the Minister of Public Works, and that quite enough to damn him in the estimation of the Rouge party. It is quite probable that if M. LANGEVIN had not received the appointment the very same papers would have been cut in confirmation of the Government for violating the Civil Service Act. It was highly proper that a French Canadian should have been selected to the position, and there was no French Canadian in the service who had equal claims with M. LANGEVIN. For many years as Clerk of the Crown in Chancery and Deputy Receiver-General, he had discharged his duties with the greatest possible efficiency and to the utmost satisfaction of his superiors. He is in every way qualified for his new office, in which, we require sure, he will prove to be the right man in the right place.

"But the Government were desperate, so, once more, they made another huge and even grotesque blunder. They sought the aid first of Sir Hugh Allan, but only in connection with the promoters of a foreign rival railway. To forward the Canadian interest they actually sought the assistance of persons whose whole interest was centered in a road running from Lake Superior to the Pacific, parallel with the Canadian line, capable at any moment by private enterprise or Pacific Railway Bill, to do so.

"It is hard to understand why even an unscrupulous partizan should make such an unwarranted misstatement as this paragraph contains. The Government did not seek the assistance of persons whose whole interest was centered in the Northern Pacific Railway, either at the beginning of the negotiations or at any other time. Sir HUGH ALLAN was free to do as he pleased so long as he was the head of a private Company. When the Government came to deal with him they insisted as a first and prime condition that the Company should be exclusively Canadian; and it was in consequence of this determination on the part of the Government that Sir HUGH ALLAN's negotiations with his American associates were terminated. Let the Grit print draw what inferences it pleases, but let it try and keep to the truth.

IN "playing his game" Mr. G. W. MCLELLAN was fool of the Montreal *Gazette* and its proprietors, Messrs. T. & R. WHITE. He has already had ample reason to regret that he sought to implicate these gentlemen in an improper transaction. The Grits printed and published in this city entirely suppresses the *Gazette's* reply to Mr. MCMULLEN, but we have reason to believe, it had that reply in its possession in time for publication in next day's paper. The Grit journal is accustomed to the charge of its own peculiar denial, but also instead of a useful and marketable article, the fish had stuffed itself with heavy rubbish to increase its weight, its purchaser would, of course, have suffered a loss. In the meantime, it must be admitted that since the days of the prophet Balaam, the single instance of the veracity of fish has been recorded than the case of this cod captured by the Pittsburgers. Considered, nine big fish out of ten would infinitely prefer swallowing a prophet to swallowing an iron mullet.

BREACHES OF CONTRACT.—It has already been stated that the German Federal Council is engaged in legislating, with a view to the settlement of trade disputes, and the punishment of illegal proceedings in connection with strikes. A bill which has been introduced says in its preamble, that as employer has no redress in the case of a breach of contract on the part of his employés, men but to prosecute them in a civil course, which is very difficult, and nearly always fruitless. Meanwhile, the agitation which prevails among the men, causes great dissatisfaction among the employers, and when strikes occur, besides act in a manner regardless of the law, thus creating a state of things which has almost become a public calamity. Other classes of society, which are not directly concerned in the struggle, are thereby seriously injured in their material interests, the total production in the country is diminished, and the foundations of legal and moral order are endangered. The spirit of disorder and licence which has been produced in some workmen by their being able to break the law with impunity, and the backwardness on the part of the employers that the law does not sufficiently protect them, threaten to undermine all respect for law amongst the classes of the people, and the terrorism which consequently prevails during strikes is a serious danger to public order and security. In order to remove these dangers effectively and rapidly, it is considered necessary to attach such penalties to a breach of contract, both as regards employers and workmen, as to remove the feeling of security in the protection of the law. With this object the first article of the bill regulates the mode of procedure in trade disputes, and the second completes the penal provisions of the existing law in cases of intimidation, &c., and extends them to persons employed in mines.

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The National Rifle Association has for many years been known to allow the sliding bar in the Snider rifle to be reversed, so as to make a bar sight, which might be used instead of the notch back sight enforced by the Government Regulations. The Executive of the Association must be used in the way prescribed by Government. It has, however, for some time past been in contemplation at the Horse Guards to allow the bar sight to be used, and on the last of this month a general order was issued by the Duke of Cambridge in the following words:—"Soldiers who are desirous of using the bar sight instead of the notch of the back sight of the Snider rifle, at distances beyond 400 yards, may be allowed to do so." The National Rifle Association thereupon gave notice on Saturday, the 5th July of this meeting, that the order of the Horse Guards would apply to riflemen taking part in the Wimbledon competition, and numbers were accordingly seen using this sight yesterday. On Sunday a protest against the order was presented by a number of men, remonstrants, asserted to be 500 in number, who complain that certain volunteers had previous knowledge of the intended change, and that the alteration places other competitors at a disadvantage. Those who are alleged to have had priority of information are Londoners. The Executive Council, which consists of Lord Dunmore, Colonel Seymour, and Colonel Ozley, have, however, refused to depart from a salutary innovation because it has been in some quarters discounted.

