett, who protected Pigott at Anderson's hotel, say they last saw him at 4.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon. It is believed that Pigott disguised himself and fled to either Antwerp or Rotterdam. It is learned that he sent a dispatch to his housekeeper at Kingstown, instructing her to burn "all the papers in the black box," and that his order was obeyed. Pigott posted to his housekeeper in Dublin a blank cheque to obtain a balance of 25 at his bankers. Pigott has four sons, the youngest six years old. His wife died eighteen months ago. It is surmised that the blank cheque mentioned in Pigott's telegram to his housekeeper contained his correspondence with Houston, which, it is reported, Pigott told Labouchere on Saturday he had received.

ANOTHER WITNESS CALLED.

LONDON, February 26.—Prof. Maguire, Houston's patron and colleague, who has been summoned to testify for the Times in the Parnell commission, died suddenly to-day. His death was not connected with the Parnell case.

LONDON, February 26.—Mr. Parnell has been asked to appear in court to-day. He is stated to have declined to do so, the Parnellites commission being printed. Lord Russell's Corroboration

and tracing them against a window pane. He afterwards destroyed the genuine letters. The second batch of letters ascribed to Parnell were initiated from the fac-similes shown in the Times.

HOW THE PARNELLITES DISCOVERED THE FORGER OF THE LETTERS.

LONDON, February 26.—A gentleman in high authority in the prosecution of the Parnell-Times case to-day told the story of how the conspiracy against Parnell was detected. Up to July last Parnell, his counsel and colleagues were wholly at sea. They knew the letters were forged, but every effort to discover the forger proved futile, and Parnell and his confidants were disheartened. One day last July a young Irish-American priest, Rev. Maurice J. Dorney, of Chicago, accompanied by Rev. Herbert Dunn, also of Chicago, sent his card to Mr. Parnell at the House of Commons. Father Dorney informed Mr. Parnell that he had a package of documents to deliver, placed in his hands the night before he sailed from New York. It contained, he said, evidence that would reveal the forger and identify the forger of the letters printed in the Times. Father Dorney received a telegram from Alexander Sullivan, of Chicago, asking him to meet Patrick Egan at a railway station in New York the night before he sailed for Liverpool. He did so. Egan and Father Dorney sat up all night. The priest learned the whole story. He told Mr. Parnell he had carried that package with more solicitude than if it had been millions. When the nature of the package became apparent to Mr. Parnell he was deeply affected. The depression, visible for months on his pale face, began to soften, and during the recital of the story he yielded several times to emotion. When the story itself was over he asked, with painful apprehension, how many men knew what the package contained. Father Dorney replied that only Egan, Sullivan and himself were familiar with it, but Patrick Ford, of the Irish World, would be taken into confidence by Egan. Mr. Parnell was delighted. He had feared that somebody might inform the Times a series of interviews followed, participated in by Dorney, Parnell, Sir Charles Russell, Lewis and Labouchere. The discovery that Pigott was the forger was made by Egan in Lincoln, Neb. Egan writes that he was sorely perplexed by the forged letters, the similes of which he got in the London Times. The signature of those attributed to him was remarkably good. Expressions and odd abbreviations peculiar to him were in the text. He considered as a possible forger each of several men whom the Parnellites suggested or suspected, but none could have had letters from him which would have made the spurious concoctions possible. He recalled Pigott, but he had been so long dead in politics and covered with accumulated shame that Egan dismissed him from mind. He remembered that Pigott had been in forgers' years before, but the idea that he might be concerned in these seemed absurd. In scrutinizing the forged fac-similes he finally discovered that one signed with his name was written avowedly at a certain address in Paris. Recollection flashed upon him that Pigott was the only man to whom he had ever given it. Pigott had written asking for a confidential address to which he might send important information. Egan, who is methodical in habit, had saved his correspondence for years. He has been accustomed to writing on the fly-leaf of a letter "received," his answer to it, and then copying the answer to be sent to his correspondent. Thus he had letter and answer together. He found Pigott's letters. By comparing them with the handwriting of the forged letters he saw he had the forger. He submitted letters written by Pigott to experts with the fac-similes of the forged letters. They detected characteristic peculiarities which were confirmed under the microscope. Egan had Pigott's letters and the forgeries photographed and started for Chicago, where he placed all the papers before Alex. Sullivan, who is a lawyer. A brief was drawn up by him and Sullivan. It related to the chief incidents in Pigott's career. Years before when Pigott tried to sell the Freeman newspaper to Parnell and Egan, he furnished an inventory, apparently authenticated by a well known Dublin accountant, showing the value of the property. Egan proved that the inventory was false and that Pigott forged the accountant's signature. A man in Pigott's newspaper office contributed to the Boston Pilot. His nom de plume was Leo. After his death a relative discovered that Patrick Donahue, then editor of the Pilot had remitted to Leo a draft which his family never received, and that Pigott had opened the letter, forged an endorsement on the draft and drew the money. Pigott was compelled to disgorge. These facts Egan committed to writing. He found among his papers a letter written by him in which entire sentences appeared that were also in the forged letters. Pigott had traced these sentences carefully word for word. Then he interpolated or added other sentences or phrases completely changing the meaning of the whole letter, while preserving the integrity of portions. Dates were also changed to make the original interpretations applicable to illegal events. Egan found letters by Parnell which had been similarly used. Photographs of all these and of Pigott's begging and blackmailing letters were enclosed with the originals in the package with the memoranda recalling the Parnell all the circumstances attending to writing or reception of each. This was the luggage the young clerical man fetched to Parnell.

