The Master of the House.

(Washington Post.)

He cannot walk, he cannot speak,
Nothing he knows of books or men;
He is the weakest of the weak,
And has not strength to hold a pen.

He has no pocket and no purse,
Nor ever yet has owned a penny,
But has more riches than his nurse,
Because he wants not any.

He rules his parents by a cry
And holds them captive by a smile
A despot strong through infancy,
A king from lack of guile.

He lies upon his back and crows,
Or looks with grave eyes on his mother,
What can he mean? But I suppose
They understand each other.

In-doors and out, early and late—
There is no limit to his sway;
For, wrapt in baby robes of state,
He governs night and day.

Kisses he takes as rightful due,
And Turk-like he has his slaves to dress him;
His subjects bend before him, too,
I'm one of them. God bless him.

THE DOCTOR.

"You're almost as fond as master," said she. "It was only last night that he laid his arms about its neck, as it stood with its paws on his chest, and I do believe there was more than one tear on its coat when he put it from him."

"Why, what was Jepp doing to be so much noticed?" asked Letty, as she led the way into the parlor, the dog following close behind, whining and sniffing at every step he went, as though seeking something.

"Oh! nothing in particular, Miss," replied Judith, "only I suppose master felt sad at parting; he was always main fond of Jepp—always."

A sudden faintness came over Letty, and she turned the handle of the door several times before she could manage to open it.

"At parting, Judith!" she said. "Did Dr. Lennard leave Fenmore last night?"

"Yes, Miss Letty, and I'd made sure you knew," replied Judith. "He went late in the evening, and he would not as much as let John drive him to the station; he walked off by himself in the dusk, with his portmanteau in his hand, just as any poor lone man might have done."

Doing her best to appear calm, Letty sat down to the table, and poured out a cup of coffee, and while that was being drunk by the tired woman, for Judith had walked a long distance that morning, she went back to the window and knelt there, with one hand resting on Jepp's glossy neck.

"And didn't the doctor call here, Miss Letty?" asked Judith.

"No," replied Letty, "and he has not been here since Monday last, and he did not stop then, for my father was out."

"Well, now, I wonder at that," said Judith; "but I suppose he is too ill to mind."

"Ill!" cried Letty, with, unknown to herself, a ring of terror in her low, clear voice. "Was Dr. Lennard ill when he went away from home last night?"

"Indeed he was, Miss," replied Judith—"moreover and ill than ever I thought to see him—such a fine man as he was, and his father before him—a fine man as you could see in a long day's ride. And he's a young man, Miss Letty—he's quite a young man still, though he's aged and grave for his years mayhap, but he's had sore trouble to make him."

"Yes, yes; I know he has," said Letty. "But I wonder he should go away and be ill."

"Well, Miss," spoke up the good woman, boldly, her honest, motherly face all aglow, and one brown, sinewy hand smoothing her lap vigorously, "I think, if I may make so bold as to judge, that it is not his body so much as his mind that is ill and ailing. Last night when I saw that he was going off like that, carrying his own bag, which wasn't right, and refusing in his quiet, mournful way, all help from John and me, as though he couldn't bear to trouble us, my very heart's felt fit to break; and I put on my bonnet and cloak, and followed him right off to the station. I dared not let him so much as catch a flying peep of me, for you know what a gentleman master is to be obeyed, and he had said positive as none of us was to go with him; but I think if he had gone away like as he wanted, with no one to wish him a 'God speed,' it would have laid heavy on my mind to my dying day. So I just waited about till I saw him get into the train, and settle himself by the window with his paper to read; but little, I think, he was heeding the printed words, for his eyes kept wandering up and down, as if he was seeking for someone, till I fairly trembled lest they should fall on me. But for all he looked so, I don't think he saw much as was going on; for once, as I was nearer to the edge of the platform, a porter came along, pushing a heavy trunk before him, and to get out of his way I had to pass right before the window of master's carriage; but bless you, Miss Letty, he never so much as saw me."

The faithful servant's eyes were brimming with tears, and Letty, her face pressed close against the glass, looked out on the leaden sky and the leaded sea in silence.

"The last glimpse I had of his face as the train was tearing past, I shall never forget, Miss Letty—never, were I to live a hundred years; a face, so white, and pinched, and sorrowful, I hope never to see again."

A step sounded in the hall, and a soft voice giving some directions to a servant, and Judith got up, and rubbing the corner of her shawl briskly across her eyes, prepared to depart, for the voice was that of Mrs. Atherton, who had never looked with a friendly eye upon Judith.

"I will go now, Miss Letty," said the old woman; "and I'm sure I thank you kindly for the cup of coffee, and I hope the next time I see you, you'll be looking more like yourself."

"Thank you, Judith. Good morning," replied Letty, absentedly, to this little speech, and, kissing Jepp once more, she left him free to go after her.

On the threshold Judith met Mrs. Atherton face to face. She did not stop, but with a deep courtesy, which met with a very slight recognition, she went on her way, out into the lane, and toward her home, Jepp following her.