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THE SLANDER.

Denials to Several of McMullen's Statements.

SIR FRANCIS HINCKS.

The following letter has been addressed by Sir Francis Hincks to the Montreal *Gazette*, and appeared in that paper on July 19:—

"To the Editor of the Gazette.

"SIR,—Although reluctant to anticipate the formal enquiry into Mr. Huntington's charges, I cannot allow the statement made in the *Herald* of yesterday by Mr. Geo. W. McMullen to remain unnoticed. In all my recollections connected with the construction of the Pacific Railway, I have been governed by an opinion, early expressed and never modified, which was that if the construction of that work was undertaken by proper parties, the Government and the country, instead of thinking that they had conferred a favour on such parties, should feel deeply indebted to them. I shall at present confine my remarks on Mr. McMullen's letter to what affects myself more personally. I have a distinct recollection of Mr. McMullen's visit to Ottawa in July, 1871. He was accompanied by Mr. Smith of Chicago, Mr. James Beaty, Jr., barrister, of Toronto, Mr. Weddington, and Mr. Kerstenan. They were bearers of an informal proposal and inquiry which had been produced in some workmen by their being able to break the law with impunity, and the backwardness on the part of the employers that the law does not sufficiently protect them, threaten to undermine all respect for law amongst the classes of the people, and the terrorism which consequently prevails during strikes is a serious danger to public order and security. In order to remove these dangers effectively and rapidly, it is considered necessary to attach such penalties to a breach of contract, both as regards employers and workmen, as to remove the feeling of security in the protection of the law. With this object the first article of the bill regulates the mode of procedure in trade disputes, and the second completes the penal provisions of the existing law in cases of intimidation, &c., and extends them to persons employed in mines.

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A CLEVER RASCAL.

A Man of Fortune—A Clergyman—Hon. John Hamilton—Earl of Glencairn—Lord Gordon—A Host of Aliases—A Successful Impostor.

The class of really accomplished swindlers is not very numerous. The records of ordinary fraud have a remarkable family likeness, and a very small number of actors acquainted with them, from that of the clerk, who forges his master's name to a cheque, down to those of the clever swindlers, who take a dress off a shop counter, the street arab who steals a loaf of bread from a baker's cart, or the outlaw who knocks his victim down with a bludgeon before robbing him, and generally terminates his career on the gallows. In addition to these, the common criminals, who infest every large community, there is a class of men, the extent of whose operations, the tremendous daring of whose impostures, the art, the address, the consummate skill displayed by whom, allays with admiration for their ability the abhorrence felt for their crimes, and causes contempt for their victims' credulity to mingle with pity for their losses. At the present time, the Province of Manitoba is being exercised at an attempt made to carry a man who calls himself Lord Gordon from that territory into the jurisdiction of the Courts of the United States. This *sui-disant* Gordon—for that is only one of his numerous *nomes de guerre*—is one of the most accomplished of the class of gentlemen swindlers, and has been, and will probably more successful and more daring than any other living man. Not satisfied with personating the title of a man of fortune, he has penetrated into the ranks of the British nobility and passed for a Scotch Earl in Edinburgh, and a member of the peerage in London. He has also at different times assumed the character of a clergyman, a land speculator and a "claimant" to vast estates, and only last year managed to persuade the astute Jay Gould that he was a Lord Gordon, had the control of the English stock in the Erie Railway Company, and the favour of the continental Gould in the Presidency of that Corporation. By these representations he actually managed to obtain from Gould no less a sum than $500,000—$300,000 in cash, and the remainder in bonds. It was for this that he was arrested by his bail, as he had absconded from New York before the conclusion of the trial. The history of this remarkable man is of so interesting a character that we have no hesitation in laying such portions of it as we have been enabled to procure before our readers.

