

in my son's office, a man by the name of John B. Smythe happened to be in the office at the time. On hearing the slip read from the paper he said, "There is nothing fishy about the story, for I witnessed the thing myself." He promised to give me a proof of the fact, taken before a notary public (as our laws forbid taking oath in such cases, but allow a person to make a statutory declaration). Unfortunately, however, he has been ill, and has not been able to attend to it. However, I am enabled to send you two "declarations," one from an aged gentleman, Mr. Harry Bond, of Chippewa, and the other from a leading gentleman in the place, a justice of the peace and a notary public, and a person doing an extensive business as a tanner. Mr. Bond's declaration is as follows :—

*"County of Welland, to wit: I, Henry Bond, of the village of Chippewa, in the county of Welland, do solemnly declare that I remember the occurrence of there having been a day during which so little water was running in the Niagara River that but a small stream was flowing over the falls of Niagara during that day. It happened on or about the 31st day of March, A.D. 1848; and I remember riding on horseback from below the flouring mills and cloth factory of the late Thomas C. Street, Esq., out into the bed of the river, and so on down outside Cedar Island to Table Rock. Farther up the Niagara River, at the village of Chippewa, where the Welland River empties into the Niagara, there was so little water running that the Welland was nearly dry, only a very little stream running in the centre. I recollect a number of old gun-barrels having been found in the bed of the Welland River, at this junction with the Niagara River, supposed to have been thrown into the river during the war of 1812.*

*"HENRY BOND."*

*"And I make this declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act for the suppression of voluntary extra-judicial oaths.' Declared before me, at Chippewa, in the county of Welland, this 17th day of May, A.D. 1880.*

*"J. F. MACKLAN, Notary Public."*

The second declaration is as follows :—

*"County of Welland, to wit: I, James Francis Macklan, of the village of Chippewa, in the county of Welland, Province of Ontario, Notary Public and*