The Huron Signal

DEVOTED TO COUNTY NEWS AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR. WHOLE NUMBER 1935. | GODERICH, ONT., FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1884. | McGILLICUDDY BROS. PUBLISHERS $1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

ctioneering

IOX, GENERAL AUC- and Land Valuator, Goderich, ad considerable experience in ing trade, he is in a position to thorough satisfaction all com- sted to him. Order's left at or sent by mail to my address, carefully attended to. JOHN Auctioneer. 1837-tf

ENTICE, AUCTIONEER, ioer, successor to J. C. Currie, uctioneer. Office: With Alex. eave orders at this office or at k Store in my absence. JAS. uctioneer. 1913-

LL, AUCTIONEER FOR nty of Huron. Sales attended he County. Address orders to 1885.

IGH COURT OF JUS- NCERY DIVISION. OUR vs. LETOUZEL. SALE OF UABLE FARM township of Colborne. a judgment and order made will be sold by public auction ution of Sutherland Malcom- aster of the Supreme Court of Goderich, by

Auctioneer, at the Colborne Hotel, Goderich,

N SATURDAY THE AY OF APRIL, 1884, in the afternoon, that valuable wn as "Cherrydale Farm," h half a mile of the Village of l Township of Colborne, in f Huron, and about six miles of Goderich. is improved, and consists of s, including some of the best n the Township. The buildings r, and consist of a three story g House, good Barns and House 20x40, a Press House 100x20, a Dairy with a constant running though it, and a Dwel- working man. There are also es in good bearing condition. 40 acres of land covered with ish, and 20 acres of the land Maitland River is rich allu- l suited for grazing. SALE:—Ten per cent. down on to the Plaintiff's Solicitors; the out interest, to be paid into th day of May, A. D. 1884, when will be entitled to a conveyance, to possession. A portion of the ey will be allowed to remain on h interest at 7 per cent. The he time of sale, will be requir- greement for the completion of The property will be put up served bid. In other respects of sale shall be the standing ale of the said court. ticulars may be obtained from r, or from the Plaintiff's Solici- . Seager & Lewis, Barristers, lerich, the 8th day of March, A.

MALCOMSON, Local Master at Goderich. t PROUDFOOT, Plaintiff's Solicitors. 1934-td

SALE, OF A FARM IN ASHFIELD.

be offered for sale by Public so. Coote, Auctioneer, at Bal- the Town of Goderich, at the lock in the afternoon, on Satur- th, 1884, the farm commonly he Shaw farm," containing 50 tees, and being composed of alf of the Westerly half of Lot in the First Concession of the ashfield (in the Eastern Divis- thereon a log house and out- never-failing creek running ame, and being well drained. cleared and free from stumps. e, about 15 acres, being mostly unimproved. The soil in the eing principally first-class sandy he bush or rear part inclines soil. All the land could be cul- ed, there being no waste land, or cultivation. About 8 or 10 r, and about 6 acres in fall arm faces on a good gravel rom Goderich, which is about , and there is a school and also hin about 1-8 of a mile. An been made with the present which possession can be given time in the event of a sale. en per cent. of the purchase aid down at the time and place Vendor's Solicitor, and the bal- rchase money, without interest, he Vendor's Solicitor within one ter. The property will be sub- ed bid. ticulars and conditions will be t the time and place of sale, or revious on application to the itor, Dundas P. O. of March, A.D. 1883.

GEORGE COOTE, Auctioneer.

GUE, ndor's Solicitor, Dundas P.O. 1930-3t

egmiller Plow.

RMERS

btaining Plows of the above os. 26, 28, 40 and 10, can be fur- same by application to the

ry, Goderich.

he above plows can also be ob- d at the same place.

S & REPAIRS

VILL BE SOLD AT

ion of 25 Per Cent.

Lists published last year.

A. HUMBER, Managing Agent, Goderich. rch 6th, 1884 1933-

AGENT FOR ALL THE POPULAR PATENT MEDICINES OF THE DAY.

d Druggist,

R IN

prietory Medicines

ES, &c., &c.

& PERFUMERY

GODERICH.

New Advertisements This Week.