The man now calling himself Gordon is the illegitimate son of the Rev. Dr. Hussey, Rector of Hayes, in the County of Kent, England. At the age of two years he was placed under the care of the Misses Berry, who kept a boarding school on Dulwich Common. He was then known by the name of John Hamilton. Here he remained for about twelve years, when, at the age of fourteen, he ran away from home, but he early commenced his career of crime, for in the year 1848 he was in the employment of Messrs. White and Co., warehousemen, of Cheapside, London, and was the 25th Dragoons, but to make an arrested on a charge of obtaining goods by false pretences. He was committed for trial and no prosecutor appeared to the charge coming up and "Hamilton" was acquitted. Two years afterwards he was given a living in the town of Yeovil, in Somersetshire, where he was assistant master in a school. This pleasant occupation, however, did not long content his ambitious mind, and he soon set himself up for a man of wealth. In this character he formed the acquaintance of a young attorney of Yeovil, whose client he became, and, under pretence of intention of purchasing an estate in the country, and actually through his friend the lawyer agreed for one situated in Edinburgh, and from Yeovil. The owner, however, was unknown to Paddison, stating that he was on a tour of the Highlands. Being possessed of a plausible and well-bred manner, credit was generally given to his representations, and he was enabled to contract a large number of bills, which he had put in his pocket. The creditors received a severe lesson when it was found that the wealthy Mr. Hamilton had disappeared without recollecting to settle his "little bills."

After leaving Yeovil, this extraordinary young man seems to have gone to London, and assumed the sacred character of a clergyman. In this character, in a manner, he seems to have displayed a considerable penchant for a religious reputation. Succeeds in obtaining the position of a respectable pulpit to the sacerdotal office, and was soon the pride of the parish and church. He was at last discovered to be an impostor, and was compelled to seek "fresh fields and pastures new." Considerable scandal was heard of him, in the year 1859 he once more appeared at the little town of Ashby, in Leicestershire, and, at Mr. Bayley, still bearing the name of Hamilton, lived in the house of Mr. Bayley, whose son John to Herbert. In the following year he became acquainted with a Mr. Bird, a farmer residing in Ashby, and Miss Sarbiton. Mr. Bird sold him a house, and almost immediately afterwards married one of him for two years. In 1862 he came across him at a party given at the house of Mr. Bayley, at which he was introduced by his acquaintance with Mr. Bird and his family, and he introduced to Miss Bayley as his intended wife. In 1865 Hamilton rented a cottage at Orchard Court, Hook, Surrey, where he lived in great magnificently. Here he lived for about three months with Mrs. Sarah Berry, whom he passed off as his aunt. In the month of June, 1866 and July, 1867, and Hamilton then sold off his furniture and left the neighborhood of Mrs. Bayley. He occasionally visited the Birds, and from time to time borrowed money from Mr. Bird. By this time he had assumed the name of "Glencairn," though it is difficult to ascertain the exact period of his name change. It would seem, however, that when calling himself Hamilton he had assumed the name of Lord Glencairn, and that he subsequently represented that this was his mother's name which he had inherited from his maternal ancestors. In 1865 he rented an office at No. 57 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, and commenced forging in Messrs. Howard, Paddison & Son, solicitors, of the same address, as the "Hon. H. Hamilton," representing that he was entitled to the "Glencairn" estates. He deposited with Messrs. Howard, Paddison and Son a small box which he stated contained a quantity of valuable plate, jewels and deeds belonging to the Glencairn estates. He also left letters the name "Right Hon. Lord Glencairn," and "Lord Glencairn," and he seemed generally. He represented that he had the control of 68,000 shares, and subscribed Gound 20,000 "puts" and 20,000 "calls" He accepted them at 35 and promised to let Gould have them at 40 in a few days or six months. Gould subsequently gave Gordon shares and money in exchange for the "puts" and "calls." The amount of money was $200,000 in greenbacks, and in return Gordon gave Gould a receipt, which he replace his resignation in Gordon's hands. In addition to this, Gordon received from Gould several hundred thousand dollars' worth of stock from Gould, representing that he was the owner of the Glencairn estates.

