THAT GODERICH SCANDAL.

Continued from First Page.

withdrew his action against me.

What do you mean by the interests of humanity?

I mean that after Mr. Garrow said his cross-examination would last three or four hours the others thought Miss Gordon could not survive it, and it therefore was to spare her.

Were any other people interested?

Yes, Mrs. Cameron and her daughter. Nobody in Goderich would like to see them put in the witness box and have to tell all they know.

Would they have to tell?

I think so. The lawyers would get it all out of them some way or other.

What occasioned the action of Cameron against you?

I printed a small sheet against Cameron.

What did it contain?

Don't you think Cameron had a very good cause then against you?

He had if he cared about taking it up; that's what I did it for. He had accused me of seducing the girl and I wanted to let everybody know what I knew about it.

Who was this Ellen Lomis?

She was an orphan who came from the Guthrie Home in London to Cameron's house.

How old was she then?

Mrs. Cameron told me she was 11.

Did you see anything unusual between Cameron and this girl?

About six months after her arrival I saw Cameron give her money, and in the greenhouse give her flowers.

Was that all? There was nothing in that?

Well, he had her in his arms and I saw him kiss her on the steps of the library door in the greenhouse.

Did he know that you saw him?

Yes, he did, for when he saw me he took her by the ear and said, "Come on, you young pup, I'll give you a flower, but Mrs. Cameron won't let you keep it." He gave her a cucumarium, and when she went into the house Mrs. Cameron took it from her and gave it to me in the greenhouse. She said she would not allow Ellen to get flowers.

The Trouble Becomes Apparent.

When did this girl exhibit signs of maternity? I mean when were they so distinct that you and others noticed them?

About May 18.

What occurred that day?

Mrs. Cameron brought her husband, Ellen and Laura Gordon face to face in the main hall and asked Ellen if Mr. Cameron had been with her over 50 times and that then she was pregnant to him. Ellen said yes it was true, and Laura Gordon said the same.

Did you hear this?

I did, I was in the greenhouse and the door leading into the hall was open.

What did Cameron say?

He took Ellen by the shoulder, shook her and shouted, "Say that again and I'll send both of you to penitentiary." Ellen and Laura both repeated their charge.

Did he send them to penitentiary?

No, he didn't; instead of that Laura Gordon went to Mr. Hucksteр's on leave of absence and Ellen was sent to the Home in Stratford on June 3rd of last year.

How did Mrs. Cameron discover the alleged improper relations between her husband and Ellen?

Ellen wrote a letter on Sunday, May 17, 1891, to Mr. Merry of the Home in Stratford, asking him to come and take her away as Cameron had seduced her "over 50 times" and Mrs. C. had thrashed her. She gave the letter to Laura Gordon to post, but Laura took it out of the envelope, gave it to Mrs. Cameron and put a sheet of blank paper in the envelope. On Monday she gave it to me to post and I did so. That was how Mrs. Cameron came to find out about the affair.

Did Laura tell you so?

Yes, she told one, Miss Cooke, James Johnston, Millie Burnett, Cameron's present cook, James Peacock, Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Hawkstep. These people all told me that Laura had told them so.

Sworn to Secrecy.

Here is something else took Millie Burnett and I were in the back kitchen at Cameron's one day in May, I think it was, when Laura told us that Mrs. Cameron had made Ellen Lomis swear on the Bible that she would not tell what Cameron had done to her. Laura said Ellen told her of it. Laura helped the little girl out to the closet and then to the stable, where I and Walter Payne were standing. Laura said, "Look what the old brute Cameron has done on Ellen."

I said, "What's he done?"

She replied, "Don't you see she isn't able to walk. He was with her last night." She couldn't walk that day without help and was never the same afterwards. She left about two months later for the Home in Stratford. Then she went to live with a family in Tavistock named Hyman. It was there they discovered her condition and returned her to the Home. They asked her who was the author of her shame and she said Mr. Cameron.

How do you know that?

Why, I went to Tavistock after Cameron accused me of the crime and saw Hyman. His is a respectable farmer. He told me the girl accused Cameron, and his wife, who was present at the time, corroborated her husband's statement.

Magisterial Advice to Gore.

On Dec. 10 last I charged Cameron with the seduction of Ellen Lomis. It was before Mr. Merry of the Home in Stratford listening to me and having the proper papers made out he said, "Go home and I'll see my lawyer as to what can be done." I said, "I am going to London to see what has happened there."

What did you expect to find in London?

The girl had been sent from the Home to a private hospital at 190 St. James-street, London, and I heard that she had died there.

What did Mr. Merry say to that?

He said I'd better go home and not go to London, as they were indignant at me there because, as he said, I had been accused of ruining the girl. I replied, "You know better than that—you know who did it." He said" You'd better keep quiet," and my reply was, "I'll prove this on Cameron and clear myself, for no one believes I had anything to do in the matter. This was on Thursday, Dec. 10. On Monday morning I sent M. O. Johnston to Stratford and to London. He is my solicitor. On his return he told me that it was Cameron whom the girl accused and not me. I might rest satisfied that my innocence could easily be established. He further said, "If it ever comes to trial and we can get Magistrate Parks into the witness box it will be the biggest surprise to the people of Goderich they have ever had." That is as regards what took place on Monday night, Nov. 30.

