

1263. Was there any understanding between you and Mr. Boyle what the amount should be?—I mentioned \$3,000 to him.

1264. And was he satisfied with that?—No; he was not satisfied to receive anything, but he stated at the close of the interview, that what we agreed to would be satisfactory, and then he went out.

*By Hon. Mr. Macfarlane:*

1265. And he left the letter of withdrawal with whom?—The letter of withdrawal did not come until two days afterwards.

*By Mr. Trow:*

1266. Who paid you the \$1,500 you gave to Mr. Hope?—Mr. Roger or Mr. MacLean—I think Mr. MacLean.

*By Hon. Mr. Aikins:*

1267. Why did you receive the \$50 back from Mr. Hope?—I had \$1,500 with me, but I wanted to get his withdrawal for less, if I could; I offered him \$1,400, and we split the difference; so I gave him the \$1,500 in notes, and he gave me back the cheque. I wanted to make the best bargain for MacLean, Roger & Co., that I could; Mr. Hope began by asking \$5,000 and he came down.

*By Hon. Mr. Bowell:*

1268. Have you any knowledge of any arrangement having been entered into between Mr. Cotton and Mr. Roger, that Mr. Cotton should receive this money for his own benefit?—No such knowledge at all, sir; on the contrary, it was received altogether for Mr. Boyle.

1269. Would you have given it to Mr. Cotton, if you had supposed he was going to keep it?—Decidedly not; I would not have given him a cent.

*By Hon. Mr. Macfarlane:*

1270. Did you know that Mr. Cotton was to receive any recompence at all for his services?—No, sir; nothing at all.

1271. You took it, then, that Mr. Cotton was working as you were gratuitously?—I think Mr. Cotton said to me, when I proposed \$3,000, that he would like some of it to be cash, because he wanted to get a little; I had an idea that he was going to get a couple of hundred dollars out of it.

*By Hon. Mr. Reesor:*

1272. Then, in saying that he would like to have some of it cash, did he at the same time say that he intended to give the balance to Mr. Boyle?—Oh, decidedly; the fact of his saying that he would like to get a little cash, showed that he was going to give the rest to Mr. Boyle.

*By Hon. Mr. Bowell:*

1273. Have you any knowledge why these cheques and notes you left passed through Mr. Starrs' hands?—I had no knowledge at the time.

1274. Well, since?—Yes; Mr. Starrs told me that he gave a receipt to Mr. Cotton for the money.

1275. Do you know why Mr. Cotton gave it to Mr. Starrs?—I do not know personally of my own knowledge; I have my idea why, but I do not know.

*By Hon. Mr. Kaulbach:*

1276. Did Mr. Cotton tell you that Mr. Boyle had retired, and written this letter of withdrawal on condition of getting the \$3,000?—Of course; the whole transaction was on the face of it.

1277. Mr. Cotton told you so?—Oh, certainly.

*By Mr. Ross:*

1278. Were these negotiations with Mr. Boyle held after the contract was awarded to Mr. Mackintosh by the Committee?—Oh, yes.

1279. Did Mr. Boyle, in his conversation with you, argue to the effect that since the contract was awarded to Mr. Mackintosh, all he wanted was to get his deposit cheque back?—No; nothing of the sort. Mr. Boyle, on the contrary, said that if Mr. Mackintosh did not get the contract, he was sure he would get it—that the Committee would give it to him if Mr. Mackintosh would not accept. He said he had assurances from several members of the Committee to that effect.