"My dear," asked Mrs. Atherton, blandly, as she entered the parlor, "what brought that woman here this morning?"

"Judith was passing, and I called her in," was the reply.

"Oh, indeed!" said Mrs. Atherton.

That was all, but it meant a great deal, and Letty knew it did; but she would not appear to mind it.

Mrs. Atherton rang the bell sharply, and when the servant came, bade her to remove the breakfast things, her tone implying that they should have been taken away long since.

"You had better write to Misses Poynton," she said to Letty, as she was going out of the room. "I think it quite time you told them whether you are going or not."

"I will write this morning. It will do in an hour or so," said Letty, glancing at her costly little watch, one of the treasures of her brief heiress-ship.

She went up stairs to her own room as she spoke, and once there, looked herself in.

The room was as small as it was the first night Letty lay down to sleep in it, long before wealth had showered upon her. It looked out on the same little strip of garden and lonely stretch of yellow sand, with the great sea boundary line; and there the line ended. In those days the small white bed was draped with the simplest white draperies, and on the tiny painted dressing table stood a tiny painted glass that swung between thin poles devoid of ornament, and the white boards were sparely covered with strips of drugget. Now the small couch was a tiny nest of snowy lace and linen, and on the well-furnished dressing room table a glass, almost too large for the room, swung between its massive carved pillars. There was a thick, rich carpet on the floor, all a-bloom with lilies and roses on a delicate gray ground, and on the walls hung some excellent, well-chosen water color sketches. Altogether, for its size, there was not a prettier, cozier room in the kingdom; even the pale November light, coming through the sweeping curtains of pink and white that fell over the old-fashioned, deep-seated window, seemed to shine clearer in that room than in any other in the house.

Letty had grown accustomed to all this luxury, even as she had been accustomed to the scanty furniture in the days gone by; and it made no impression on her. She went and flung herself down on the broad, low, window-seat, and drew the delicate lace curtains round her as carelessly as she would have drawn the simple muslin ones that used to hang there. She gathered herself up in a heap, so to speak, and clasped her arms round her knees, and rested her face on them, and sat there perfectly still for a little time.

There was a great yearning of pity in her heart as Letty thought of that lonely man, sitting with his white, sorrowful face, looking out on Fenmore, in the chill dusk of a November evening, gray, murky and miserable. She saw, in imagination, that pale, sorrowful face, as plainly as if she and not Judith, had stood on the platform, and watched it flying past. She felt with a shrinking pain, that the settled look of sorrow on that weary face had its origin in something connected with herself. She loved him too well not to know that his heart was not cold to her, and again and again she wished that this ill-fated money had never come to her—that she was still plain, poor Letty.

"I should know then," she said, "if he loved. He would be free to come and tell me so, if he did; but, as it is, his pride draws him back, and we may die, loving each other, and never telling our love."

And then the picture she had drawn seemed so pitiful to her, that she buried her face in her clasped hands, and burst into passionate sobbing.

"I shall never see him again!" she wailed. "Oh! he might have come and said 'good-by.' If only for one little minute, he might have come."

That outburst over, Letty got up and brushed her hair away from her face, and stood for a few seconds gazing dreamily at her own dark reflection in the mirror.

"It is very plain," she said, sadly, humbly almost, as though in being so she was guilty of some wrong—"so very plain, it is no wonder he cares little for leaving me."

But her letter must be written at once, if at all; and Letty sat down to her little table to write it.

The Misses Poynton were new-made friends, but to all appearance they were very true ones; and they had sent the kindest of letters some three weeks before, inviting Letty to their house—a pleasant enough mansion, by all accounts, standing in the midst of its own grounds on the outskirts of a breezy Yorkshire moor. She had not cared to go then—she did not care to go now, but for a very different reason; still, any place would be better than Fenmore, she thought, for the time being; and this letter was to tell them when they might expect her. It was not in time for the early post. When Mrs. Atherton came knocking for it, she had to go away again empty-handed.

"It is not quite finished," Letty called out to her from within; but she did not open the door lest her pale face and red eyes should tell too plainly why the letter was not finished.

"It might have been written twice over," thought Mrs. Atherton, as she nalled leisurely down stairs, but she said nothing.

When the letter was finished, it was such a scrawl that Letty was ashamed to send it, so she tore it up and began to write another. Her head was throbbing, her hand burning and unsteady; writing at all was positive pain to her; but she persevered, and managed at length to write a letter that was not all blots and scratches.

It was now noon, and the children were trooping by to their dinners from out the one school of Fenmore. The narrow lane was echoing again to their calls and cries; and as Letty stood quietly watching them as they went tearing and hurrying past, one little fellow, looking up, saw her and smiled. It was a cripple boy, the son of one of the fishermen, and once the plague and terror of all the children round. He had been a cripple from his birth, and the misfortune had soured what would, perhaps, under no circumstances, have been a very sound or sweet temper.