What took place then?

On that night there was a letter written to me from the hospital in London, saying, "Gore, I'm in great trouble; you know the cause. If you don't send me a few dollars I'll tell on you," and signed Ellen Lomis. This letter was given to my lawyer, who has it to-day.

Appealed to Gore as a Gentleman.

When Cameron saw me on December 7 I said, "You didn't do this work very well in London. I got a letter supposed to be from Ellen, but it's you who wrote it," and from marks on the paper I was able to trace it. He said: "You never got any letter; where is it?" I replied, "It's in my lawyer's hands." Then he said, "On your honor as a gentleman give me that letter." I said, "No sir, that will stand me in good stead yet." His last words as he walked away were, "You can do nothing."

And this is all true and you are prepared to swear to it?

I am.

Will you swear to it now?

Yes.

And he did so. His declaration follows:

Canada, Province of Ontario, County of Huron. To wit:

I, Robert John Knox Gore, of the town of Goderich, in the County of Huron, gardener, do solemnly declare.

That the hereunto annexed statement of facts, as alleged by me in an interview with a reporter of The Toronto World, are correct and true in every particular.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the Act respecting extra-judicial oaths.

Taken and declared before me at the town of Goderich, in the County of Huron, this 22nd day of July, A.D. 1892.

R. J. K. GORE.

M. O. JOHNSTON,
A Commissioner, etc., etc.

Wants His Statements Modified.

GODERICH, Ont., July 22, 1892.

Toronto World from R. J. K. Gore: Don't on any account publish anything about the statement concerning the Hymans of Tavistock. Keep that paragraph all out. Don't say a word about the Hymans. All the rest is correct, right and true. Keep that part out altogether, as it is not correct in full. Don't publish or say one word about it.

Yours,
GORE.

Lawyer Johnston Interviewed.

Mr. M. O. Johnston, barrister, one of the counsel engaged in the defence of Gore, was next seen. He it was who took Gore's sworn declaration to the truth and correctness of the interview I had with him this morning and which appears above. I said:

I understand you visited Stratford at the suggestion of your client, Mr. Gore? May I ask if you saw the magistrate there whom Gore swears issued a warrant for his arrest, or rather whom Cameron said had issued a warrant for his arrest?

I did not see him, for I found no magistrate of his name there. I thought probably that Mr. Merry of the home might be the party Gore meant, acting in his capacity as guardian of the child, and that he had caused proceedings to be taken. Mr. Merry told me that no proceedings had been instituted and explained the reason by saying they had found it a very expensive and unsatisfactory proceeding. He instanced a judgment they were then holding over some fellow, which was costing them money every year, and that, too, with no prospect of any returns. He also told me he had consulted his solicitor about it. Mr. Merry suggested the possibility of proceedings being taken in London on account of the declarations made then. I went to London that afternoon and visited the hospital, 190 St. James-street. There I saw the matron, Miss Trott. She told me about the girl's last illness and her death, but had heard nothing about any proceedings regarding the punishment of the seducer.

Did you see anyone else that day with reference to the matter?

I saw Mr. Park, who, I was informed, took the affidavits of the girl Lomis. I stated my errand and asked him for any information his position would allow him to give me. My client was agitated and expected arrest every minute and his wife was feeling worse about it than he did even; on that ground I apologized for troubling him. He told me no proceedings had been taken in the way of a criminal prosecution. He remembered the affair and that some time before he went at the request of a member of the profession to the hospital to have the papers executed in the case of this lamis girl. An ordinary affidavit of affiliation and a declaration of facts were then made charging Gore with the seduction of the girl.

The above facts as given to me by Mr. Johnston were furnished with the full consent of his client, Mr. Gore.

Sir Oliver Mowat Notified.

The following letter was sent to Sir Oliver Mowat after Gore had accused Cameron, but no answer was received:

March 10, 1892.

Hon. O. Mowat:

SIR,—There was a girl of tender years, by name of Ellen Lomis, seduced here in Goderich and she died on Dec. 3, 1891, in her confinement in London at 190 St. James-street, and I am accused as the guilty party. I am prepared to defend myself and I want the matter investigated, and it is my right to have it done, being accused of what I am not guilty of.

Hoping that this matter will be cleared up at once or seen to, as it is injuring me to a great extent in business.

No reply, as already stated, was received to the above and then the following was sent to the Attorney-General

GODERICH, March 18, 1892.