The history of the Erie *coup d'etat* which followed is well known to the Gould and Gordon quarrelled just afterwards. Allegations of sharp practice or worse were made against Gordon by Gould, who, in turn, charged Gordon with stealing a quantity of shares from him. The matter ultimately was referred to Gordon's friends, and Gordon charged Gould with stealing a quantity of shares from him. The two arbitrators chosen by the parties were Sir Francis Rapide, who was accompanied by Col. Loomis, the Land Commissioner of the Northern Pacific Railroad, by whom he was treated with great consideration and deference. He had an account with Mr. Robb, Yeaman, of the City of Glasgow Bank, Dundee, whom he informed that his English seat was Midhay Park, Northamptonshire, and that his income was £50,000 a year. At first he declined large sums with this Bank, but afterwards tried to overdraw his account. He also obtained credit and incurred debts with a number of other tradesmen in Edinburgh and London. He managed to obtain £5,000 from Paddison, stating that he required that amount for building purposes previous to entering upon his estates, and excusing his asking it in west of money by stating that he had lost £30,000 in a transaction with the late Marquis of Hastings. He also obtained jewellery to the amount of £697 from Messrs. Keliers & Co., of Bond street, £300 from Messrs. Grant in Peak of Gerrard street, Soho, London, and plate and jewellery to the value of £300 from Messrs. Marshall & Co., of Edinburgh, by giving him credit on the faith of his property. In the month of May, he came to Mr. Bird, who has been previously mentioned, and in repayment of the money he had borrowed gave him a cheque on a large respect usually paid to the sacerdotal office, and was soon the pride of the parish and church. He was at last discovered to be an impostor, and was compelled to seek "fresh fields and pastures new." Considerable scandal was heard of him, in the year 1859 he once more appeared at the little town of Ashby, in Leicestershire, and, at Mr. Bayley, still bearing the name of Hamilton, lived in the house of Mr. Bayley, whose son John to Herbert. In the following year he became acquainted with a Mr. Bird, a farmer residing in Ashby, and Miss Sarbiton. Mr. Bird sold him a house, and almost immediately afterwards married one of him for two years. In 1862 he came across him at a party given at the house of Mr. Bayley, at which he was introduced by his acquaintance with Mr. Bird and his family, and he introduced to Miss Bayley as his intended wife. In 1865 Hamilton rented a cottage at Orchard Court, Hook, Surrey, where he lived in great magnificently. Here he lived for about three months with Mrs. Sarah Berry, whom he passed off as his aunt. In the month of June, 1866 and July, 1867, and Hamilton then sold off his furniture and left the neighborhood of Mrs. Bayley. He occasionally visited the Birds, and from time to time borrowed money from Mr. Bird. By this time he had assumed the name of "Glencairn," though it is difficult to ascertain the exact period of his name change. It would seem, however, that when calling himself Hamilton he had assumed the name of Lord Glencairn, and that he subsequently represented that this was his mother's name which he had inherited from his maternal ancestors. In 1865 he rented an office at No. 57 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, and commenced forging in Messrs. Howard, Paddison & Son, solicitors, of the same address, as the "Hon. H. Hamilton," representing that he was entitled to the "Glencairn" estates. He deposited with Messrs. Howard, Paddison and Son a small box which he stated contained a quantity of valuable plate, jewels and deeds belonging to the Glencairn estates. He also left letters the name "Right Hon. Lord Glencairn," and "Lord Glencairn," and he seemed generally. He represented that he had the control of 68,000 shares, and subscribed Gound 20,000 "puts" and 20,000 "calls" He accepted them at 35 and promised to let Gould have them at 40 in a few days or six months. Gould subsequently gave Gordon shares and money in exchange for the "puts" and "calls." The amount of money was $200,000 in greenbacks, and in return Gordon gave Gould a receipt, which he replace his resignation in Gordon's hands. In addition to this, Gordon received from Gould several hundred thousand dollars' worth of stock from Gould, representing that he was the owner of the Glencairn estates.

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THE MONTREAL GAZETTE.

Mr. White, of the Montreal *Gazette*, lost no time in proving McMullen's charges to be false, and if the evidence furnished by deeds and documents had not been of themselves sufficient to prove his case, the confirmatory statements of Mr. Abbott and Sir Hugh Allan prove the rascality of Mr. Mullen beyond a doubt:—

"MONTREAL, July 16, 1873.

"DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter of yesterday, regarding statements made by McMullen, of which you enclosed me a copy and which appear in to-day's *Herald*, I have no way than to contradict them without foundation. I remember perfectly the occasion to which he refers, when I came to him at Sir Hugh Allan's but once, and that meeting, so far as I was concerned, had no relation to any pecuniary interest, and I been invited to dine that day at Ravenscraig, and had excused myself from being at later hour. When I arrived I was introduced to Mr. McMullen, and Sir Hugh mentioned that he was anxious to see me on business. The conversation turned naturally in that direction, and it is quite possible (though I have no recollection of it) that I may have put my position with regard to Sir Hugh's railway enterprise more strongly than I had intended. I am positive that I did not go to Ravenscraig to make, and did not make, any report of what had been accomplished in Ottawa or by you with a view to securing any payment in the interest of the parties you represented, the Northern Colonization Railway. And, moreover, I never had any conversation with you or Mr. McMullen on the subject, Mr. McMullen's letter, and never said, either at Sir Hugh Allan's or anywhere else, that any such conversation had ever taken place. I may add that I am aware that when your final purchase of the Northern Colonization Road some of your friends suggested that an attempt should be made to obtain from the Government a pecuniary consideration, to be paid separately by the enterprise you had been advocating, but I am aware that you decided not to countenance this suggestion, and that it was never acted upon.

"I have thought it proper to say that, while the friends of railway enterprise in Lower Canada are greatly indebted to you for your disinterested and praiseworthy efforts for the projects which interest them so deeply, I am sure that you will be the last to wish, or think that you ever received any recompense, either pecuniary or otherwise, for your efforts on their behalf.

"Yours truly,

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