For Sale—E. N. Lewis.
Don't—Saunders & Son.
Crutch Lost—G. N. Davis.
New Prints—Colborne Bros.
Painters Wanted—E. R. Watson.
The Huron Hotel—Craig & Saults.
Asbestos Packing—John A. Naftel.
Apprentices Wanted—Miss Morris.
Store to Rent or Sell—R. T. Haynes.
Farm to Rent or Sell—R. T. Haynes.
New Butcher Shop—John McTaggert.
Big Slaughter Sale—J. C. Detlor & Co.
Dominion Carriage Works—A. Morton.
Farm for Sale in Ashfield—R. T. Haynes.
Auction Sale of a Farm—T. H. A. Begue.

Dentistry.

M. NICHOLSON, L.D.S, SURGEON Dentist. Office and residence, West Street three doors below Bank of Montreal, Goderich 1752

The People's Column.

FOR SALE—LIGHT, LOW, TOP BUGGY. Just the article for ladies or for a medical man. E. N. LEWIS. 1935-1t

CRUTCH LOST—ON THURSDAY last the subscriber lost a black crutch, between Mr. Lempsey's farm in Goderich township, and the 7th con. The finder will be suitably rewarded on leaving it at the store of G. N. DAVIS. 1935-1t

APPRENTICES WANTED — TWO OR THREE good apprentices are wanted to learn dressmaking. Apply to MISS MORRIS, over Sheppard's Book Store, North Street. 1935-

TO PAINTERS—WANTED IMMEDIATELY p painter and paper hanger, to whom good wages will be given; also a boy to learn the painting business. Apply to E. R. WATSON, painter.

COOK WANTED—FIRST-CLASS, TO whom good wages will be given. Only a good cook need apply to MRS. M. G. CAMERON between the hours of 10 a.m. and 12 o'clock each day. 1934-tf

BULL FOR SERVICE—THE SUBSCRIBER keeps a good bull for service. Terms $1. Apply on the premises, W. McCaig's old stand. GEO. ELLIOTT, dairyman, Goderich. 1934—2t

BULLS FOR SALE -- THE SUBSCRIBER has for sale two thoroughbred Durham bulls—one a dark red yearling, and the other a light roan rising two years old. Pedigrees of both duly registered in Canadian Herd Book. Terms easy. Apply to W. H. GOOD, lot 10, con. 3, E. D, Colborne. 1934-5t

For Sale or to Let.

STORE TO RENT OR SELL—BEING on corner of good frame house. House 1½ stories, in good repair. Store 30x24, with store room, wood shed, stable and ¼ acre land. Post and daily mail. Terms easy. Apply to R. T. HAYNES, Sheppardton. 1935-

SHEPPARDTON FARM TO RENT OR SELL. 60 acres. 50 acres cleared and free of stumps; all well fenced; two wells; good barn and shed and other buildings, including brick cottage 25x30, with cellar full size of house; a splendid orchard; large creek runs across the lot. Terms easy. Apply on premises, Lot 16, Lake Shore Road, township of Colborne. R. T. HAYNES, Sheppardton. March 20th, 1884. 1935-

50 ACRE LOT IN ASHFIELD FOR SALE—On 3rd Con., E.D. 30 acres cleared, balance good hardwood. A good orchard and log house. Fields slope to a creek running across the lot, and are easily drained. Terms easy. Apply to R. T. HAYNES, Sheppardton. March 20, 1884. 1935-

TO LET—THE HOUSE AT PRESENT occupied by the subscriber, cor. of West and Waterloo sts., Goderich. Rent low to a suitable tenant. For particulars apply on the premises. MRS. ROBT. DONAGH. 1934-tf

FOR RENT—A COMFORTABLE house to let on the corner of Newgate and Albert-sts., at present occupied by A. Stratton. Apply to JOHN BRECKENRIDGE. 1933-

VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE—That farm, consisting of part Block "G," Township of Colborne, half a mile from Dunlop, situated on the gravel road, 8th con., and comprising 62 acres, about 40 acres cleared, with frame barn and pump on the premises. Also spring creek running through it. For full particulars apply to ALEX. REID, 6th Con., Carlow P.O. 1930-tf