This child, deformed, neglected, savage, utterly miserable, soon attracted Mrs. Leonard's notice—his pity and help also, when he saw the real condition of the boy. He did what no one had ever done before but the dead mother, to whom this little weakling had been far dearer than the other seven brown legged, sturdy urchins all put together. He spoke kindly to him; he had him up to his own house, and while he saw that all cure for the body was hopeless, he set about saving the poor, wayward soul.

As a natural consequence, she had poured out all the love of his passionate heart on the doctor. For the guerdon of a smile, he made himself almost gentle; for a word of praise, he subdued as well as he could his fierce, quarrelsome nature, and sat patiently over his books in the village school-room, without seizing, as formerly, every chance of inflicting pain on his next door neighbor. Such a change was too great not to be marvelled at; and when the children found that their fierce companion was almost tamed, they crowded about him and made much of him, thinking more of a soft answer from "Cross Johnny" than they would have thought of a real sacrifice from any other.

This, then, was the child who, looking up, smiled at Letty; and the sight of that grave little face, with its wistful eyes, once so fierce in their light, glancing up coitly at her, brought Dr. Leonard and his many kindly generous deeds so forcibly before her that she looked down on the boy through a blinding mist of tears.

The troop passed by, the crippled lad the last to disappear, and Letty sat looking out drearily, her heart and brain both numbed with sharp pain. She had no reason for saying so; she had never heard it even in the idlest village gossip, but she kept repeating it over and over to herself, half unthinkingly: "I shall never see him again; he will not come back to Fenmore." She seemed as one who, standing alone on some rugged headland, pointing into the sea, saw on one side heavy storm-clouds drifting up to overwhelm her, and on the other side the clear light of noon; but the brightness seemed going from her further away every instant, and the dark cloud wrack drawing nearer, till she lost all hope of ever emerging from out the shadow of that heavy darkness.

She loved Dr. Leonard with all her heart, and he was gone from her. He loved her, she hoped, she knew; still he was gone. What probability was there that he would ever care to come back again? The hope of winning his love openly one day had shone down upon her like the light of a blessed noon, that hope was dying out, it had died. The thought of spending a lifetime at Fenmore without his love was a heavy blackness; and sitting there in her own little room, looking out on the shifting grey sea and the palely shining yellow sands, she felt that blackness surge and settle round her, never more to be lifted up.

Hearing the sound of wheels on the gravel, and looking down, she saw the trap standing before the door, evidently waiting to carry Mr. Leigh to the station. She had forgotten all about the strange letter and this hasty journey, and she went hastily down now, to bid her father good-by.

He stood in the hall, giving some parting directions to Mrs. Atherton, the well-pleased smile still on his face, struggling through a thin veil of mysterious importance. He was warmly muffled already, for the day was chill, and the night would be chillier still, and it would be deep night before he could reach London; but Letty, kissing him, drew the high collar of his coat still closer round his neck.

"Don't stay away longer than you can help, father. I wish you had not to go at all," she said, clinging to him.

"Do you indeed?" said he. "Then, like many another, you wish a very foolish thing. It is more for your sake than my own that I am going."

"Oh! father, if it is only on my account you are going, do stay," cried Letty. "I would rather have you stay with me than anything this visit could give me. Do stay, father."

He put her arm from about his neck, a little crossly.

"You know nothing of what you are talking about," he said, getting into the trap, and settling the rug across his knees. "I shall send the trap back with Mrs. Hall's boy. Good-morning, ladies."

He gave the horse a smart touch with the whip as he spoke, and dashed off for the station.

Letty's talking had made it a hard matter for Mr. Leigh to reach the station in time for the up-train for London. If he missed that he would have to wait till the next day before he could go. Seemingly he had no intention of missing it, for he was making the horse go almost at full speed between the high, narrow hedges.

Mrs. Atherton went indoors immediately. Letty stood in the porch, gazing wistfully after her father. Her lot in life appeared very sad-colored as she got a glimpse of it then—always the same duties, the same weary round; one day the sample of the many, with no one but her father to live for, and he an old man.

"Will it never end?" she thought, as she stood there. "Any change must be for the better."

Presently she went in-doors, and down to the kitchen, to see that Jane was getting ready for the early dinner—for of late Mrs. Atherton had left many of what some people might think ought to be her own duties, to Letty's care.

CHAPTER V.

"THE WOMAN HE HAD COME DOWN TO MARRY."

"Any change must be for the better," said Letty, in her weariness, that dull November morning.

In Letty the only one in the world who has so thought—so said? Have we not all, at one time or another, been so tired and sick of the monotony of our lives that we would have hailed any change as a relief? Toiling along in the lowly valleys, we have looked up toward the shining mountain peaks, towering so awful in their beauty, so grand in their strength, and longed, with passionate, rebellious longing, to reach those glowing summits first, to catch the smiles of the morning. Some have gone to their graves with that longing unsatisfied; others have reached the peaks of those giant hills, and found, when too late, that if the first glory of the summer sun came down upon them, the first terrible fury of the summer storms, the first pitiless blast of the winter hail descended also. When we are lowly, we would fain be high; when high we look down longingly on the lowly, humbly plodding on in their safe, if narrow, track.

