

Consummate Crookedness

Carried on or Connived at by Government Officers.

The Buying and Selling of Situations Further Investigated.

Members of Parliament Looking After Increased Indemnity—The Ontario Express Company Bill Passed the Senate Committee.

[Special to the ADVERTISER.]

OTTAWA, Sept. 5.—Following is a continuation of the testimony given yesterday before the Public Accounts Committee, the witness (L. N. Charbonneau) having stated that Ernest Dionne and Horace Talbot got goods from A. C. Larose, drygoods merchant, which were paid for by Government checks. Witness admitted that another official of the department named Vance accompanied Dionne and Talbot to the store and had a running account there, but witness did not remember if he was ever connected with these checks.

The chairman—Why did you make out these accounts?
Witness (after hesitating)—I suppose to defraud the Government. I was not a witness to the testimony given yesterday.

Mr. Wood, of Becclesville, made a remark to Mr. Somerville about anxiety to get at the bottom of this affair.

Mr. Lister remarked (looking over at Mr. Wood)—You mean that they had been anxious.

Col. Denison (the member for West Toronto) sitting behind Mr. Wood, said to Mr. Lister—"You ought to be ashamed of yourself."

Mr. Lister—"If you can't speak like a gentleman you needn't address me."

Mr. Denison—"I will speak when I like."

Mr. Lister—"I won't take it from you."

Mr. Denison—"You have got to."

Mr. Lister (going towards Denison)—Now have I got to?

At this critical point the chairman restored order.

Horace Talbot was the next witness. He swore most positively that the goods charged in the accounts produced were regularly ordered and regularly delivered. He was the officer to order the supplies and to receive them, and he swore positively that he did not receive them.

Q.—Did you ever deliver goods purchased for the department to other officials?
Ans.—No.

Q.—Did you ever present Mr. Baillarg, the late Deputy Minister, with a silk dress for his daughter?

Witness, who had been scornfully indignant at all these questions, now answered—"This is a low life, turn my stomach. It is false—false like the rest."

When Mr. Lister took the witness in hand he took occasion to tell him that he should not be so insolent before a Parliamentary committee. To Mr. Lister witness said he was expressly authorized by the Deputy Minister of the Public Works Department to purchase goods from Larose and get the accounts made out in the name of another person. They did not imagine that the Opposition would inquire so minutely into these affairs. Witness denied trying to buy Larose off from giving evidence or trying to buy him off.

Mr. Larose, owner of the store where these goods were purchased, corroborated his bookkeeper's evidence. He received Government checks but he never sold any goods to the Government. He was sold by Dionne and Talbot that he would have to get another name as the head of the department would not pass an account in his name. He was asked to make out the accounts by these officials and they brought him back the checks.

COCHRANE'S CASE.

OTTAWA, Sept. 5.—In the Cochrane Committee yesterday additional evidence was given as to the transaction in which Hedley Simpson paid \$200 for a light house. It became important to prove whether, when the money was paid into the bank for the purpose of meeting the note given for a portion of the party indebtedness, Mr. Cochrane was a member of Parliament. He was a member of Parliament, V. L. Payne, solicitor, Cochrane, said that the payment was made on Jan. 25, 1888. Mr. Larose, of the Standard Bank, said it was made on Feb. 20. Mr. Cochrane took the oath on Jan. 31, but it was by no means certain that the man does not become a member of Parliament until he signs the roll. Mr. Cochrane was elected in the previous December and gazetted shortly afterwards. Wesley Goodrich, who gave a life lease of a farm and \$200 for the position of bridge tender on the canal, said that the \$200 was handed to Mr. Cochrane who was to take it to Mr. Payne to be applied in payment of the indebtedness of the party. It is contended that Mr. Cochrane, in this case acted purely as the messenger who carried the money; but it is evident Mr. Cochrane was aware of the corrupt practice of having Federal offices for money, while his consent is shown by the fact that the Government would appoint the victims only upon his recommendation.

John Wade, son-in-law to Olaf Simpson, stated that he carried out the bargain with Wesley Goodrich about the old man getting the farm. It was Mr. Cochrane who first told him that Goodrich was willing to give the lease for his farm if he could get a position on the canal.

Mr. Bacon put in a letter from Mr. Cochrane to Sir John Macdonald recommending the appointment of the bridge tenders on the Murray Canal. There was an endorsement on the letter in the handwriting of the late Premier giving direction for the appointments to be made in accordance with Mr. Cochrane's recommendation.

Mr. Mulock put a few other letters in, the most remarkable feature about them being that after the appointments had been made the department wrote asking for particulars as to the ages of the men. The committee will meet again on Thursday.

MR. SOMERVILLE'S MOTION.

Mr. Somerville is moving that all accounts and vouchers in connection with payments for W. Inglis Bradley, clerk in the Railway Department from July, 1884, to December, 1885, be produced, and that S. L. Shannon, W. L. Cameron, A. P. Bradley and Alfred Croft be summoned as witnesses before the Public Accounts Committee. Mr. Mulock has moved for all papers in connection with the Toronto harbor contract.

INCREASED INDIGNITY.

The session is now in its fifth month, and the cry from some quarters for an extra indemnity becomes louder. A caucus was

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And the Question of the Evacuation of Egypt.

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AN EARLY DEMONSTRATION on the part of Great Britain even if she has to act alone. Lord Salisbury's position, as it is understood to have been communicated to the powers, is that the Russo-Turkish agreement is an evasion of the Treaty of Paris. Turkey could not consent to open and flagrant violation of the treaty by giving Russia the right to send warships through the straits, but she makes concessions tantamount to the same privilege in permitting the passage through the Dardanelles of a volunteer fleet equipped with guns and filled with soldiers. Be the development of diplomacy swift or slow British intervention ultimately appears to be inevitable.