Hon. O. Mowat:

SIR,—I wrote you on 10th inst. asking for an investigation regarding the death of Ellen Lomis, seduction of the child and I demand that be such as my legal counsel has advised me to write you again before applying to any other authority, which I must do. If I don't get it I will see if I cannot get justice, and it is not justice that it is not brought to light. The child was about 12 or 13 years of age. I want a reply at once, if not I will try some other way to open up the investigation if you refuse me my rights.

R. J. K. GORE.

Mr. John Russell also wrote for Gore and the following was received in return:

The Government Replies.

TORONTO, 17th March, 1892.

SIR,—I have yours of the 15th inst. addressed to the Attorney-General. I am sending your letter to the County Attorney at Goderich for such action, if any, as may seem proper.

Your obedient servant,
J. R. CARTWRIGHT,
Deputy Attorney-General.

Mr. John Russell, Agent, Goderich.

The County Attorney at Goderich informed Mr. Gore that he had sent the letters to the Crown Attorney at Middlesex to take action. Mr. Gore says that is the last he has heard of it from either of the officials named.

How Mitchell Got Into Trouble.

Mr. Mitchell, proprietor of The Star, was interviewed. He said: "Mr. Cameron has had the reputation of being a good lawyer, but I cannot understand why he should bring a suit against me for criminal libel simply because of a couple of mistakes in our report of the settlement of his case against Gore or of Gore's case against him, while Gore, who for months has made these charges against him and invited arrest, is allowed to go free. The errors were corrected as soon as possible afterwards."

"How came the suits to be dropped?"

"That is something I cannot even now understand. The principal reason given was that a long cross-examination of Miss Gordon would prove injurious to her—in fact might cause her death."

"Is Miss Gordon in such delicate health?"

"They said so, but it seems strange that the day before Mr. Murphy, Q. C., came here she appeared to be fairly well for one in consumption and a day or two after he left she was, I am told, out walking. The examination would have taken place in her own room. Surely the cross-examination could not have lasted four or five hours as Mr. Garrow stated. Mr. Murphy, I believe, said his examination could be completed within 15 minutes.

Was there any objection on the part of Miss Gordon, so far as you know, to give her evidence?

No, on the contrary, I am safe in asserting she said she was anxious to give it and have it off her mind.

Have you arranged your defence yet?

It will not require much arranging, all I am doubtful of is that Mr. Cameron will not push the case, but perhaps I am in error on this point.

This report then on which the action for libel is based and which was published in your paper on July 15th was the first notice you took of Mr. Cameron?

By no means. On March 4th we demanded an examination into the death of the girl Lomis.

What did you say?

I'll show you the paper.

Demands An Investigation.

The Star of March 4th published the following editorial:

When the story of a seduction and the death of the victim reaches the stage of public discussion which now marks the story of the girl Ellen Lomis, it is more than time for the authorities, or those who were the guardians of that child, to set the law in motion for the detection of the guilty betrayer and his just punishment. Although certain facts connected with this case have been generally known for the past two months, any reference thereto, or a demand for an investigation, would have at once been met with the cry that it was a political dodge to injure an opponent. Now that the election is over, there is no longer any excuse for silence, and The Star calls upon the administrators of the law in such cases, and the authorities of the Stratford Home, in whose charge that girl was, to make such a public and official investigation into this matter as will, if possible, convict the criminal who debauched her, and assure the public who support such homes for defenceless and orphan children that these unfortunate waifs are as well guarded and protected from wrong as are the children of wealthy and influential parents.

Mr. M. C. Cameron, in whose charge this girl was placed by the Home, and in whose employ she was when she was seduced, claims to have the proofs as to who was her seducer. She was sent back to the Home when her condition became known, and from there sent to the Woman's Refuge and Foundlings' Home in London where, in undergoing an operation to remove the dead child, she died. Up to a few days before her death, she, it is said, charged Mr. Cameron with the crime of her seduction, but afterwards, as he alleges, made a declaration placing the blame on somebody else, whose name he withholds, although he has printed and circulated this with other declarations.

This declaration Mr. Cameron obtained on Nov. 30, the girl dying on Dec. 3. So far as we can learn not even a pretence of prosecuting her betrayer has ever been made by either Mr. Cameron or the authorities of the Home, both of whom stood in the position of guardians of the child, for she is understood to have been in the neighborhood of but 14 years of age. Statements and counter-statements have arisen in the discussion by the public of this sad and shameful story, which a complete investigation should go far to set at rest. Let it be made at once, and let all the circumstances, including the obtaining of the published declaration, be made known to the public.

Miss Gordon Tells Her Story.

The gossips have been worrying themselves into a fever in their efforts to discover who Miss Gordon really is and where she came from. She very sensibly has declined to enlighten them and of course they feel hurt. In fact if she were to give her history in writing and then swear to it there are those who still would think she was keeping something back. So much, therefore, for Goderich gossip. She professes to be a servant girl, they say, but is by far too refined and educated to occupy a menial position. Gore says she told him she received her education in a convent. Be this as it may she plays the piano with the skill of one well acquainted with the instrument, and classical music has been her favorite. She paints, too, and her productions proclaim her no mere novice. Miss Gordon came from Toronto two or three years ago with Mr. Joseph Williams, lumberman. She was employed in his family for some time, and from there went to Mr. John Varcoe's. She next accepted a position in the family of Captain William McLean. After that she was with Mrs. Cameron, where she remained for a year.