The fickle, human heart is ever seeking after change. Discontented with our past, tired of our present, how many of us cry out, like fretful children, for a new leaf to be turned in the book of our life! How dream of such noble characters to be imprinted thereon, such thrilling stories of truth and worth, and when the page is turned, we too often find it stained with tears, and let us thank God if they are the only blots upon it.

"Any change must be for the better," said Letty Leigh, and as she spoke a change was drawing near to her, though she did not know it—a change so great that it would make those few short months of prosperity appear as the fevered vision of a dream, her present pain a childish petulance, not to be counted among the real troubles of life.

"I am going to Hulston," she said, when she met Mrs. Atherton at dinner, "and I have written to Laura to say she may expect me on Saturday next."

"Very good, dear," said Mrs. Atherton, smiling. "I think you need the change."

That was Tuesday, and by Saturday morning at breakfast-time Letty had all her preparations completed. Her boxes were packed and corded, and her parcels were all piled together in the hall; and Letty herself, pale and tired-looking, sat at their late breakfast, her hair pushed into a silk net, her feet in slippers, and one of the oldest and plainest of her morning wrappers round her.

It was not a very becoming toilet for a young heroine, but then there was not a particle of the heroine in Letty. She was very big as tired as she looked, and three times as miserable; all her best dresses were lying neatly folded in the hall; her hair would have to be plaited and twisted up artistically for the journey, or rather for inspection at the end of it, and what more reasonable than to let it be now, and to take her breakfast in peace and quiet, undisturbed by thoughts of stray visitors or shabby morning wrappers. But the very time we are the least fit to be seen—that is, those among us who are ever unpresentable—is just the time of all others that some one pops in to see us.

Letty did not escape this fate—why should she? Heiresses are only mortals, and breakfast was scarcely over when, chancing to look up, she was astonished, startled almost, to see her father pass before the window, Ernest Devereux with him. Mrs. Atherton saw them, too, and settled the ribbons of her cap complacently—she was not in *deshabille*; but Letty rose hastily, too disturbed to remember her fatigue; she was a true woman, and her morning dress *was* a fright. So with a rapid bounds she scaped up the staircase, as Mr. Leigh and his companion came into the hall.

"Why, who is come, Mrs. Atherton?" was Mr. Leigh's salutation to that lady, as she came gracefully forward to welcome him.

"No one, my dear sir," was the reply; "but we are about to lose some one instead. Miss Letty is going to-day on a visit to Hulston."

Ernest stopped short in his greeting to glance aside at the piled-up boxes, and then at Mr. Leigh's parcels.

"Why foundedly hard," he thought, "if I have gone through all the bother of the past few weeks, and come here only to find my last chance slipping out of my fingers; I may pack off back to Calais as soon as I please, after this."

"Of the perverseness, and the perversity of things altogether," Mr. Leigh was thinking; "but I'll see to it that those boxes are unpacked before the hour's out, or I'll know why."

The two gentlemen had walked from the station; they were dusty and tired, and Mrs. Atherton's cup of good tea was very welcome to them.

After breakfast Ernest Devereux went to his room, the same he had occupied when with Charles Temple on his former visit. He found a fire burning brightly on the hearth, and everything looking home-like and comfortable. But he did not look very comfortable in mind, whatever he might be in body, as he flung himself into the low, chintz-covered rocking-chair, and laying his legs over the buffet, sat smoking a moodily as any lover of old set, his hard mouth harder than usual, and there was a sullen light in his blue eyes that reminded one irresistibly of an animal that felt itself in the toils, and saw open to it but one doubtful chance of escape. His one chance was a speedy marriage with Elizabeth Leigh, heiress in her own right. Letty Leigh he liked very well; but Letty the heiress he was not only willing, but eager to marry. His chance of ever doing that seemed small enough just at present. The respite he had won, with infinite pains and endless promises, from the more pressing of his creditors, was but a short one; and if this throw failed, he had nothing to look forward to but an exile in France or elsewhere, until such time as his creditors, wearied of watching for him, gave up all hope of ever getting their dues.

He had lived a gay life; he had trothed and floated among the *creme de la creme*, a penniless heir of a good old name, with nothing to keep it up on. He might have been said to have lived and sinned for some years, but that is is such a vulgar way of expressing it, and Ernest Devereux and his kind so shrink from vulgarity. He could live so no longer and he knew it; not because his wits were growing less keen, but because dearly-bought experience had sharpened the wits of many round him. The great shark had gobbled up all the little fishes in its neighborhood so long, that the little fishes were growing cautious, and the great shark found it necessary to move into deeper water, or be gobbled up in turn. So, all things considered, it was not to be wondered at that he should puff at his cigar so savagely, nor that the down cushion of his rocking chair failed to give him ease.