MR. PARNELL IN THE BOX.

Mr. Parnell was called and sworn. He denied signing the alleged letter of May 15. Mr. Campbell, his secretary, did not write the letter. Witness had not heard of such a letter until he saw it in the Times. Mr. Campbell had gone to Antwerp to endeavor to find Pigott. Mr. Parnell denied the genuineness of the other letters purporting to have been signed by himself and Egan. He said he and Egan had extensive correspondence. He dictated to Campbell a letter regarding an interview asked by Pigott. The letter which the Times reproduced was evidently imitated from it.

EFFORTS TO EXTRADITE PIGOTT.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Matthews, home secretary, stated that the authorities were taking steps to secure the extradition of Pigott from Paris. Mr. Matthews also said he had no information regarding Houston which at present would justify him in preventing Houston from leaving the country. Pigott's arrest in Paris is regarded as imminent, but it is doubtful whether the French Government will regard perjury as an extraditable offence.

HOW HE ESCAPED.

It is believed that Pigott posted his letters to Mr. Shannon at the railroad station in Paris and then proceeded for either Spain or Switzerland. It appears that Pigott obtained on Monday from Sotherby's book mart a cheque for £25 in payment for a number of rare books. Pigott had the cheque cashed at a bank at four o'clock that afternoon. The last time he was seen he was walking on Fleet street.

A PECULIAR ARGUMENT.

In connection with Mr. Parnell's application to the Dublin court for permission to bring suit against the Times for libel, that paper has instructed its solicitors to oppose the granting of a writ on the grounds that a similar action brought in the Edinburgh courts was dismissed, and that the trial would interfere with the Commission's investigations. Mr. Parnell's legal advisers will strongly resist the argument of the Times.

PARNELL'S FUTURE COURSE.

A crowd of friends besieged Mr. Parnell in the lobby of the House of Commons to-day. Sir W. B. Bartlett, Conservative, shook hands with Mr. Parnell. Mr. Parnell has as yet come to no definite decision regarding his future action, but he is determined to follow Sir Charles Russell's conspiracy suggestion. The Times has withdrawn its advertisements of "Parnellism and Crime" and "O'Donnell versus Walter." Applicants for the pamphlets are informed that they are out of print.

SALA'S STORY.