Through the kindness of Dr. Whitely, her medical adviser, I was enabled to see Miss Gordon this (Friday) afternoon. Since August last she has been staying at the house of Mr. Huckstep, where she is receiving every possible care and attention from himself, his kind-hearted wife and Dr. Whitely.

I found Miss Gordon lying in bed. The room was darkened to prevent the sun, which was shining on the western side of the house, from entering the room. Miss Gordon was fanning herself and after the formality of my introduction to her she asked about the weather and said she regretted her inability to go out. "I would so like to walk," she said, and then continued, "Do you know, I got my first illness while out in a friend's boat. Mr. Cameron's big dog jumped out of the boat when we were away off shore and I got wet through trying to keep him from climbing in again and upsetting us. I caught cold and had an attack of pleurisy."

Were you sick long, I asked. Not so very long, but they told me I had consumption and took me up to London, where Dr. Wilson, Mr. Cameron's son-in-law, treated me with Koch's lymph. I don't think I had consumption then, but all the doctors say I have it now.

"You must not worry," I said. "Even if you have consumption you may be around again. She smiled gladly and said she hoped so and thought that perhaps she would provided the weather proved cool.

Will you tell me something about this man Cameron, I said.

Mistaken for a Detective.

Now I know you are not a detective and I'll tell you, but I hope you will not ask me to sign any papers for Cameron persuaded me to do so at one time and I have been sorry for it ever since.

Do you mean that he secured your signature to that alleged declaration of yours in his pamphlet by false pretenses?

It is rather a long story, but I don't mind telling you if it will benefit the innocent. One day a man called here and told Mr. Hucksteр that he was a friend of mine from England. Mr. Hucksteр thought the man was telling the truth and admitted him to my room. I did not know him and never to my knowledge even saw him till that moment. He told me he was a detective and asked me to give him certain letters I had received in November from Ellen Lomis. I was afraid of the fellow, for he was a bad looking man and very ignorant, so told him that I knew nothing. Then I wrote Mr. Cameron telling him about the man, for I thought he should know. Some time afterward Miss Maggie Cameron called and invited me to go for a drive. We went out close by their house and then she suggested that I should go into the house to see the photograph of the children that I nursed and which they had just received from London. I objected, but was told that no one would see me enter. When in the house Mr. Cameron, who appeared to be waiting for me, came and said:

"Have You Those Letters With You?"

I said no, I did not think I was coming here when I started for the drive. Cameron said the papers would be no good in court and Mr. Sloane said he would copy them, but Cameron said never mind. Then he asked me some questions and wrote something down and told me to sign it and I did, without reading it. Cameron kept me waiting till nearly 4.30, saying Mr. Sloane, the magistrate, wanted to see me. When Mr. Sloane came Mr. Cameron showed him the papers and said, "She knows all about them," and with that Mr. Sloane gave me a Bible and asked me if it was my signature and told me to kiss it. I did so, and that was all I knew about it. I signed two papers. The document signed by Miss Gordon was as follows:

The Detective's Interview.

I, Laura Gordon, of the town of Goderich, in the county of Huron, spinster, do solemnly declare:

1. That on the 24th day of November instant I was called on by a man who called himself a Government detective, by the name of Armstrong, from Montreal.

2. That I was a housemaid at Mr. Cameron's for about a year.

3. He, the detective, said: "I am a detective, and came to you for information about M. C. Cameron and Ellen Lomias." I said: "I know nothing about her" but that she worked with me at Mrs. Cameron's."

4. He said: "I have letters to say that Cameron had to do with Ellen Lomis." I said: "I know nothing about it," and I said: "I was at Mrs. Cameron's for a year and know nothing about that."

5. He then asked me: "Does Mr. Cameron come to see you?" I said: "Yes." (Mr. Cameron did come to see me office.) I said further: "And the Misses Cameron also came to see me."

6. He said further: "Mr. Cameron keeps you here." I said, "No." And as a matter of fact Mr. Cameron does not keep me.

7. He said: "If you tell me something about Mr. Cameron or what you know about him, you will be kept better than Mr. Cameron keeps you. You will have everything you want as long as you live, and if you go to Florida you will get well."

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the "Act Respecting Extra-Judicial Oaths." (Sig.) LAURA GORDON.

Declared before me at Goderich, in the county of Huron, this 28th day of November, in the year of Our Lord 1891.

(Sigd.) SAMUEL SLOANE, J.P.

Then as a matter of fact you knew nothing of the contents of that declaration?

Nothing whatever.

What length of time were you with Mr. Cameron?

About a year.

And how long was Ellen Lomis there?

About the same length of time.

How old was Ellen then?