VILLAGE PROPERTY FOR SALE—In the village of Port Albert, Huron County, 40 acres of good farming land for sale. On the premises are a good frame cottage, frame barn, sheds, etc. Fine orchard, good fences; nine miles from Goderich, on good gravel road. As regards health, convenience to churches, schools, etc., no location more desirable. Village prospering, good harbor, splendid chance for tradesman, or retired person of means, as all, or *part* of property, can be purchased. Possession immediately. Address, MRS. MARY O'CONNOR, Port Albert, Ont 1934-

FOR SALE — THAT VALUABLE farm known as lot 3, on the 5th con., of Colborne, and consisting of 100 acres, nearly all cleared, with about 10 or 12 acres of good hardwood. The lot is well fenced, and has on it a barn and never failing spring creek. There are about 16 acres of fall wheat sown. The farm is situated six miles from Goderich, near the B. C. Church, on a good gravel road. For further particulars apply to WILLIAM FEAGAN, Carlow P. O. 1932-1m

FARM FOR SALE—BEING THE easterly 130 acres of block lettered "F," in the 7th Concession of the Township of Colborne. About 85 or 90 acres are cleared. The growing timber consists of maple, beech and elm. A frame house, a large frame barn and stable are on the premises. Fences good. Only four miles from Goderich by a good gravel road. For particulars apply to JOHN BRECKENRIDGE, Goderich, or to SEAGER & MORTON, Solicitors, Goderich. 1896

Legal.

SEAGER & LEWIS, BARRISTERS, Goderich. C. SEAGER, JR. J. A. MORTON. E. N. LEWIS. 1907-

R. C. HAYES, SOLICITOR &c., Office corner of the square and West stret, Goderich, over Butler's bookstore. money to lend at lowest rates of interest.

GARROW & PROUDFOOT, BARRISTERS, Attorneys, Solicitors, etc Goderich. J. T. Garrow, W. Proudfoot. 175

CAMERON, HOLT & CAMERON, Barristers, Solicitors in Chancery, &c. Goderich and Wingham. M. C. Cameron, Q C. P. Holt, M. G. Cameron, Goderich. W. R Masers, Wingham. 1751.

CORRUPTIONISTS.

Attempt to Bribe Liberal Representatives

The Supporters of the Mowat Government Unpurchasable.

"Big Push" Wilkinson and a Confederate Put in Prison.

The Latest Developments in this Unprecedented Affair—The Details of the Plot.

The scene enacted Monday night on the floor of the legislative assembly was as exciting and memorable as any ever before enacted in a Canadian parliament. Though the intended revelation of a base conspiracy to buy up supporters of the Mowat Government was known to a considerable number of persons, they kept their counsel well, and the explosion therefore came with stunning effect, not merely on the Opposition, but apparently also on many members on the Government's side, and on all the spectators, who got a spicier performance than they had bargained for. There was nothing in the proceedings of the afternoon or early evening to indicate that a storm was impending. The House, at eight o'clock, went into committee of supply and passed the estimates for "legislation." After this was over the premier, about half-past nine, moved the speaker into the chair and commenced to address the House on a question of privilege. His first words were like

A THUNDERBOLT OUT OF THE SKY.

Rumors had been in circulation of a vague and indefinite kind, they were so exceedingly vague that but little attention or credence were placed in them.

The house had assembled, had said its prayers, and gone into the prosaic business of Supply. There was nothing noticeable in the speeches except, perhaps, that Mr. Hardy and Mr. Fraser were a little more trenchant, and Mr. Carnegie was a little more owlish than usual. It was after the question was put and carried that the committee do rise and report progress, that there happened

THE MOST EXCITING SCENE

that the crumbling walls of the shabby old barn have ever witnessed. It came in this way:—

Mr. Mowat rose in his seat, and in a few words, stated that he had something of the most startling character to tell the House. There had, he said, been a

CONSPIRACY TO PURCHASE VOTES

carried on in that building. The Speaker, he understood, had received certain letters, which he asked should now be laid before the House.

Then arose Mr. Speaker. He produced two large envelopes addressed to himself. One of these he opened. It was from Mr. McKim, member for W. Wellington. It was very short. It stated that Mr. McKim had been approached by the notorious J. A. Wilkinson, one of the chief bribers of the Dominion bribery brigade, and had been paid no less a sum than $1,000 to influence his vote, and this money in ten $100 bills Mr. McKim enclosed to the Speaker. The second letter was one to a similar effect from Mr. Balfour, of South Essex, who had received $800 from one Kirkland, for a similar purpose.

