

Klondike. He med. The man is the man who has shown to be we are unable we was informed he was not given But I would like going to follow (Mr. Borden), attach to evi-

ss, Mr. Wood- writes a long a specific state at one can get is very violent enerally of the The hon. mem- position to give ho Mr. Wood- y he had not ure. He just etter and reads ng any inquiry a reliable man pute. I think a comes in and the statement ke some little d of a man it authority. He s of a lot of not mentioned, heir statements ulry and found ve have a man and I am going nquiry which i this man is re- statement here, tion of the gentleman is about a legal d for not tel- check up this his reliability see what his acknowledged ness is to take d see whether We have not tleman's state- them here, als inefficient ion; it is not

clerk of the a misprint. being without to take exam- is required of

t that a man not efficient. ion from Mr. b Mr. Ogilvie, appointed as

clerk of the court, a position, according to Mr. Woodworth, he is not fit to fill, and which he is filling. This application to Mr. Ogilvie has been forwarded to me, and it is accompanied by a copy sent by Mr. Ogilvie to me, of the following certificate:—

We, the undersigned members of the Bar of the Territorial Court of the Yukon Territory, beg to recommend Mr. W. H. Snell for the position of territorial clerk. Mr. Snell has filled this position most acceptably for some months past, and we most heartily and cordially endorse his application.

This is signed by a whole list of the members of the bar from Dawson City, amongst others, Mr. C. W. C. Tabor, a well-known Conservative gentleman, known, no doubt, to some men in the House; and signed amongst others—unfortunately for the member for Pictou—by Mr. Arthur G. Smith, late Deputy Attorney General of British Columbia, and now; I am informed, a partner of the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper).

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR (Mr. Sifton). Later on, we have a lengthy indictment of the whole administration of the district, and everything, from first to last, is outrageously wrong, according to this gentleman. The name is not given, but it is said by the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) that this gentleman writes what is called an official letter in a business way, and that is what is quoted as an abstract from this business letter. I will not bother the House by reading it, but I must say to this House, that if any man in this House will read that letter, he must conclude that the reason why this man wrote that letter was because he was dissatisfied with the royalty. That was the only reason why he wrote it; the letter proves that; it is the burden of his song throughout. This gentleman attacks viciously the administration. Will the House believe that this general diatribe against the administration, in which Major Walsh is denounced as a fraud, was written on the 14th of June, only twenty-three days after Major Walsh got to Dawson City? Of what value can that be as a criticism of the administration of Major Walsh?

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). Do I understand the hon. Minister to say, that Mr. Woodworth's letter was dated in June?

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR (Mr. Sifton). Not Mr. Woodworth's letter; I got through with that. I was speaking of the letter which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Borden) will see quoted in the speech as having been written by a gentleman on official business; the name is not given.

Mr. Borden (Halifax). What page of "Hansard"?

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR (Mr. Sifton). The hon. gentleman will find the

date given by the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) as the 14th of June, at page 824 of the "Hansard." As I said, that is twenty-three days after Major Walsh got in. He would hardly have had time to recover from the fatigues of his journey and look around the town and see what was going on. Now, Mr. Speaker, I have got through the list of witnesses, if they can be called such, that the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) has presented to this House. I have not been able to check all the statements that he made, but it will be noticed that one witness repeats much the same thing, as did another in regard to certain things. Then, there are general paragraphs of denunciation, which we cannot check, and which we have no means of finding out anything about, as they are mere statements of opinion. I have gone through these statements, and I have picked out the specific statements where I had any means of checking up the accuracy of the witnesses, and, Sir, I have shown that, in every case where I have had any means of checking the accuracy, the statements are wrong and totally unfounded. I venture now to say, that the oldest member of this House will have difficulty in finding any speech that has ever been placed before the House of Commons of Canada in which statements were placed before the House for the purpose of influencing the House, where so many of the statements have been found to be totally untrue. There are three or four cases which I have no means of knowing anything about: cases in which it is said men or women had to give an interest to officials to get their claims recorded. All I have to say is, that if the hon. gentleman (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) had had the least desire to have these matters investigated, to have Parliament informed of the facts—not by mere ex-parte anonymous charges—but if he had the desire that Parliament should know whether these things were true or not, why did he not write a letter to Mr. Ogilvie, when my deputy wrote to him, asking him to send the information. If he had it, so that it might be within our power to investigate it. If he could not trust me, if he could not trust the right hon. the Prime Minister, if he could not trust Mr. Ogilvie, for fear Mr. Ogilvie might suppress it, why did not the hon. gentleman (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) write to one of the two or three private detectives which he has in Dawson City, and in two or three weeks we would have a report, and we would not be talking about hearsay, on which we can form no opinion as to whether there is any foundation for it or not.

Mr. Speaker, I forgot to mention one matter. Mr. Woodworth wrote a long letter. I hesitate to attack anybody's character, and I am not going to attack Mr. Woodworth's character; but the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) has brought to this House a statement signed by Mr. Woodworth, in which Mr. Wood-