"By Jove!" he thought, as he sat there, "if she goes to-day it's all up, and I'm not quite sure the old fellow can stop her."

Meanwhile, Mrs. Atherton, commissioned by Mr. Leigh, had sought Letty in her own room, whither she had fled on the unlooked-for interruption. She had to tell her that her father did not wish her to go to Hulston, as she had promised she would; nay, he desired her not to go; and seeing that her things were all packed, and herself getting ready to start, it was not a very pleasant mission. But Mrs. Atherton was equal to the occasion, as all great men or women should be, and she laid the case down so clearly, and showed so forcibly how very rude it would be for Letty, the real mistress of the house, to go away and leave a guest to his own resources, that Letty, though not convinced, began to feel very uncomfortable.

"But," she urged," I was going before I knew of his visit. He must see that I was, for there are my boxes ready corded before his eyes."

"Yes, to be sure," said Mrs. Atherton. "He knows you were going to-day as well as I do; but he knows, too, that it would be very uncourteous of you to leave him, and I don't for one moment expect that he thinks you would do it."

Letty was sorely puzzled what to do. She wanted to get away from Fenmore, away from her own heart, if it could be; but, as it could not, then as far from everything that would jar on that sore heart as she could get.

"I hate Fenmore," she cried. "Oh, Mrs. Atherton! you can't know how much I hate it!"

"Yes, Letty, I do know," said Mrs. Atherton; "I know very well; but is is one of our difficult parts, my dear, to crush down such things, and strive so to act before the world that we shall not need to blush for ourselves when the gay bubble bursts. Of course, dear, you can go or stay as it pleases you, and I will tell your papa that you will let him know which you will do, in, say an hour's time."

(To be Continued).

A Slight Misunderstanding.

Texas *Siftings*: Irate individual—What did you mean by telling Smith that I had been in jail?

Calm Individual—I did not tell Smith you had been in jail. I simply said you ought to be in jail.

Irate Individual (calming down)—I beg your pardon. I must have misunderstood him.

Far From It.

New York *Herald*: One thing is a little peculiar—the grass widow is never green.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Wallace introduced a bill to amend the Act for the prevention and suppression of combinations in restraint of trade. He said that the proposition was to strike out the word "unduly" in paragraphs A, B, and C, and "unreasonably" in paragraph D. Provision was also made that the Act should not be applicable to strictly legitimate trades unions.

Mr. McMullen asked if in view of the petitions for the prohibition of the liquor traffic the Government intended to introduce legislation to meet them.

THE M'GREEVY SCANDAL.

Mr. Tarte, on the orders of the day being called, rose to a question of privilege. He then said that he gave notice of his intention a few days ago to the Minister of Public Works and the member from Quebec West (Mr. McGreevy) to bring before the House this motion, and before doing so he might be permitted to offer a few remarks. Those charges were to the effect that since 1882 or 1883 the secrets of the Department of Public Works had been divulged for money considerations to public contractors by the member for Quebec West (Mr. McGreevy), who, according to the evidence he had in his hand, had been paid year by year, contract after contract, large sums of money; that during that period of time Mr. McGreevy had used his influence as a member of this Parliament and as a member of the Quebec Harbor Commission against the public interest on numerous important occasions. It was admitted on all hands in Quebec that there was something rotten and wrong in the Public Works Department, and in the Harbor Board of Quebec. For years and years Parliament had voted large sums of money—many millions of dollars—and very little useful progress had been going on. Nobody could get evidence against the suspected parties. Look at the well-planned arrangement for covering the doings of the Canadian Tammany Hall. The member for Quebec was an important member of Parliament, and at the same time a member of the Harbor Commission. Mr. Farley was the Chief Engineer of Public Works, and at the same time engineer of the Quebec harbor works. Mr. McGreevy was known to be a very close friend of the Minister of Public Works. The assistant engineer was a son of the Minister of Public Works, though he had never been an engineer in his life. This was a strong combination of men with common interests. Members of both political parties were interested. The head of the firm of contractors was Mr. Larkin, who was a well-known Liberal. Then there was Mr. R. H. McGreevy, who was a strong Conservative. The other members of the firm were three American citizens, who had had large experience in the United States. (Laughter.)

Mr. Landerkin—But they are loyal to the old flag.

Mr. Tarte said that this combination had subsidized the organ of those who dared to resist it, and the political associates were charged with treason to the old party, the old leader and the old flag. The correspondence would show that for the last eight or ten years these men had the control, direction and organization of the Conservative party in Quebec. Was it surprising that under these circumstances the old party should have been losing ground? With many others, he had been accused of having betrayed the old flag and the Conservative party because he had thought proper to take the course he had taken here. He was elected as an independent Liberal-Conservative. Mr. Laurier had never asked him to repudiate his party. He had never asked him to give up any of his principles. He would not have done so. He had said, "You are performing a great public duty; I extend to you my help." There was never any other agreement between Mr. Laurier and himself. With the permission of the House he would proceed to read the motion:

Mr. Tarte moves that Mr. Tarte, a member in this House, having declared from his seat in this House that he is credibly informed, and that he believes that he is able to establish by satisfactory evidence, that in 1882 or 1883 a sum of money has been voted by the Parliament of Canada to carry out the works of the harbor of Quebec, that the Quebec Harbor Commissioners did not tender for dredging in connection with the said works;

That the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co. tendered, and were awarded the contract for the said dredging;

That in order to secure the influence of Hon. Thomas McGreevy—then and now a member of the Parliament of Canada, and a member of the Quebec Harbor Commission by appointment of the Government of Canada—the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co., with the knowledge of the said Thomas McGreevy, took as a partner Robert H. McGreevy, his brother, giving him an interest of thirty per cent in the firm;

That the said Thomas McGreevy consented to his brother being a member of the firm, and stated that he had first consulted the Hon. the Minister of Public Works, Sir Hector Langevin, and received his consent;

That the said contract signed on the 28th of September, 1882, stipulated that the works should be completed by the first of November, 1884, but that the said Larkin, Connolly & Co. continued to perform the work of dredging under the scale of prices therein mentioned up to the close of the season of 1886;

That in order to help Larkin, Connolly & Co. to secure the said dredging contract, the said Hon. Thos. McGreevy agreed to give and did give in an undue manner his help as Senior Commissioner to Larkin, Connolly & Co.;

That up to the year 1883, aforesaid, Messrs. Kinipie & Morris, of London, England, had acted as engineers to the Quebec Harbor Commissioners, and that their resident engineer for many years had received an allowance for carrying out of the works of Mr. Woodford Pilkington;

That in connection with Larkin, Connolly & Co. the said Thomas McGreevy undertook to secure the removal of Messrs. Kinipie, Morris, and Pilkington from their position, and that they were in fact so removed in 1883 and replaced by Mr. Henry B. Perley and Mr. John Edward Boyd, with the consent of the Hon. the Minister of Public Works;

That in the same year, 1883, tenders were called for a cross wall and lock in connection with the harbor works at Quebec, in accordance with plans and specifications prepared in the Department of Public Works, under the direction of Henry F. Perley, Esq.;

That several tenders were made, and amongst others two were received from Messrs. Larkin, Connolly & Co.;

That before tendering, and in order to secure the influence of the Hon. Thos. McGreevy, then and now a member of the Parliament of Canada, and a member of the Quebec Harbor Board by appointment of the Government, Larkin, Connolly & Co. took into partnership with themselves Robert H. McGreevy, a brother of the Hon. Thos. McGreevy, giving him a 30 per cent. interest in the firm, and this with the knowledge and consent of the said Hon. Thomas McGreevy;

That among the parties tendering were a contractor named George Beaucage and one John Gallagher;

That it was on the suggestion of the said Hon. Thomas McGreevy that Beaucage consented to make a tender;

That with the knowledge of the said Thomas McGreevy the three tenders of Larkin, Connolly & Co., of Beaucage, and of Gallagher were prepared by the members of the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co., Beaucage being throughout deceived by the said Hon. Thos. McGreevy as to his position in the matter, as he alleges in an action recently entered by him against the said Thos. McGreevy in relation to the said contract in the Supreme Court of Montreal;

That the said tenders were transmitted to the Department of Public Works of Canada for examination and extension;

That while all the tenders were being examined and the quantities applied in the Department of Public Works of Canada, the said Hon Thomas McGreevy, then and now a member of the Parliament of Canada, and a member of the Quebec Harbor Commission by appointment of the Government, promised to obtain and did obtain from the Department of Public Works of Canada and from officials of that department in relation to the said tenders the figures in connection therewith and the amounts thereof, information which he offered to communicate before the result was officially known, and which he did communicate to the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co., and to certain members of the said firm individually.

That to the knowledge of the said Thomas McGreevy the tenders of Messrs. Gallagher and Beaucage were lower than those of Larkin, Connolly & Co., but that in consideration of the promise of the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars to be his plum paid, he, the said Thomas McGreevy, agreed to secure the acceptance of the tenders of Larkin, Connolly & Co., and that he suggested to that firm, and to the members thereof individually, to make arrangements in connection with the said Gallagher and Beaucage, and to so manipulate matters as to render the tenders of those two parties higher than those of the said firm, or, at all events, to secure the contract for Larkin, Connolly & Co., and that said arrangement and manipulation were carried out as suggested by him;

That in consequence of the said arrangement and manipulations, wherein the said Thomas McGreevy directly participated, the contract for the crosswall and lock in connection with the Quebec Harbor Works was awarded to Larkin, Connolly & Co., on a report to Council made by the Hon. the Minister of Public Works, under date 28th May, 1883;

That a few days thereafter the sum of $25,000 was, in fulfilment of the corrupt arrangement above stated, paid to the said Thomas McGreevy in promissory notes signed by the firm of Larkin Connolly & Co., which said notes were duly paid;

