

THE THOMPSONS AGAIN IN COURT

The Evidence Given at the Special Session.

CASE OF JOHN EATON CO.

The Defendants Were Interested in Several Firms.

Transacting With the Bank of Toronto

The Purchase of the Thompson Company's Stock—Mr. Johnston Objects to the "Wholesale Shovelling in of Evidence"

and to "Crazy Questions That Have No Bearing on the Case"—Arguments on Technical Points—Further Adjournment

The preliminary investigation of the fraud charge against W. A. Thompson, Bruce Thompson and T. C. Thompson promises to be a long-drawn-out affair.

There was a special session of the Police Court for yesterday afternoon and evidence was taken for a couple of hours, after which there was an adjournment until to-morrow.

Magistrate Kingsford was on the bench and the defendants were in attendance with their lawyers, Messrs. E. F. B. Johnston, C. C. and H. E. Bidley.

Bank Transactions.

Mr. Cross, the accountant, took the witness box again and produced the witness book again and produced the witness book again and produced the witness book again.

Mr. Johnston: This evidence, of course, Your Worship, is subject to my objection of fraud.

Mr. Curry: I understand, Your Worship, that all the evidence given is subject to Mr. Johnston's objection.

The Crown Attorney resumed his examination, whereas Mr. Johnston objected on the ground that the transaction with the bank in no way affected the charge against the defendants, the issue being entirely between the John Eaton Company and the Crown Attorney.

Mr. Johnston continued that the case was not to enter into the relationship between the Bank of Toronto and the John Eaton Company, Limited, and it was manifestly unfair and illegal to introduce transactions that have nothing to do with the charge against the defendants.

His Worship remarked that facts were being brought out and he would like to hear all the evidence. If at the conclusion he thought that any evidence should not be admitted, he would sustain Mr. Johnston's objections.

Mr. Curry said that the facts of the case were such that the object of showing intent to defraud on the part of the defendants and he continued the examination of Mr. Cross who stated that on Dec. 3 the John Eaton Company, Limited, paid \$40,000 to the Army and Navy Company, \$20,000 to the Thompson and \$20,000 to Boyce Thompson.

"Can you tell where the company got the money to give cheques for such large amounts?" asked Mr. Curry.

"The bank seems to have discounted a note for the company," said Mr. Cross, and he afterwards stated that he thought the bill book showed that the note had been made by the company.

The bill book, which was the only one in Mr. Cross's possession, was not an account, but was sent for. This book, however, showed nothing regarding the note, so it was not produced.

The purchase of the Thompson stock.

Mr. Curry went deeply into the transaction whereby the John Eaton Company, Limited, purchased the stock of the John Eaton Company, Limited, and he brought out that the shareholders of each company interested were:

Thomas Thompson & Son Company, Limited—Thomas Thompson, Boyce Thompson, T. C. Thompson, John Eaton, Richard Baker, Harlan Walker, H. E. Bidley.

Army and Navy Company, Limited—W. A. Thompson, R. Baker, W. A. H. Grand, J. McGreggor, Lizzie Thompson.

Mr. Curry commenced to read the minutes of meetings of the John Eaton Company, Limited, from its commencement, whereas Mr. Johnston arose and thought there "should be a reasonable limit to this wholesale shovelling in of evidence," and he thought His Worship should decide what evidence had a bearing upon the case. The only money that was got from Mr. Curry in June, 1897, and in connection with which the Thompsons were charged with defrauding their creditors.

A long argument followed, during which Mr. Johnston referred to "crazy questions that had no bearing on the case," and looked hard at Mr. Curry.

The "Wholesale Shovelling in of Evidence."

Robert Currie, warehouseman, was the next witness, and Mr. Curry's first question was: "What do you have in your possession?"

Mr. Johnston again objected, but His Worship allowed the witness to go on. Mr. Currie said that his dealings with the John Eaton Company, Limited, were in June last, and the company was represented by Boyce Thompson, who did business with him. No other member of the firm saw him in the matter at that time, but at the subsequent dealing the firm was also represented by Mr. G. Bell, who was a confidential man of the company. Mr. Currie produced 23 cheques he had paid to the company. They were as follows: June 9, 1897, \$1,000; June 21, 1897, \$1,000; June 23, 1897, \$1,000; July 1, 1897, \$1,000; July 3, 1897, \$1,000; July 5, 1897, \$1,000; July 7, 1897, \$1,000; July 9, 1897, \$1,000; July 11, 1897, \$1,000; July 13, 1897, \$1,000; July 15, 1897, \$1,000; July 17, 1897, \$1,000; July 19, 1897, \$1,000; July 21, 1897, \$1,000; July 23, 1897, \$1,000; July 25, 1897, \$1,000; July 27, 1897, \$1,000; July 29, 1897, \$1,000; August 1, 1897, \$1,000; August 3, 1897, \$1,000; August 5, 1897, \$1,000; August 7, 1897, \$1,000; August 9, 1897, \$1,000; August 11, 1897, \$1,000; August 13, 1897, \$1,000; August 15, 1897, \$1,000; August 17, 1897, \$1,000; August 19, 1897, \$1,000; August 21, 1897, \$1,000; August 23, 1897, \$1,000; August 25, 1897, \$1,000; August 27, 1897, \$1,000; August 29, 1897, \$1,000; August 31, 1897, \$1,000.

QUEEK OF THE AMERICANS

They Slap Great Britain With One Hand

AND HOLD OUT THE OTHER

With a Request for a Concession in Regard to Silver Coinage.

London Times Has a Special Article on the Closing of the Indian Mints and the Bimetallist Question—The Writer Sees in the Adjustment of the Relative Prices of the Rupee a Shattering of the Hopes of Silver Men—Foolishness to Do Anything for Silver No Chance of Indian Mints Being Reopened.

London, Aug. 17.—The Times publishes a two-column special article to-day, reviewing the effects of closing the Indian mints, in connection with the visit of the American bi-metallic commission.

The article comments on the "characteristic evidence and boldness of American diplomacy in sending a bi-metallic commission to ask for the re-opening of the Indian mints, while at the same time dealing the worst possible blow at British commerce by passing the Dingley tariff."

"The closing saved the Indian Government from the losses incident to a heavy fall in exchange, and consequently from a disastrous increase in the burden of its gold obligations. It is undoubtedly true that it also helped to stabilize the rupee value of silver, which may not be the question he raised whether the low price of silver is necessarily disastrous to that India which imports it so largely? Since 1893 India has been the only real wholesale customer for silver."

Other customers are the remainder of the world. The delicate adjustment of the relative prices of the rupee and silver, which is, the forces now acting upon the price of silver have become too tremendous to be maintained by such delicate influences as preceded the defeat of Bryan's silver party and Japan's adoption of the gold standard. The events of the present are too potent to be withstood.

"It is clearly impossible," says the writer, "to treat seriously a commission which proposes that unless we do some-thing for silver the next election in the United States will return Mr. Bryan to the White House, to the injury of British interests. It is not certain that Mr. Bryan will be elected. It is not even certain that if he were elected he would suffer more than we should from a new McKinley with another McKinley."

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