They said 11. She did not look to be older than that.

Miss Gordon's Discoveries.

Did any improper relations exist between Mr. Cameron and Miss Lomis?

Yes.

Do you speak now from your own knowledge or from what Ellen or others told you?

From my own knowledge on two occasions and from what Ellen told me when I scolded her for allowing him to take liberties with her.

Where did these crimes occur?

First in the sitting room, then in his own bed room.

Gore, I think, says you took your boots off and slipped up to Cameron's door on one occasion to listen.

I was not eaves droppinz. My boots were new ones and I took them off to ease my feet. I wanted Ellen to assist me in some kitchen work and went to search for her. It was then I discovered the two of them together in the sitting room.

Did you ever tell Mrs. Cameron about the alleged detective who called on you? Yes, I did, and strange to say Mr. Cameron minutely described him to me, even going so far as to mention the sort of scarf pin he wore. Then I forgot to say when telling you of him (the detective) that he offered me fifty dollars for one of the letters I had received from Ellen Lomis.

Then you corresponded with Miss Lomis?

Yes, the poor girl wrote to me in November. She died in December. She wanted to unburden her mind to some one, I think.

Have you any of those letters now?

No, I am sorry to say, I have not. Cameron persuaded me to give two of them to him, and the third I burnt later on to prevent being worried about it.

M. C. Cameron Accused.

Did Miss Lomis in any of those letters charge anyone with her seduction?

She did.

Was it Gore?

No, indeed, it was not.

Will you tell me the name of the man she did accuse? It was Mr. Cameron.

You are quite certain of that?

Quite certain. She knew that I was cognizant of what had occurred between them, and no matter what she might say to others she knew very well it would be useless to tell me a falsehood. Why, when I used to speak to her about it she would burst out crying. She told me that she often lay awake at night crying about it. Did you never tell Mrs. Cameron about what you saw her husband doing?

Indeed, I did. I told her all about it and she said Cameron was a brute, I distinctly remember the expression. Did she ever say anything to her husband regarding your statement to her?

Yes, Ellen Lomis wrote a letter to Mr. Merry, the Superintendent of the Home at Stratford, asking him to come and take her away. She told him about the way Cameron had treated her. Why, the poor girl used to run and hide when she expected him home in the afternoon. The letter was given to me and I read it. I found my name mentioned in it, and did not want to be mixed up in the affair and so I kept the letter and put a blank sheet of paper back in the envelope. Then I returned the envelope containing the blank paper to Ellen and she gave it to Gore to post. When I told Mrs. Cameron of what I had seen, I gave her Ellen's letter to substantiate my statement. Mrs. Cameron called her husband, Ellen and myself together, and accused her husband of his conduct with Ellen. Ellen said the charge was true and I confirmed it.

Threatened With Penitentiary.

Cameron flew into a rage and shouted at us: "If either of you repeat that I'll send you to the penitentiary." We did repeat it, and some time after Mrs. Cameron seeing the girl's condition made a loose dress for her, gave her some money—three dollars, I think—and sent her to the Home in Stratford. I left for a holiday, and when I came back she had gone to the home again. Mrs. Cameron told me then that she had found out that she had given Ellen three dollars and told her if she held her tongue she would give her a good character. If she did not she would give her a bad character in the Home. From there she was taken to the hospital in London. It was from the London hospital that she wrote me the letters I referred to a while ago.

Your object then in telling the detective who called on you that you knew nothing about Cameron was because you were afraid of him—that is, of the detective.

I was afraid of him because amongst other things he threatened that I would be taken down on to Toronto, and I was in no condition to stand any worry.

And now, why are you willing to tell me this?

Because, I know you are not a detective and I am anxious to see the innocent cleared of the charges made against them and to see the guilty punished. The betrayer of that poor child Ellen Lomis deserves the severest punishment. Had she not been assaulted, as she was I believe, she would be alive to-day. She came from Newcastle-on-Tyne. We were going to write to her brother one time and Mrs. Cameron would not let us.

I forgot to ask you earlier, but it will do now. Was Ellen a girl who was in the habit of going out or did she keep company with anyone?

No, by dear me, no; she was only eleven; practically she knew no one outside.

In your opinion, was there anyone else in the house who might have been as intimate with Ellen Lomis as you say Mr. Cameron was?

Mr. Cameron's son Dick was there for a week and Mr. Gore, but I believe they had too much real manhood about them to injure the poor child.

Miss Gordon Gets Indignant.

It is said, Miss Gordon, that Mr. Cameron is in possession of a letter which you wrote him offering to live with him as his housekeeper in Ottawa during the session. Is there any truth in that? Or would you rather I did not ask you that question?

I was in no condition to work for anyone at the time. Cameron went to Ottawa in April and I was sick in hospital then. About the middle of September Dr. Whitely gave me up and said I would not live two months. Then I wrote Mr. Cameron asking him if he would provide for any interment as Huckstep was not in a position to do so, and Mr. Cameron wrote me a very kind letter, sent wine, etc., to me and called later on and consented to carry out my desire. But if Mr. Cameron says he has any compromising letters from me he is not telling the truth, and if such letters exist they are forgeries and I will swear to it.

