

tion was paid for, considering the number of editions published, at \$1.13 instead of 10 cents, or 11 times the contractors' price. The press work was paid for at 30 cents instead of 10 cents, and for double the quantity of work actually performed.

It will be remembered that the Messrs. Stephenson, who are sons of a gentleman who now holds an office under the Dominion Government in the North-West, and who was at one time the member for Kent in this House, and a strong supporter of hon. gentlemen opposite, received the order for printing the C. P. R. Royal Commission report; that they never touched the work, never set a type in connection with the publication of that work, never read a proof, never handled the copy in any way whatever; but they were favored with the order for that work, and came to Ottawa and handed the work over to the Government contractors, who did it at their regular rates, I suppose, or probably more than their regular rates, taking it second hand, and at any rate the Stephensons pocketed \$3,000 in clear cash for this work which they never touched. It appears that the Government or the Minister of Agriculture deemed it was necessary, in the interest of his Department and in the interest of the country at large, that this Government should publish a pamphlet in German, and they looked about to find some man who would undertake the work. It happened that they struck Mr. H. W. Bennett, of the *Prescott Messenger*. I do not know how it came about that he was picked out among all the newspaper men of the country for the publication of a German pamphlet, for it must be obvious to the House that he was in no way in a position to publish German work. It was stated in another place in this House that before he got this order he was interviewed, or he interviewed some member of the Government in regard to this work, and he was promised the work if he would furnish his office with German type. It is well known to every member of this House that Prescott is not in a

German settlement, and that there are very few, if any, Germans within the reach of the circulation of the *Prescott Messenger*, and that no German work is required to be printed in that neighborhood; and it seems strange that the Government should pitch upon Mr. H. W. Bennett to do this work; but, at any rate, they did, and we find that he was favored with two orders for the guide book in German. In September, 1883, he received an order for 30,000 copies, for which he was paid an advance of \$879.70 previous to the delivery. For this order he was paid \$4,107.50. The composition was allowed at \$1 per thousand. It is well known to every practical printer in the country that German composition is charged for at no greater prices than English composition, and that a German newspaper man charges the same for the composition in German as the proprietor of an English newspaper would charge for the composition in English. But we find that this favorite of the Government was allowed \$1 per thousand for composition, and was allowed for press work at 30 cents. In May, 1884, he got another order for 20,000 more of this pamphlet, for which he was paid \$2,764.15, and for the composition again at \$1 per thousand, and the same for press work; he was allowed to charge like all others, for double the amount of press work that he actually did. Well, after this matter came up in the Public Accounts Committee I received a letter from a German publishing house in the county of Waterloo. The proprietors of that journal asked me to send them a copy of this German pamphlet, and a copy of the account which was rendered to the Government. I complied with their request, because I wanted to have some one to back me up in the statements I was about to make to the Public Accounts Committee and to this House in regard to these printing accounts, and I received a letter from the publishers of that German newspaper, in which they say that "after a careful calculation the work can be done here for \$1,800;" and the letter further says "that the foreman of another office in the same