The effect upon the House of the disclosure was indescribable. A pin could have been heard to drop as the Speaker read the letters in a clear, dignified tone and

SLOWLY COUNTED OUT THE EIGHTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS

before the people. This little drama, which had been performed amidst breathless stillness, being over, Mr. Mowat arose and explained that Messrs. Balfour and McKim had acted in the matter with the knowledge and concurrence of the Government. He then read the following declaration and resolution, taking upon himself the entire responsibility of the statements it contains:

THE RESOLUTION.

That the attorney-general, a member of this house, has from his place in the house stated that he is credibly informed and believes that divers persons named by him, including Christopher W. Bunting, John A. Wilkinson, Edward Meek, F. S. Kirkland and one Lynch, have entered into a conspiracy to accomplish the defeat of the government in this house by corrupting members of this house to vote against the government and government measures.

That the first-named three persons are well known and active members of the party in this province opposed to this government, and that the last named two persons are American citizens.

That for the purpose of corruptly influencing the votes of members of this house the said five persons have at divers times during the present session of this legislature approached several members of this house with money, offers of money, promises of offices in the gift of the dominion government, and promises of other personal advantages to such members.

That divers members of this house so approached, being indignant at the criminal conduct proposed to them, have deemed it to be the fitting course on their part, and a duty to their constituents and the public, acting herein with the advice and approval of members of the government, to seem for a time to entertain such approaches in order to secure detection, exposure and punishment of the persons guilty of making such corrupt attempts, and have in pursuance of their duty from time to time disclosed to members of the government the approaches from time to time made to them, and the several acts therein of the guilty parties; that among the members of this house in regard to whom such corrupt attempts have been made are Mr. Robert McKim, member for the west riding of Wellington; Mr. William D. Balfour, member for the south riding of Essex; and John F. Dowling, member for the south riding of Renfrew; that in carrying out the objects of the conspiracy the said Wilkinson, to influence the vote of the said McKim, repeatedly offered him money, and has at length delivered to the said McKim $1000; that Mr. McKim immediately on receiving the money placed it in the hands of Mr. Speaker, to be by him produced to the house; that both the said Wilkinson and the said Bunting for the same corrupt purpose undertook to pay to Mr. McKim a further sum of $1000 on a future day; that the said Bunting was a party to the payment of the former sum and to the promise to pay the latter sum for the corrupt purpose already stated, and that to secure the same corrupt object the said Wilkinson and Bunting further offered and undertook that the said McKim should be appointed registrar at Regina in the Northwest, with a salary of $1000 a year, that both the said Wilkinson and the said Bunting assured the said McKim that the dominion minister of the interior had pledged to them his word that their said promise of the said office would be carried out, and the said Bunting on his own part pledged his word to the same effect; that for the same corrupt purpose already mentioned, and to influence the vote of the said William D. Balfour, the said Wilkinson repeatedly offered to pay, and did this day deliver to the said Balfour the sum of $800 in cash, and undertook to pay a further sum of $1000 on a future day; that for the same purpose the said Kirkland also offered to pay to him the sum of $1200; that immediately on receiving the said sum of $800 Mr. Balfour placed the same in the hands of Mr. Speaker, to be by him produced to this house; and that further to secure the same purpose the said Wilkinson undertook that the said Balfour should be appointed by the Dominion Government to a Registrarship at Regina, in the Northwest; that the said Wilkinson, for the corrupt purpose already mentioned, and to influence the vote of the said John F. Dowling, offered him the sum of two thousand dollars cash, and to pay him a further sum of two thousand dollars at a future period; that the sum so offered to be paid down was exhibited to him by the said Wilkinson, and that there is reason to believe that other corrupt offers were made by the said conspirators to, and rejected by, other members of this house, and it is hereby

Resolved, That the charges and matters referred to and set forth in said statement of the information and belief of the Attorney-General be forthwith referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, with power to enquire and report thereon, and with power to send for and examine all necessary persons and papers in or concerning the premises.