She did swear to it, and here it is:

Canada, Province of Ontario, County of Huron. To Wit:

I, Laura Gordon of the Town of Goderich, in the County of Huron, spinster, do solemnly declare.

That the hereunto annexed statement of facts as given by me in an interview between myself and a World reporter has been carefully read over to me and that the same is true and correct in every particular.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the "act respecting extra judicial oaths." (Signed) LAURA GORDON.

Taken and declared before me at the town of Goderich, in the County of Huron, this 23rd day of July, 1892. (Signed)

M. O. JOHNSTON,
A Commissioner H. C. J., etc.

The Other Side of the Story.

On Saturday afternoon, 23rd, I called on Mr. Cameron at his beautiful riverside residence. I told him honestly and candidly, in justice to himself, the object of my visit to Goderich. Mr. Cameron is taking the whole affair quite philosophically, but expressed his opinion strongly on the subject of newspapers publishing "defamatory and scandalous articles regarding any man without due investigation," to use his own words. "I don't object," said he, "to the severest newspaper criticism of the political actions of a man in public life, but I do object strongly to dealing with his private character until it is shown to be open to criticism. And let me say that is something I defy any one to do as regards my private life."

He discussed the whole affair so fully, freely and frankly that his explanation of it must carry great weight with his friends. Those who know Mr. Cameron best are the most anxious of any to see this scandal thoroughly ventilated and his character as a man and a Christian vindicated.

Some Strong Affidavits.

Mr. Cameron showed me the original affidavit made on Nov. 30 by the girl, Ellen Lomis, while lying on her death-bed in the London Hospital. He related the circumstances under which it was taken. I heard of the charges Gore was circulating, said he, and determined on investigating them, and so I visited the Home in Stratford and the Hospital in London. At London I saw the medical superintendent, and without telling him who I was asked him about the girl. I told him what I had heard, and it was not till afterwards that I revealed my identity. He invited me to see the girl, but I told him I considered it better to have nothing to do with his investigation of the case. I said, however, it is your duty to investigate this affair, and if the girl is dangerously ill her deposition should be taken. He agreed with me and said he would go to see the girl at once. Just then my son-in-law, Dr. Wilson, came in, and the superintendent invited Dr. Wilson to accompany him. I objected, saying I thought it best for none of my friends or relations to be present so that no one could say we had influenced the girl in any way. The superintendent of the hospital then went to Ellen Lomis and told her she was dangerously ill and might die. Then he asked her who seduced her and she said "Mr. Cameron." The doctor looked at her, he told me, and answered: Ellen Lomis, I don't think you have many days to live; if Mr. Cameron is the father of your child will you swear to it?" The girl, he said, burst into a flood of tears and, between her sobs, told him that it was not Mr. Cameron, but Mr. Gore. Later on she was suddenly taken worse and Dr. Wilson was called in consultation. A magistrate was summoned and she made the deposition of which you have just seen the original.

It reads as follows:

The Dead Girl's Declaration.

I, Ellen Lomis, now in the city of London, in the County of Middlesex, spinster, do solemnly declare that:

I lived with Mrs. M. C. Cameron of Goderich as under-housemaid for about a year, and I left her service in the month of May last.

2. That while I was in her service as such housemaid, one Gore was employed at her residence as gardener.

3. That the said Gore, about the end of February or the beginning of March last, seduced me, and by reason of such seduction I became and am now pregnant with child.

4. That shortly after I became aware of such, my pregnancy, I informed the said Gore of the fact.

5. That the said Gore then advised and persuaded me to say that it was not he but never tell Mrs. Cameron about what you saw her husband doing?

Indeed, I did. I told her all about it and she said Cameron was a brute, I distinctly remember the expression. Did she ever say anything to her husband regarding your statement to her?

Yes, Ellen Lomis wrote a letter to Mr. Merry, the Superintendent of the Home at Stratford, asking him to come and take her away. She told him about the way Cameron had treated her. Why, the poor girl used to run and hide when she expected him home in the afternoon. The letter was given to me and I read it. I found my name mentioned in it, and did not want to be mixed up in the affair and so I kept the letter and put a blank sheet of paper back in the envelope. Then I returned the envelope containing the blank paper to Ellen and she gave it to Gore to post. When I told Mrs. Cameron of what I had seen, I gave her Ellen's letter to substantiate my statement. Mrs. Cameron called her husband, Ellen and myself together, and accused her husband of his conduct with Ellen. Ellen said the charge was true and I confirmed it.

Threatened With Penitentiary.