LONDON, February 27.—George Augustus Sala writes to the Telegraph an article, a column and a half long, describing the letter view on Saturday between Pigott and Mr. Labouchere. It confirms the statement that Pigott went to Mr. Labouchere's house voluntarily to make a confession, but that, apparently owing to the gnawing of his conscience, he had great difficulty in opening up and took a full ten minutes to make up his mind. He then began in a musing tone a soliloquy, but by degrees his voice rose and he became so fluent that it was rarely necessary for him to halt or to reconstruct a phrase. The copy of the confession which Mr. Lewis obtained was from beginning to end literally and verbally the composition of Pigott, who confessed he forged the Parnell letters and minutely described the manner in which they were written. Pigott said he alone executed the forgeries. "Whether he is telling the truth or another batch of lies," says Mr. Sala, "is not for me to determine, but to my mind he seemed to be confessing facts and nothing but facts. No pressure was put upon him and no leading questions were asked. He went on quietly and continuously to the end of his story. I should have thought it amazing had I not had occasion to hear many more astounding confessions. Pigott did not appear to be overcome by shame and treated his actions more as incidental weaknesses."

FLIGHT OF PIGOTT.

SUSPICION ATTACHED TO THE MANAGERS OF THE "TIMES"—THE JUDGES INDIGNANT.

LONDON, Feb. 27, midnight.—Pigott has not been arrested. It is the general impression that he has gone to Rotterdam, but no trace has yet been found of the route he took. There was a report that he had committed suicide, but it is not believed; Pigott was not that kind of a man. All who know him say he loved himself and his life too well, and no degree of shame would cause him suffering enough to induce him to put an end to his existence. He was sure if he went to court again or stayed in his hotel he would be arrested and sent to jail. Hence his precipitate flight. The managers of the Times are openly accused of conniving at his escape and of furnishing him with the means for the journey and of helping him to elude the constables and detectives ordered by the Court to watch him. They will be closely examined by the Court on this point to-morrow, as will also be the officers. The judges feel that their orders have been lightly treated and the dignity of the Court trifled with. It is characteristic of Pigott before he disappeared to make a last attempt to sell out. His confession of forgery having been rejected by Mr. Parnell he makes a last attempt on the gullibility of the Times. He writes to the Dublin solicitor for the Times not denying that he was a forger, but retracting a portion of his confession to Mr. Sala, so as to make it appear that the most dangerous of the Parnell letters were genuine, and that the Times had a case yet. This evidently failed. Mr. Shannon has yet to testify to facts before the Commission, but his piteous appeal for £33 may have met with a better success. He never could have got beyond the sea without money. The Times is well rid of him at the

price, but suspicion will ever cling to it on account of this transaction.

A POOR APOLOGY.

LONDON, February 28.—The Times in its leading editorial quotes and endorses Attorney-General Webster's apology before the Parnell commission for the publication of the forged letters. It says: We desire to endorse as appropriate every word of the foregoing statement. It is our wish, as it is our duty to do so. Moreover Mr. Parnell having in the witness box stated that the letters are forgeries, we accept in every respect the truth of that statement. In these circumstances we deem it right to express our regret most fully and sincerely at having been induced to publish the letters as Mr. Parnell's or to use them in evidence against him. This expression of regret includes also the letters falsely attributed to Mr. Egan, Mr. Davitt and Mr. O'Kelly. It is scarcely fitting now to enter into the circumstances under which we received and published them. We are bound, however, to point out that Pigott was not the person with whom we communicated. Moreover, we must add that we firmly believed the letters were genuine until the disclosures made by Pigott on cross-examination. It must be evident to all reasonable persons that if a conspiracy existed, the Times was victimised by and not a party to it. Errors, of course, in judgment may have been committed, and for them the penalty must be paid. It must be clearly understood that what we have done is altogether upon our own motion and our own responsibility, and in the public interest alone. This withdrawal, of course, refers exclusively to the letters obtained from Pigott."