That about the same date, namely, the 4th of June, 1883, a sum of $1,000 was paid by the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co. towards the Langevin Testimonial Fund—a fund destined to be given to Sir Hector Langevin;

That in the course of the carrying out of the works the said Thos. McGreevy caused changes contrary to the public interest to be made in the conditions of the said contract;

That in 1884 Thomas McGreevy, then and now a member of the Parliament of Canada, and a member of the Quebec Harbor Commission by appointment of the Government, agreed with the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co., and certain members thereof individually, to secure for them a contract for the completion of the graving dock of Levis, one of the conditions of the agreement being that he, Thomas McGreevy, should receive any excess over the sum of fifty thousand dollars in the contract price;

That to the detriment of the public interest a contract was signed in or about the month of June, 1884, for the performance of the said works, and that subsequently the said Thomas McGreevy received the price stipulated in the corrupt arrangement above mentioned, namely, $50,000;

That in 1883 and 1884 tenders were asked for by the Government of Canada for the completion of the graving dock at Esquimalt, British Columbia;

That the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co. were among those who tendered, and that the contract was awarded to them in pursuance of a report to Council dated 5th October, 1884, and signed by the hon. Minister of Public Works;

That before tendering the said Larkin, Connolly & Co. had with Thomas McGreevy, then and now a member of the Parliament of Canada, communications and interviews wherein they secured his services to assist them in dealing with the Department of Public Works in order to secure the said contract;

That he agreed to help them, and that he did in fact help them, in divers ways, and amongst others by obtaining from the Department of Public Works information, figures and calculations, which he communicated to them;

That to the knowledge and with the consent of the said Thomas McGreevy, and for the purpose of securing for themselves his influence, Larkin, Connolly & Co. took into partnership with themselves his brother, Robert H. McGreevy, giving him a twenty per cent. interest in their firm;

That during the execution of the said contract the said Thomas McGreevy was the agent or one of the agents in the pay of Larkin, Connolly & Co., in dealing with the Department of Public Works;

That he endeavored to obtain and did obtain for them, at their request, important alterations in the works and more favorable conditions;

That the said more favorable conditions and the said alterations enabled them to realize, to the detriment of the public interests, very large profits;

That during the execution of the works large sums were paid by Larkin, Connolly & Co. to Thos. McGreevy for his services in dealing with the Minister of Public Works, with the officers of the department, and generally for his influence as a member of the Parliament of Canada;

That in consideration of the sums of money so received by him and of the promises made him, the said Thos. McGreevy furnished to Larkin, Connolly & Co. a great deal of information; strove to procure and did procure to be made by the department and the hon. Minister of Public Works, in the plans of the graving dock and in the execution of the works, alterations which have cost large sums of money to the public treasury;

That he himself took steps to induce certain members of the Parliament of Canada to assist him, the said Thomas McGreevy, in his efforts in concert with Larkin, Connolly & Co. to obtain alterations and additional works, for which large sums of money were offered to him by the members of the firm;

That on his suggestion members of the Parliament of Canada were approached by members of the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co.;

That certain members of the said firm have declared that the said members of the Canadian Parliament, on being so approached, had asked for a certain sum of money for exerting their influence in favor of Larkin, Connolly & Co. with the Minister of Public Works, and that Larkin, Connolly & Co. had agreed to give them money for that purpose;

That Thomas McGreevy, acting in concert with Larkin, Connolly & Co., did at their request corruptly endeavor to procure the dismissal from office of certain public officers employed in connection with the works of the graving dock at Esquimalt in order to have them replaced by others who would suit Larkin, Connolly & Co., the former having for a time incurred the ill-will of Larkin, Connolly & Co. because they then compelled them to carry out the works in conformity with the specifications and contract, and prepared their estimates according to the terms of the said contract;

That during the winter of 1886 and 1887 the said Thomas McGreevy proposed to and made with the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co., through certain members of the said firm, an arrangement whereby the said firm undertook to pay to him the sum of $35,000 on condition that he would obtain for the firm the sum of 35 cents per cubic yard for the dredging of 5,000 cubic yards in the area of the west basin in the harbor of Quebec;

That dredging of the same kind, but even more difficult, had previously, and up to that time, and to the knowledge of the said Thomas McGreevy, been executed for the sum of 20 cents per cubic yard, and even less, in the same works;

That the said Thomas McGreevy used his influence as a member of this House with the Department of Public Works, and in particular with Henry F. Perley, Esq., to induce him to report to the Quebec Harbor Commission in favor of the payment of the said sum of 35 cents per cubic yard;

That the correspondence on this subject between Henry F. Perley and Larkin, Connolly & Co., before the Quebec Harbor Commissioners were consulted, took place at the suggestion of the said Thomas McGreevy, and was conducted with his knowledge and participation in such a manner as to conceal from the eyes of Parliament and of the public the corrupt character of the contract, in connection with which he had received $27,000;