Cameron flew into a rage and shouted at us: "If either of you repeat that I'll send you to the penitentiary." We did repeat it, and some time after Mrs. Cameron seeing the girl's condition made a loose dress for her, gave her some money—three dollars, I think—and sent her to the Home in Stratford. I left for a holiday, and when I came back she had gone to the home again. Mrs. Cameron told me then that she had found out that she had given Ellen three dollars and told her if she held her tongue she would give her a good character. If she did not she would give her a bad character in the Home. From there she was taken to the hospital in London. It was from the London hospital that she wrote me the letters I referred to a while ago.

Your object then in telling the detective who called on you that you knew nothing about Cameron was because you were afraid of him—that is, of the detective.

I was afraid of him because amongst other things he threatened that I would be taken down on to Toronto, and I was in no condition to stand any worry.

And now, why are you willing to tell me this?

Because, I know you are not a detective and I am anxious to see the innocent cleared of the charges made against them and to see the guilty punished. The betrayer of that poor child Ellen Lomis deserves the severest punishment. Had she not been assaulted, as she was I believe, she would be alive to-day. She came from Newcastle-on-Tyne. We were going to write to her brother one time and Mrs. Cameron would not let us.

I forgot to ask you earlier, but it will do now. Was Ellen a girl who was in the habit of going out or did she keep company with anyone?

No, by dear me, no; she was only eleven; practically she knew no one outside.

In your opinion, was there anyone else in the house who might have been as intimate with Ellen Lomis as you say Mr. Cameron was?

Mr. Cameron's son Dick was there for a week and Mr. Gore, but I believe they had too much real manhood about them to injure the poor child.

Miss Gordon Gets Indignant.

It is said, Miss Gordon, that Mr. Cameron is in possession of a letter which you wrote him offering to live with him as his housekeeper in Ottawa during the session. Is there any truth in that? Or would you rather I did not ask you that question?

I was in no condition to work for anyone at the time. Cameron went to Ottawa in April and I was sick in hospital then. About the middle of September Dr. Whitely gave me up and said I would not live two months. Then I wrote Mr. Cameron asking him if he would provide for any interment as Huckstep was not in a position to do so, and Mr. Cameron wrote me a very kind letter, sent wine, etc., to me and called later on and consented to carry out my desire. But if Mr. Cameron says he has any compromising letters from me he is not telling the truth, and if such letters exist they are forgeries and I will swear to it.

She did swear to it, and here it is:

Canada, Province of Ontario, County of Huron. To Wit:

I, Laura Gordon of the Town of Goderich, in the County of Huron, spinster, do solemnly declare.

That the hereunto annexed statement of facts as given by me in an interview between myself and a World reporter has been carefully read over to me and that the same is true and correct in every particular.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the "act respecting extra judicial oaths." (Signed) LAURA GORDON.

Taken and declared before me at the town of Goderich, in the County of Huron, this 23rd day of July, 1892. (Signed)

M. O. JOHNSTON,
A Commissioner H. C. J., etc.

The Other Side of the Story.

On Saturday afternoon, 23rd, I called on Mr. Cameron at his beautiful riverside residence. I told him honestly and candidly, in justice to himself, the object of my visit to Goderich. Mr. Cameron is taking the whole affair quite philosophically, but expressed his opinion strongly on the subject of newspapers publishing "defamatory and scandalous articles regarding any man without due investigation," to use his own words. "I don't object," said he, "to the severest newspaper criticism of the political actions of a man in public life, but I do object strongly to dealing with his private character until it is shown to be open to criticism. And let me say that is something I defy any one to do as regards my private life."

He discussed the whole affair so fully, freely and frankly that his explanation of it must carry great weight with his friends. Those who know Mr. Cameron best are the most anxious of any to see this scandal thoroughly ventilated and his character as a man and a Christian vindicated.

Some Strong Affidavits.

Mr. Cameron showed me the original affidavit made on Nov. 30 by the girl, Ellen Lomis, while lying on her death-bed in the London Hospital. He related the circumstances under which it was taken. I heard of the charges Gore was circulating, said he, and determined on investigating them, and so I visited the Home in Stratford and the Hospital in London. At London I saw the medical superintendent, and without telling him who I was asked him about the girl. I told him what I had heard, and it was not till afterwards that I revealed my identity. He invited me to see the girl, but I told him I considered it better to have nothing to do with his investigation of the case. I said, however, it is your duty to investigate this affair, and if the girl is dangerously ill her deposition should be taken. He agreed with me and said he would go to see the girl at once. Just then my son-in-law, Dr. Wilson, came in, and the superintendent invited Dr. Wilson to accompany him. I objected, saying I thought it best for none of my friends or relations to be present so that no one could say we had influenced the girl in any way. The superintendent of the hospital then went to Ellen Lomis and told her she was dangerously ill and might die. Then he asked her who seduced her and she said "Mr. Cameron." The doctor looked at her, he told me, and answered: Ellen Lomis, I don't think you have many days to live; if Mr. Cameron is the father of your child will you swear to it?" The girl, he said, burst into a flood of tears and, between her sobs, told him that it was not Mr. Cameron, but Mr. Gore. Later on she was suddenly taken worse and Dr. Wilson was called in consultation. A magistrate was summoned and she made the deposition of which you have just seen the original.