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL ATTACKED.

In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Healy asked whether attention had been called to the fact that as far back as November Atorney-General Webster had received a statement from Pigott to the effect that he could not bear a cross-examination before the commission. (Parnellite cheers.) Having regarded this he asked did the Government retain confidence in Attorney-General Webster?

MR. SMITH ASKED THAT DUE NOTICE OF THE QUESTION BE GIVEN.

Mr. Smith asked that due notice of the question be given if Mr. Healy's reference was to Sir Richard Webster's discharge of his duties as attorney-general.

MR. HEALY GAVE NOTICE OF A MOTION THAT IN THE OPINION OF THE HOUSE THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL HAD FORFEITED CONFIDENCE.

Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, resuming the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne, charged the Irish executive with increasing the rigors of repression in Ireland during the recess. They were afraid to face a discussion in Parliament. Immediately after Parliament was prorogued the first step of the executive was to persecute the Irish members. In relating efforts to class them as ordinary prisoners the Parnellites had the opinion of the world on their side.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN APPEALED TO THE OPPOSITION TO PLACE THE DISCUSSION ON A BROAD AND SOUND BASIS BY INFORMING THE HOUSE FULLY WHAT WAS HIS SCHEME TO CONTENT IRELAND AND BRING ABOUT A UNION OF HEARTS AND INTERESTS.

(Cheers.)

PARTY FEELING RUNNING HIGH.

In the course of the debate, T. W. Russell, a Liberal Unionist, apparently accused Mr. Dillon of paying for the defence of murderers.

"IT IS A FOUL LIE," EXCLAIMED MR. DILLON, SPRINGING EXCITEDLY TO HIS FEET.

The chairman requested that the remark be withdrawn, and Mr. Dillon complied. Mr. Russell also disclaiming any personal reference to Mr. Dillon.

A LITTLE LATE A SQUABBLE BETWEEN MR. THOMAS O'HANLON, A NATIONALIST, AND SIR HENRY HAVELOCK ALLEN, LIBERAL UNIONIST, COMPELLED THE SPEAKER TO APPEAL TO BOTH SIDES OF THE HOUSE TO SET THEIR FACES AGAINST UNSEEMLY INTERRUPTIONS, WHICH, HE SAID, WERE UNWORTHY THE DIGNITY OF PARLIAMENT.

Subsequently Mr. Healy, desailing with the imprisonment of Wm. O'Brien, accused Mr. Balfour of mis-taking the reasons for his delaying action until three months after the delivery of the speech for which Mr. O'Brien was imprisoned. Mr. Balfour protested and at the Speaker's request Mr. Healy withdrew his accusation.

THE TIMES MUST PAY.

In the House of Commons, to-day, Mr. W. H. Smith declared that nobody on behalf of the Government had intimated that the Times would be recompensed by a parliamentary grant for its expenses in connection with the Parnell commission.

NO TRACE OF PIGOTT.

Mr. Campbell telegraphed from Antwerp that he has found no trace of Pigott. A radical project to give a banquet to Mr. Parnell has been taken up with enthusiasm. Mr. Parnell has intimated his acceptance of the honor. Lord Granville and Lord Rosebery will be asked to preside.

DISCUSSION ON PIGOTT'S EXTRADITION.

PARIS, Feb. 28.—Tidal trains from England during the last twenty-four hours have been closely watched, not only by the French police, but by a score of Irish-Americans intent on warmly receiving Pigott on his arrival in France. The Times perjuror, however, is generally believed to have gone direct to Switzerland, giving Paris, where he is so well and so unfavorably known, a wide berth.

