

Q. What damages do you expect to get? I know your modesty is great?—I don't care as much about the damages as having my character vindicated. I think it is an improper thing to have a man's tender withdrawn for money. That is the view I took of it when Mr. Roger spoke to me.

Q. You had some expectation of getting this contract at one time?—Yes.

Q. You thought it would have been a good thing if you had got it?—Yes.

Q. Even at your prices?—Yes.

Q. You were willing to have taken MacLean, Roger & Co. into partnership?—Yes.

Q. Why?—Because they had the plant. I would not give up my *Irish Canadian*. I intended to run this; did not intend to take it down to Ottawa. I would have been able to take the contract whether I took them or not. I would have, perhaps, had to pay for plant. \$20,000 would put up an establishment that would do the work. I thought I was in as good a position to take it then as they were when they first got it. I have only the means which accrue from my paper.

Q. You would want a large staff, and a good many men?—Yes.

Q. How did you propose to get on, suppose the contract was awarded to you?—I would put a man to superintend it for me.

Q. You thought you would have made money out of it in that way?—Yes.

Q. You thought Mackintosh's tender ridiculously low?—Not ridiculously low, but I thought it was low. I thought he could not make much money out of it.

Q. Did you think those under you could make much money out of it?—I do not know. There might have been a tender or two lower than mine that would have paid, but it would be hard work. I thought Mackintosh's was too low.

Q. Will you say differently now from what you say here in this examination, that they were so low you did not think they could do it?—Yes; that is a very good expression; when one tenderer does not fulfil the conditions the next one comes in.

Q. You seem to have been anxious to hold on in the hope that you would get the contract?—Yes.

Q. You thought the rest would come to time?—Yes.

Q. You thought the contract a valuable one?—Yes; I had no idea what I would make out of it, but I thought it would be worth making an effort to get.

Q. When was it you abandoned any idea of getting it?—On Monday.

Q. What time?—Monday forenoon.

Q. Was it Monday forenoon you wrote that letter?—It was.

Q. Was it on Monday forenoon you gave that letter to Cotton?—It was.

Q. Did you ever see it after Monday forenoon?—I never saw it till it was produced here.

Q. How did you come to attend the meeting at O'Meara's Hotel?—There was no such meeting. It was on Monday, to the best of my recollection, that I withdrew.

Q. Did you not go to see Charlton at O'Meara's on Monday evening?—I swear we were not there at all. It was near noon-time the interview took place.

Q. Was it after you had given the letter to Cotton that you had the interview at which you, Cotton and Charlton were present, at O'Meara's?—It was before that, certainly. It was that day.

Q. Are you sure about that?—I am not quite certain. I think it was at O'Meara's Sunday afternoon.

Q. Was that before or after you had given the letter to Cotton?—I think that took place before I gave the letter to Cotton, and I think that was Monday morning.

Q. What date did you come home?—I was under the impression that I left Ottawa either on Wednesday or Thursday forenoon. I know that I left by the morning train.

Q. Is that impression shaken now?—I would not swear positively the exact day. I do not think it was so late as Friday. It may have been Thursday forenoon.

Q. What were you doing all the time between Monday afternoon and Thursday morning?—Settling up little accounts.