

Q. How came you at once to sign this withdrawal without any arrangement about partnership?—I did not wish to sell out.

Q. How much were you informed you could get by selling?—I was not informed what I could get; I was never told I could get \$3,000. Neither Mr. Roger mentioned it or Mr. Charlton; Mr. Charlton is mistaken on that point.

Q. Who asked you to sign this letter?—No person.

Q. It was your own voluntary act?—Yes.

Q. Was any suggestion made by Cotton?—None, whatever.

Q. This was simply a voluntary gratuitous act on your part?—Purely so.

Q. Although you thought it valuable, and although you thought there was a chance in it?—It was not valuable for me. Anything improper is not very valuable for me.

Q. But the contract?—The contract having been awarded to Mr. Mackintosh, I thought it was time for me to send in my withdrawal. I knew he had tendered for it at small prices.

Q. Did it never occur to you that he might withdraw?—Never occurred to me one way or the other.

Q. Why did you think it was so important to get you out of the way if Mackintosh did not withdraw?—I did not think anything about it. I did not know that they were anxious to get me out of the way.

Q. Although they were offering you a consideration for withdrawing?—They did not show much anxiety. They hinted very cautiously that I might make something out of it.

Q. What did you suppose Roger wanted you for when he telegraphed you?—I did not know till I went down there. I presumed it was something about the tender. I had made up my mind before I got his telegram from Ottawa. I think I wrote to him that I intended to leave for Ottawa that night. Whether it was that night I left or the following night, I do not know. I was under the impression that I got to Ottawa on Sunday morning.

Q. You say here "I think I arrived there on Saturday"?—My impression is that I arrived there on Sunday; perhaps it is Saturday.

Q. And Cotton appeared on the scene immediately?—I had not seen him at all. I think the first place I saw him was in Mr. Roger's house.

Q. What do you mean by this, "I think it was Cotton told me Roger wanted to see me"?—I am not quite clear on that; perhaps it was.

Q. You may have seen Cotton on Saturday?—Yes.

Q. And he may have gone with you to see Roger?—No; I think I went up to Mr. Roger alone.

Q. Did you go straight to Alderman Starrs' house when you got there, or go somewhere else first?—I went straight to Alderman Starrs' house.

Q. When you were leaving the place, what did you say?—I think that after I stated what I would do, Mr. Charlton said he would talk the matter over with Mr. Cotton, and I said I would have nothing to do with it, but they might do as they liked.

Q. That is not the account you gave when you were examined?—I think so now.

Q. "I leave it you to do as you think best." Was not that it?—I swear that I did not say that. I am positive about what I said; I recollect it distinctly. Mr. Charlton said, "Mr. Cotton and I will talk the matter over," and I said, "you can do as you please in the matter; I will have nothing to do with it at all."

Q. You were not saying it in the sense of saying one thing and meaning another?—I meant what I said.

Q. On the occasion of his hinting at your withdrawal, you had a talk about this partnership?—Yes.

Q. You were anxious to get back this cheque of Starrs'?—I was.

Q. You seem to have remained there a good while about it. Why did not you give it direct to Starrs, without having it sent to Toronto?—I did not know that he would give it to me at once, so I wanted to have it sent to Toronto.