The World's representative saw Corton at a late hour to-night. He said he knew nothing as yet, but admitted having been notified by the French Foreign Office to appear no farther in capturing the forger. He said that Pigott is now in Paris, and if in France at all is in Boulogne or one of the coast towns. If Pigott is captured no difficulty about his extradition is anticipated, except that he will have to answer several charges against him here. Obtaining money under false pretences is one of them.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—It turns out after all that the two warrants issued yesterday for Pigott's arrest are mere waste paper so far as the Parnell case is concerned. Perjury is not an extraditable offence, and the kind of forgery which Pigott committed for the Times is not literally criminal in the same way as if he had forged a check or bill of exchange or some similar instrument. No one could profess to say that the forged Parnell-Egan letters were instruments of any value whatever excepting for purposes of political assassination, and this kind of document is not covered by the law against forgery.

But if caught in Paris, Pigott is almost sure to be arrested by the vendors of vile pictures and books whom he has defrauded, and there are means by which he can then be extradited.

In the course of his extensive career of forgery, Pigott found occasion, more than once, to forge his neighbours' names to instruments in a fashion which in the eye of the law brings him under its lash as a forger. This

is particularly the case in relation to a certain bill of exchange to which he forged the name of Lindsay of Glasgow. These bills were drawn by Pigott and accepted by him in the name of Lindsay, and were taken up by Pigott before they came due with the proceeds of another forged accommodation bill, which was discounted with punctuality by the Hibernian Bank in Dublin. These accommodation bills, all of which were forged, Pigott kept going for many years, and on any one of them he can be prosecuted for forgery. Application will be made for his extradition on the score of forging these bills of exchange on Lindsay, but even then he will probably never be brought before the Commission again, although he may be terrified into saying something which will bring others there.

LONDON, March 1.—The Pall Mall Gazette strongly urges that Messrs. Walter, Buckle, MacDonald, Soames and Houston be summoned to the bar of the House of Commons and be committed to the Clock Tower on a flagrant breach of privilege in charging that Mr. Parnell lied during the discharge of his Parliamentary duties.

The Telegraph to-day implies the Times in the interest of the Unionist cause, to abandon the whole case, and declares that all this preceding evidence is not orientating.

LONDON, March 1.—The Parnell commission assembled this morning. The court refused to allow Mr. Houston, secretary of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union, to make a personal statement or to hand to the court a written document, on the ground that the time was incoincident.

Messrs. O'Kelly, Davitt, and Campbell, Mr. Parnell's secretary, swore that they did not write the letters ascribed to them by Pigott. Justin McCarthy also testified. He denied that he had an interview with Pigott.

Mr. Lewis, solicitor for Mr. Parnell, testified that he told Pigott that the letters, not being negotiable, he could not be prosecuted for forgery, but was liable to prosecution for obtaining money under false pretences. Witness declared he had not promised Pigott a fatiguing.

Mr. Labouchere testified that he had never offered Pigott £1,000 if he would swear that the letters were forged, as sworn to by Pigott. He said that before the commission opened somebody named O'Brien had offered him a packet of letters which were said to have been written by Messrs. Egan and Parnell. He did not know O'Brien.

Mr. Soames, solicitor for the Times, produced the documents on which Pigott's evidence was based. He said every statement Pigott had made had been submitted to the court.

Mr. Lewis was recalled. He testified that he was convinced that Pigott was a forger before ever he saw him.

Mr. Houston announced his readiness to submit to cross-examination and to give security for his continued attendance before the commission.

Attorney-General Webster urged that Mr. Houston be immediately cross-examined, so as to enable the court to have all the facts before them.

Sir Charles Russell, on behalf of the Parnellites, applied to the court to exercise its discretion under the commission act and make an interim report on the genuineness of the letters that had been placed in evidence.

Attorney-General Webster, for the Times, urged that as Sir Charles had stated that there was a foul conspiracy behind Houston and Pigott, the cross-examination of Houston should be finished before the report was framed.

Sir Charles—But we have nothing to do now with anything except the genuineness of the letters which the Attorney-General says he cannot justify.

Justice Hannen—The charge of the existence of a foul conspiracy has no bearing on the point now before us. Our jurisdiction at present is limited to charges and allegations against certain persons. It is not part of our duty to deal in the report with charges against other persons. That will be decided at the next sitting.