It reads as follows:

The Dead Girl's Declaration.

I, Ellen Lomis, now in the city of London, in the County of Middlesex, spinster, do solemnly declare that:

I lived with Mrs. M. C. Cameron of Goderich as under-housemaid for about a year, and I left her service in the month of May last.

2. That while I was in her service as such housemaid, one Gore was employed at her residence as gardener.

3. That the said Gore, about the end of February or the beginning of March last, seduced me, and by reason of such seduction I became and am now pregnant with child.

4. That shortly after I became aware of such, my pregnancy, I informed the said Gore of the fact.

5. That the said Gore then advised and persuaded me to say that it was not he but M. C. Cameron who had seduced me and was the father of my child with which I was so pregnant.

6. That I never would have made that false statement except through the instigation and by the pressure of the said Gore.

7. That I am now in court of delivery of the said child, and may not recover, and I make this solemn declaration well knowing that fact.

And I make this solemn declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the "Act respecting extra-judicial oaths." (Signed) ELLEN LOMIS.

Declared before me at the City of London in the County of Middlesex, this 30th day of November A.D. 1891. (Signed)

E. J. PARKE,
A Commissioner H. C. J.

Mr. Cameron did not have a copy of the above, but he kindly offered to mail one to me that night. It was not received in time, and so the declaration in the pamphlet already referred to was used, inserting in the place of the blanks in the pamphlet, the actual names used in the original document.

"Was any action taken," I asked, "to bring her seducer to justice?"

Yes, I discussed the matter with the superintendent of the Home, and advised him to take legal advice on it. He did so, but unfortunately the girl died a few days after the deposition was taken, and the conclusion arrived at was that all proceedings would prove useless.

Why?

Because no one but the girl herself could prove her virtue prior to the seduction, and again, being an orphan, we would, in all probability, fail in proving her virtue.

How old was she? Some say she only was 11. If not 15 or 16, I think she was not far from it. She appeared well developed, but certainly looked younger.

Then you believe that if an action against her seducer could have been sustained, he would have been arrested?

Certainly, but as I just said, the death of the poor girl took away the main evidence in the case.

When did Gore leave you?

Why, when I discovered what he had been doing I came home and kicked him off the premises. Of course you have heard of the handbills he distributed accusing me of the crime of which Ellen Lomis charged him. But I don't propose to allow him much more swing.

Mr. Cameron then produced the following statement from Lucy Trott, matron of the hospital, or Woman's Home as it is called. It reads as follows:

190 ST. JAMES-STREET,
LONDON, ONT., Dec. 11, 1891.

I, Lucy Trott, Matron of the Woman's Home, state and am prepared to give sworn statement that Ellen Lomis, who came to the home at Stratford, told me that Robert Gore of the town of Goderich, coachman and gardener for M. C. Cameron, M.P., had improper connection with her, Ellen Lomis, a number of times in the stable. The said Robert Gore gave her candy at times to influence her to commit such acts. The said Robert Gore made her swear that she would not tell on him. She said Robert Gore threatened her with arrest if she did tell, and it was Mr. Cameron. She further said Mr. Cameron always treated her in the kindest way, and she felt very sorry for saying what she had, and would not have said so only from the pressure put on her. She spoke of her Robert Gore. She said Mr. Cameron never ill-treated her in look, word or action. She said she was always treated kindly while in the employ of Mrs. Cameron by all members of the family.

(Sgd.) H. LUCY TROTT.

WITNESS:
(Sgd.) J. D. WILSON.

If it is shown on the investigation which Mr. Cameron has instituted that these statements are true it will show the electors of Huron that he has been terribly deceived. It will have a tendency to make him one of the most popular as he has been the most abused man in Huron.

Mr. Cameron's Tory Slanderers.

After discussing the death of poor Ellen Lomis and expressing his sincere regret that she is not alive to confound his slanderers—Tory slanderers Mr. Cameron called them more than once—he said: "I have the strongest evidence to prove that certain well-known Conservatives of Goderich have been untiring in circulating these villainous stories. It has been done as you can well understand, to damage my prospects in the coming by-election. I am bound," he continued, "to have this scandal ventilated in a court of justice in the broad light of day if it costs every dollar I am worth. This thing has gone just far enough and I intend to bring some people up with a round turn. Gore has no money, but some of the others have, and although you understand that I am not looking for money from any of them, still it is the only way in which you can reach some people when you want to teach them a lesson.

Had you a girl in your house named Laura Gordon at the time Ellen Lomis was living there?

Yes, there was some mystery connected with her, and for that reason I objected to Mrs. Cameron engaging her. But my wife was anxious, as she said, to give her a chance and I withdrew my objection. A few weeks later I received a letter from a lady warning me regarding Laura. After all, she was with us for more than a year and now she is lying sick of consumption in Mr. Hucksteр