That Larkin, Connolly & Co. paid in money to the said Thomas McGreevy the sum of $30,000 in fulfilment of the arrangement above mentioned, and that at his own request a sum of $5,000 was left, to secure the election of the said Thomas McGreevy to the House of Commons at the general election of 1887, in the hands of one of the members of the firm, who, finding that sum insufficient, had to add thereto the sum of $2,000;

That on the 23rd May, 1887, in fulfilment of the arrangements above mentioned and through the efforts, the influence, and the intervention of the said Thomas McGreevy, and without any public tender having been called for, a contract was made between the Quebec Harbor Commissioners and Larkin, Connolly & Co., for all the necessary dredging and removal of material in the west basin of the Quebec harbor works;

That in the execution of the works of the contract extensive frauds were perpetrated, to the detriment of the public treasury, and sums of money were paid corruptly to officials under the control and direction of Henry F. Perley, and appointed by the Quebec Harbor Commission;

That by an order-in-Council dated 10th May, 1888, the Government of Canada decided to pay a sum of $12,500 yearly during five years to Mr. Julien Chabot, on the condition of his causing the steamer Admiral to ply between Dalhousie and Gaspe, forming a connection with the Intercolonial Railway;

That the said sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars has since been paid in the manner prescribed in the Order-in-Council and the contract made thereunder;

That the said Julien Chabot was merely a screen for the benefit of the said Thomas McGreevy, who then was and continued to be for some time thereafter the proprietor of the Admiral in whole or at least in great part;

That previous to the 10th of May, 1888, to wit, since 1883-84, the same subsidy of $12,500 was paid for the said steamer Admiral, then also owned by men representing the said Thomas McGreevy;

That the said Thomas McGreevy received in this connection a sum of about $130,000 while being a member of the Parliaments of Canada;

That in 1886 tenders were asked for by the Quebec Harbor Commissioners for the construction of a work called the "south wall, or retaining wall";

That Mr. Thomas McGreevy procured from public officials the form of advertisement and information to tenderers. O. E. Murphy, Connolly and R. H. McGreevy, for whom he was acting, in order to give them an undue advantage over their competitors;

That they had the said tenders in their possession during several hours, after which they were returned to Henry F. Perley, then in Quebec, by the said Thomas McGreevy;

That the contract was awarded to one John Gallagher, a mere figurehead for the said Murphy, Connolly and R. H. McGreevy, who did the work for their own profit and advantage;

That changes detrimental to the public interest, but of a nature to secure great profits to the contractors, were made in the plans and the carrying out of the works, and in the conditions and securities set out in the contract, through the influence and intervention of the said Thos. McGreevy;

That from the year 1882 to 1890, both inclusive, the said Thomas McGreevy for the consideration above indicated received a sum of about $300,000;

That during the period aforesaid he was the agent and paid representative of Larkin, Connolly & Co., on the Quebec Harbor Board of Commissioners in Parliament, and in connection with the Department of Public Works;

That the said Thomas McGreevy contracted and received out of the subsidies voted by Parliament for the construction of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway a sum of over forty thousand dollars;

That the said Thomas McGreevy on several occasions demanded in the name of the Hon. Minister of Public Works and received from Larkin, Connolly & Co. sums of money;

That the moneys expended in connection with the works mentioned in the present motion are moneys voted by the Parliament of Canada, the amount about five million dollars;

That certain members of the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co. paid and caused to be paid large sums of money to the Hon. Minister of Public Works out of the proceeds of the said contracts, and that entries of the said sums were made on the books of that firm.

That from 1882 to the present session the said Thomas McGreevy has always lived in Ottawa in the same house as the Hon. Minister of Public Works, and that he seems to have done so in order to put in the mind of Larkin, Connolly & Co. the impression that he had over said Hon. Minister an absolute control, and that he was acting as his representative in his corrupt transactions with them.

That in fact, on many occasions he used the name of the Hon. Minister of Public Works in his dealings with them, undertaking to obtain his co-operation, or declaring that he had secured it;

That before the Board of Quebec Harbor Commissioners he often also used the name of the said Minister;

That a select committee be appointed to enquire fully into the said allegations, and specially, but without limiting the scope of such inquiry, to investigate all the circumstances connected with the several tenders, contracts, and changes therein, and the payments and other matters mentioned in the statements hereinbefore made, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and to examine witnesses upon oath or affirmation, and that the committee do report in full the evidence taken before them, and all their proceedings on the reference, and the result of their enquiries; and that rule 78 of this House as to the selection of committees be suspended, and that said committee be composed of Messrs. —

Sir Hector Langevin said this matter being a matter of privilege, and there being a court appointed by the House, which was the Committee of Privileges and Elections, this matter should be sent to that court. His name was connected with this matter of privilege by Mr. Tarte, and under these circumstances he thought he should make a statement to the House, which he would do as follows:—"I never communicated in any way to any one tenders, or prices of tenders, or relative positions of tenders, or names of tenderers, at any time before the contract was allotted and signed, and the work in progress, the only persons having the same information being the members of the Privy Council and such of the officers of