Attorney-General Webster occupied the remainder of the day with the reading of extracts from the Irish World and the Freeman's Journal regarding Mr. Davitt.

Sir Charles finally protested that the Attorney-General's only object was to have the passage published to arouse prejudice against the Parnellites. The commission then adjourned.

PARNELL'S SCOTCH SVIT.

EDINBURGH, February 26.—The case of Parnell against the London Times came up to-day for a rehearing, demanded by Mr. Parnell's counsel, before the judge of the first division. The court by consent dismissed the action with cost.

CONGRATULATIONS.

ALBANY, N.Y., February 27.—In the State Senate to-day Laughlin offered the following, which was seconded by Coggeshall, and adopted: Whereas, the people of the Empire State of the American Republic, always desiring to cast their influence on the side of the oppressed and against the oppressor, are glad to see by every event which hastens the day that is to give home rule to Ireland.

Resolved, that the clerks of the Senate and Assembly forward to Messrs. Parnell and Gladstone an engrossed copy of these resolutions.

PRESS OPINIONS.

LONDON, February 27.—The News says: We condole with the great "Pigottist" party on the loss of its leader and the consequent difficulty of forging ahead. No more utter and hopeless collapse has occurred in the history of salmaly.

The Daily Telegraph says: To all intents and purposes the Parnell commission may be regarded as ended to-day. We are extremely glad to say that Mr. Parnell stands free and innocent of the damning charges attributed to him, with what we are sorrowfully compelled to call reckless and rash imprudence. The Telegraph says the result must affect the political situation.

The Standard says: Whatever else is proved, the fact remains that a deep injustice has been done to Mr. Parnell and a blow equally to be deplored given to the character of English journalists. The Standard la-

ments the effect the case will have upon political issues, fearing it will confuse the public as to the true aspect of the home rule question.

LONGUE POINTE ASYLUM.

The inauguration of the Electric Light in the Institution—Montreal Visitors Entertained in a Splendid Manner.

Longue Pointe Lunatic Asylum has lately been fitted throughout with the incandescent system of electric lighting, and the finishing touches were put to the plant Thursday. The asylum authorities thought proper to celebrate the event in a fitting manner and accordingly invitations were issued to the friends of the institution and the city press to partake of its hospitalities, when the building would be entirely lighted for the first time. The Montreal contingent arrived at the asylum shortly before six o'clock, and were received by Sister Therese, Superioress of the institution, Rev. Mr. Therese, chaplain of the asylum, Dr. Bourque, physician in chief, Dr. Frieur, first assistant, and Dr. Barolet, second assistant. The reception was a very cordial one, the reception party doing all in their power for the comfort of their guests. The general dinner, which was served in the beautifully neat and clean, as well as handsomely furnished parlours, offices, private rooms, infirmary, wards and corridors. The parlour for private patients came in for an extra share of admiration of the party. This room is very spacious, well lighted, and beautifully furnished. Numerous beds of deceased prominent ecclesiastics occupy places in the room, and the walls are hung with numerous paintings of Sisters, who in their time were at the charge of Longue Pointe Asylum, with the portraits of Sister Gamelin, who founded the order of St. Jean de Dieu in 1843, and Sister Caron, who was first Superioress of the institution when it was founded in 1875. While the party admired and rested in the parlour, Dr. Desjardins, superintendent of the asylum, a musical selection, playing his own accompaniment on the piano. At this point in the proceedings, the party were conducted to a neat dining hall, where a bountiful repast had been provided by the Sisters. Those who have had the pleasure of partaking of the hospitality of the Sisters in charge, conducted the party to the charge of Longue Pointe Asylum, will appreciate the fact when it is stated that it was a most excellent repast, and gotten up in that style for which the Sisters are celebrated.