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With the straits trouble is directly involved the question of Egypt. Moukhtar Pasha, the Porte's commissioner in Cairo, has renewed his demand through the Khedive for the evacuation of Egypt by the English. Cairo advises that if this demand is refused Moukhtar Pasha will ask the Sultan to recall him and to leave the post vacant as a protest against the Khedive's contumacy towards the Suez Canal.

The British ambassador at Constantinople, Sir William White, is on the whole possible personal terms with the Sultan, and it is said he will be withdrawn.

In commenting upon the Dardanelles question, the Post protests against the idea that the powers desire to make England a party to a dispute which is not hers. It is certain, it adds, that England will not support the Sultan's right to enter into a special contract with Russia outside of the articles of the treaty.

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THIS IS A THIRSTY WORLD.

Abundance of Water in the Gospel Well.

Talmage's Sermon at the New York and Pennsylvania State Fair.

ELMHURST, N. Y., Sept. 5.—Dr. Talmage's text to-day was Genesis, xxi, 8: "And they said, we cannot, until all the flocks be gathered together, and till they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep."

There are some reasons, said the preacher, why it is appropriate that I should accept the invitation to preach at this great Interstate Fair, and to these thousands of countrymen and citizens, horsemen just come from their fine farms, the king of the beasts, for I take the crown from the lion and put it on the brow of the horse, which is in every way nobler, and speak to these shepherds just come from their flocks, the Lord himself in one place called a Shepherd, and in another place called a Lamb, and all the good are sheep, and preach to you occupation honored by the fact that God himself has made the worthy of immortal record that he owns "the cattle on a thousand hills." It is appropriate that I come because I was a farmer's boy, and never saw a city until I was nearly grown, and having been born in the country I never got over it, and would not dwell in cities a day if my work was not appointed there. My love to you now, and when I get through I will give you my hand, for though I have this summer shaken hands with perhaps 40,000 people in 21 States of the Union all the way through to Colorado and north and south, I will not conclude my summer vacation till I have shaken hands with you. You old farmer out there! How you make me think of my father! You elderly woman out there with cap and spectacles! How you make me think of my mother! And now while the air of the sheep, and the neighing of horses, and the lowing of cattle, I cannot find a more appropriate text than the one I read. It is a scene in Mesopotamia, beautifully pastoral. A well of water of great value in that region. The flocks about it with white with flocks of sheep and other flocks coming to be watered. I hear their bleating coming on the bright air, and the laughter of young men and maidens, and the Russian police have warned newspapers not to publish anything about these movements. Troops to the number of 150,000 have been ordered to Warsaw, which will bring the number of Russian forces on the Polish frontier up to 500,000.

CONMEE CONFIRMED.

The Petition Against the Liberal Member for West Algoma Dismissed. (Special to the ADVERTISER.)

TORONTO, Sept. 5.—Ferguson, J., and Oiler, J. A., delivered judgment in the Court of Appeal this morning at Osgoode Hall in the West Algoma election case. It was an action brought by one William Powley, as petitioner, to unseat James Conmee, M. P. P. (Liberal) for West Algoma. At the recent by-election Conmee defeated Macdonnell, the present Conservative member for the riding in the Dominion House.

The charges of bribery and corruption alleged against Conmee, M. P. P., were tried before Ferguson, J., Oiler, J. A., at Port Arthur, Ont., on July 22 and 23. All the charges were disposed of and dismissed with the exception of one serious accusation which the petitioner was allowed to add at the trial. This allegation was to the effect that Conmee personally promised one Mrs. Tennant that if she would procure her husband's vote in behalf of the Liberal cause she would be favored with a position as keeper or cook of a boarding-house on the line of the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway, which road Conmee was then building as a contractor. This charge was supported by the evidence of Mr. Tennant and Mr. Aaron Squier, who last year was mayor of Port Arthur, and is now president of the local Conservative Association.

Squier swore that he heard this conversation between Mrs. Tennant and Conmee and positively declared that Conmee made the corrupt promise as charged. The conversation was said to have taken place on a street in Port Arthur, where the parties happened to meet a few days before the election.

Mr. Conmee was put in the box to answer when he admitted having canvassed the woman for her husband's vote under circumstances somewhat similar to those described, but he positively denied that any corrupt promise was made in regard to procuring Mrs. Tennant a position as keeper or cook of a boarding-house; he simply regretted to bring her husband out to vote for him.

The judges criticized this evidence very closely and came to the conclusion that they ought to accept Conmee's account of what had taken place in preference to the testimony given by Mrs. Tennant and Squier, which they said "looked fishy." The judges deemed it incredible that Conmee could have acted in the manner charged under the circumstances described, neither could they believe him to be such a fool as to utter a corrupt promise within the hearing of the president of the Conservative Association, even admitting that he might have done so in secret.

In conclusion the judges discarded the evidence of Mr. Squier and Mrs. Tennant and ordered judgment to be entered in favor of Conmee, dismissing all the charges of bribery and corruption, and awarding the seat to Conmee for the ensuing Government term.

DURHAM, Ont., Sept. 7.—A very sad accident befell Saturday afternoon at Leona, in Glenora township, by which James Young, aged 67, lost his life. Mr. Young had driven to a neighbor's, a distance of a mile and a half, on a road cart, and when ready to return drove a little knoll with one wheel of the cart, upsetting him and landing him on his head. He died in two minutes. The deceased leaves a wife and large family.