

an investigation charge is an ex-
 pensive thing; and
 the City promises
 have been made,
 have made them
 them and will
 ther and attempt
 had a commis-
 sioner confidence,
 to consult him,
 he anything in
 ge, I think the
 government was
 not having acted

"Times" came
 ought to have
 that letter ap-
 at I do not take
 perhaps have
 government poli-
 the "Times";
 between a state-
 and sustained by
 act, by no evi-
 backed by any other
 Miss Shaw ap-
 point, which the
 came out; and
 anything in the
 to the Gov-
 Mr. Ogilvie
 a investigation.
 him, and he was
 notice must be
 read the notice
 the people of
 con district to
 complaints they
 ter I wrote to
 the commission,
 as :

October, 1898.

erewhere with a com-
 which have been
 against the admin-
 in the Yukon
 been issued in
 a formal com-
 to the com-
 upon receipt
 investigation, and
 e persons who
 ever possible,
 inquiry will be

t, will give you
 may be required
 understand that
 malfeasance of
 against the proper
 department is
 the charges, to
 the charge, so
 the charge if

will leave you
 merely remark-
 the charge do-
 objection to
 such cases, of

course, any accused persons who desire to appear
 counsel will have a similar privilege.

It is the desire of the Government that the
 investigation should be thorough and complete,
 and that each and every charge that has been
 made in the mines' petition should be thor-
 oughly investigated, and that you should make
 definite report, giving your findings upon the
 evidence submitted in support of each charge, re-
 turning your report along with a copy of the
 evidence.

It is absolutely necessary that your report
 should be in my hands before the meeting of
 Parliament, and I shall therefore expect you to
 send it out by special messenger, if necessary,
 as soon as the ice is in condition to permit of
 travel southward from Dawson City.

That is the course which the Government
 took in connection with the investigation. I
 have no report as yet of the result. The
 newspapers contain some reports more or
 less reliable. I have a preliminary note from
 Mr. Ogilvie, saying that the report would be
 forwarded in a short time, and then I will
 lay it on the Table, and the House will know
 as much about it as I.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I come to another mat-
 ter. I shall be within the judgment
 of the House when I say that the House was
 extremely pained by the references which
 were made to Major Walsh in the speech of
 the hon. member for Pictou. Whether the
 hon. member conceived that those statements
 were true or not, the manner in which they
 were made was certainly most objectionable.
 I sent word to Major Walsh at once that
 these statements had been made; I told him
 that I thought he ought to come to Ottawa
 and see the official report of the speech made
 by the hon. member for Pictou. He came
 at once, and I gave him the report of the
 speech. He went away and examined it,
 and then wrote the following letter:—

Ottawa, 3rd April, 1899.

Dear Sir,—I have read Sir Hibbert Tupper's
 speech, in which he makes charges against the
 administration of affairs in the Yukon district
 while I was Government Commissioner.

So far as the personal charges against my char-
 acter and administration are concerned, I defy
 Sir Hibbert Tupper to furnish a single particle
 of reliable evidence in support of any one of
 them. I further defy him to produce any person
 who ever saw me under the influence of liquor,
 either in the Yukon or anywhere else. While in
 the Yukon I abstained from the use of spirits
 and also tobacco, and my other habits conformed
 in every way to this abstemious course. During
 my stay in Dawson I lived in a tent surrounded
 by part of the staff and a large number of
 campers. My time was entirely taken up with
 public business, either in my office or in my tent.
 At 9 o'clock in the morning I walked to my
 office, at noon returned to my tent, at 1.30 p.m.
 again went to the office, and at 5 p.m. returned
 to the tent. This was my daily routine, so that I
 passed through the streets of Dawson four times
 every day, Sunday excepted. Every day but Sun-
 day I could be seen by any person who had busi-
 ness with me, except that, of course, people had
 to take their turn in securing interviews. Dur-
 ing my stay in Dawson I only left my camp
 after 6 p.m. three times. While I was in Daw-
 son it was almost continuous daylight, and my
 tent was under full view of every one. Everybody

could see what was going on. My evenings were
 generally taken up with people calling to obtain
 information. I defy any one to truthfully say that
 any improper act ever took place in my camp.
 I challenge and defy any person to prove me
 guilty of any improper act in either my public or
 private life during my period of service in the
 Yukon, or of dealing in or having any interest
 in any mines or Government property of any
 kind.

I engaged with the Government, as you know,
 to go to the Yukon for one year only, although
 my commission did not so state. That was my
 understanding with you. During that time I
 accomplished all that I expected and hoped to
 be able to do. I laboured earnestly and
 conscientiously to the best of my ability
 to do my duty to the Government, and
 returned at the end of the time, bringing nothing
 except the consciousness of having done my best
 to perform a difficult and trying duty. I close
 by repeating that I defy Sir Hibbert Tupper, or
 anybody else, to prove that while I was in the
 Yukon territory, I was ever under the influence
 of liquor or was ever guilty of a single act of
 immorality.

I have the honour to be, sir,
 Your obedient servant,
 J. M. WALSH.

Sir, the newspapers have been filled with
 interviews condemnatory of the Yukon ad-
 ministration. I am not going to go through
 and examine them, but I am going to point
 out one or two things that have happened in
 that connection which will perhaps indicate
 to some extent the reason why those inter-
 views were so plentiful and so lurid in their
 character. One interview of which the most
 is made was an interview by Captain Con-
 stantine, who was formerly in command of
 the police in the district under the late Gov-
 ernment, and for some time under this Gov-
 ernment. I think I know Captain Constantine
 better than any man on the other side. I
 have known him for seventeen or eighteen
 years. He is a good officer, who, I do not
 think, would do anything contrary to law,
 and am certain he is a reliable, faithful
 officer. He came out from the Yukon dis-
 trict, and an interview with him was pub-
 lished of a most violent condemnatory kind
 with regard to the administration, and much
 was made of that interview. And if it had
 been a genuine interview, the testimony of
 Captain Constantine would be testimony to
 which a great deal of credit should be at-
 tached. But Captain Constantine repudiates
 the whole interview. I will give you another
 illustration. There were two men in the
 city the other day named Deville and
 Mangold. There appeared an interview in a
 newspaper in which they condemned the
 administration in the Yukon district; but I
 have a letter from their solicitor, in which
 they say that they were never interviewed at
 all, but that a drunken reporter—a drunken
 reporter, mark you, Mr. Speaker—followed
 them on the streets to their solicitor's office
 and was ejected from the office, and then
 wrote this interview condemning the Govern-
 ment. This letter is from Mr. Latchford, a re-
 spected and well known solicitor in this city.

I am not going to take up the time of