

To His Excellency the Right Honorable CHARLES STANLEY, Viscount MONCK, Baron Monck of Ballytrammion, in the County of Wexford, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

The undersigned Commissioner appointed to enquire into the depredations, &c., committed by Fenians in the District of Bedford, begs leave to report :—

That the undersigned had the honor, by Commission under the Great Seal of the Province, dated the nineteenth day of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, to be appointed by His Excellency as Commissioner to enquire into depredations, robberies, the unlawful carrying away, and destruction of property that have lately been committed by persons calling themselves Fenians, in the District of Bedford, and to ascertain, as far as possible, the value of all real or personal property that has been so stolen, destroyed or damaged.

That immediately upon the receipt of the said Commission, the Commissioner caused public notice to be given to all persons interested, requiring them forthwith to file their claims for all losses before him, at Frelighsburg, in said District, and each claimant was required to present his claim in a succinct manner, with a detailed statement of the amount claimed for such loss or destruction of property, or both.

That 102 claims were accordingly presented to the Commissioner for investigation; amounting in the aggregate to the sum of \$18,232 08.

The claims which involved the largest amount were those of the traders and store-keepers of the Village of Frelighsburg, in the Parish of St. Armand East, and of Pigeon Hill, in the Parish of St. Armand West, all of the said District of Bedford.

The system adopted by the Commissioner in the investigation of the claims presented by these last mentioned parties was to require, in the first place, from them proof under oath of the amount of stock on hand at the time of the raid; of the amount of their sales since that time, and a detailed statement, so far as possible, of their loss by the Fenians; this proof was then put into the hands of commercial men of respectability and experience, who were required personally to examine the stock on hand, the invoices and account sales and the books of the claimant, and to make a return of the result to the Commissioner.

The other claims presented were generally for the loss of personal property or damage done, and in these cases, where practicable, as for instance in claims for damages done to horses and other similar property, the Commissioner appointed fit and proper persons as Experts to ascertain by actual inspection, where practicable, the amount of damage suffered.

In cases where upon enquiry it was possible to effect a recovery of the property claimed for as having been lost, stolen or destroyed; the Commissioner took the necessary steps to obtain such property, and after obtaining the same returned it to the claimant and struck out the item from the claim.

All the claims presented and passed upon were supported by proof under oath.

The claims filed were separately numbered and docketed, and each claim is a distinct record of itself, containing the claim, the detailed statement and the testimony in writing or memorandum of it; and these claims the Commissioner has the honor to enclose herewith, as also a minute of the proceedings of the Commission.

After having given the different claims and the proof in support thereof the fullest investigation and attention, the undersigned has the honor to report to His Excellency, that it has been established before him, that the value of the real and personal property, that has been stolen, destroyed and damaged in the District of Bedford, by the persons calling themselves Fenians, in the month of June last, and which has been claimed for, amounts in the aggregate to the sum of Fifteen thousand four hundred and sixty-three dollars and eighty-three cents, and which amount is distributed among the said claimants as follows, viz :—

1. To James Burke, of Frelighsburg, Innkeeper, \$354 70.
2. To Oren B. Kemp, do Crown Land Agent, \$61 44.
3. To Robert Thomson, of St. Armand West, yeoman, \$164.
4. To Landsberg, Holmes & Co., Frelighsburg, traders, \$3,731 96.
5. To Elizabeth Titmore, of St. Armands East, spinster, \$19 70.
6. To Andrew Kirkpatrick, of Frelighsburg, carpenter, \$43.