Among those who sat down to dinner were Doctors Bourque, Desjardins, of the medical staff, Rev. Messrs. Leclaire, Lamontagne, (Assistant Chaplain) Lecour, Curé of Longue Pointe parish, Recorder Deming, Messrs. Healy, of Hudson, Hebert & Co., D. Masson, Gustave Lamotte, Dr. Durocher and N. Bourquin, and representatives of the press. After doing justice to the excellent dinner, the party were shown more of the institution, including the new electric plant. The plans were put in the building by the Edison Electric Light Co., and at present supplies power for 600 lights. The estimated cost of the plant is between \$5,000 and \$6,000. After inspecting the machinery the party were conducted to the large amusement hall in connection with the asylum. Some 500 patients, sisters and guests were assembled to witness the performance of a dramatic and musical programme provided by the staff, assisted by the patients. Reverend Father Leclaire presided over the assembly. A number of the friends of the staff of Longue Pointe were also present. Besides orchestra selections, piano and violin solos, there was a two act comedy entitled "Le Marquis de Merville," which was an admirable amateur performance. A one act comedy entitled "Les Quatre Prunes" proved a laughable one and was well put on the boards. An item on the programme worthy of special notice was the "Cantata Meroi, Bonsoir, Adieu," by a chorus of patients. The singing was very good, showing that the Sisters in general are not without musical talent. Shortly after ten o'clock the soiree was concluded and the party left for their respective homes. The asylum authorities could not have given this event a more fitting celebration. The lighting of Longue Pointe Asylum with electric light will be a memorable event in its history and the Sisters are to be congratulated on the pleasant time provided for the officials, who have nothing but praise for the treatment received at their hands. The neatness and cleanliness of every nook and corner of the extensive buildings is something amazing, and as one of the visitors remarked "everything is as clean and bright as a new pin." The regulations of the asylum also come in for a share of the admiration of the party, as they are in full charge being at his post as well as the sisters in guard of their several departments. Every body was more than pleased with the visit.

THE VAUDREUIL AND OTTAWA RAILWAY.

VANKELE HILL, Ont., February 28.—At an enthusiastic meeting of the citizens and ratepayers here to-day it was resolved that a by-law be passed authorizing the Vaudreuil and Ottawa railway a distance of 80,000 acres be submitted to the ratepayers. The municipality will also give the right of way through its territory, and exempt the road's property from taxation for ten years. Mr. S. W. Foster, lately connected with the Montreal and Champlain Junction and Beauharnois lines, who is the chief promoter of the Vaudreuil and Ottawa road, addressed the meeting with convincing force.

Vankle Hill's promise of \$10,000 to the road brings up the total of bonuses pledged to \$69,000, divided among the municipalities as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Municipality Name and Amount. Includes West Hawkesbury (\$25,000), East Hawkesbury (4,000), Algonquin (5,000), Longue Pointe (5,000), Chabousson (3,000), Alfred (8,000), North Plattsburgh (8,000), Clarence (8,000).

Besides this South Plattsburgh gives right of way through the municipality, as also does Vankle Hill. Work at the Vaudreuil end, it is intended, will be commenced as soon as the snow is off the ground.

AN EMINENT CONVERT.

PROMISING OUTLOOK FOR THE SOUTH. The Western Watchman of St. Louis, says that the reported conversion of General Wheeler, of Alabama, is confirmed. His conversion, which has ended in the General's becoming a Catholic was the impression made upon him by the ceremonies and discourse at General Sheridan's funeral. The manner and touching words of the Cardinal went to his heart and he determined to postpone no longer the purpose of becoming a Catholic. The conversion of the General will have a great influence through the South. Another eminent southerner is on the point of becoming a Catholic, and that is ex-Minister of the Interior and present Associate Justice Lamar. He is a Catholic in all but formal profession of faith and admission into the Church. There will be some remarkable conversions in the South ere long.

PRAYER IN THE MUSEUM OF THE REVISED AND THE CONSISTENCY OF ITS BEAT IN THE TEST AND MEASURE OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE.—[Octavins Winslow.]