THE OPPOSITION LEADER.

then spoke:—He agreed with the attorney-general that the charges should be promptly and thoroughly investigated, but held that the members who had been approached would have occupied a more creditable position if they had spurned the offers made them instead of appearing to accept them for the purpose of leading others into criminal acts. His speech was a dead-lift effort to weaken the condemnation which is sure to follow the exposure, but even so mild a deprecation met with little or no response from his own followers.

Mr. Morris said he was prepared to vote for an immediate investigation of the matter. He could not help feeling that a grave responsibility rested on those who had made the disclosures. They were guilty of leading these men on when, if they had the honor of gentlemen, they would have spurned their tempters.

Mr. McKim, then arose and in a voice quivering with indignation asked how they could insult him in that manner. He, Mr. McKim, apprehended that when he was approached with offers of money by persons to whom his financial situation was known, it was for him to be indignant and for him to settle how the insult should be avenged.

In a few burning sentences Mr. Fraser described the conspirators with apt alliteration as a "brawling brood of bribers hatched under the eaves of the *Mail* building." He argued that the informing members had done simply their duty in taking the course they took, and told the opposition leaders to their faces that what troubled them was the exposure, not the crime, as the former would forever prevent them from occupying government benches. The course taken by Balfour and McKim was warmly extolled by a number of ministerial members, and was by one or two on the other side admitted to be the only proper one under the circumstances. Not a single member of the Opposition except Meredith and Morris ventured to express disapproval, and the dramatic interest of the scene was heightened by several members describing the efforts made to bribe themselves.

One of the most conspicuous was Dr. Cascaden, who was offered money and an office, the latter to be either the registrarship of Regina or a custom post in British Columbia.

Scarcely less so was Mr. Murray of North Renfrew, who almost immediately after the general election, a year ago, was offered in Ottawa very strong inducements to break faith with the government and betray his constituents.

Dr. Dowling said nothing, but he was prevented from receiving $2000 only by the arrest of Wilkinson.

TRYING TO WORK CASCADEN.

Dr. Cascaden (West Elgin) was approached by Meek, who was a schoolfellow of his twenty-four years ago, and who has been an intimate friend ever since. He told the doctor that he was the solicitor of certain parties who were desirous of forming a coalition government, that if Cascaden would support them in this he would make him registrar at Regina with a salary of $1800 and a house, and give him $3000 or more down for expenses. Meek suggested that he should see Bunting. Dr. Cascaden met Kirkland yesterday. He said he was interested in certain timber limits, and was anxious to defeat the government. He arranged for an interview, but the doctor did not keep it.

Mr. Graham detailed the approaches made to himself, and how he declined to vote against the Government; he was told he would be remunerated if he would even speak against the Government without voting.

Mr. Murray heaped up the evidence against the conspirators and their associates by telling of advances which had been made to him while on a visit to Ottawa. Mr. Baxter followed with a few remarks which were grave and to the point.

Mr. Young joined the previous speakers in thanking the members who had unearthed the conspiracy and brought home the evidence of guilt to the conspirators. If corruption of this kind was to be carried on, there would, he said, in ten years be no Dominion of Canada.

Messrs. Lees, Waters and others joined in condemnation of the outrageous attempt to corrupt the members.

It was reserved for Mr. Clarke, of West Toronto, alone among the Opposition members, to follow the contemptible course of his leaders. He went the length of insinuating that Mr. Mowat had hired the bribers and furnished them with money with which to corrupt his own followers, and that Mr. Mowat had had the money paid that day in order by the exposure to influence the East Grey election. To the credit of the other Opposition speakers, Messrs. Wood, Broder, Gray, and Kerns, be it said that not a word did they utter

EXCEPT OF HONEST CONDEMNATION

of the bribery which their leaders attempted to excuse.

WHAT DR. DOWLING WAS TO GET.

Dr. Dowling, it is said, was to get $2,000 down, and more to come. The $2,000 was put in an envelope, with certain conditions on it, and it was to be deposited with Mr. Edward Meek, who would pay it over on Dr. Dowling voting against the Government during the remainder of the session. The money was counted in Dr. Dowling's presence by Mr. Wilkinson, who managed the business on this occasion. But part of the negotiations were made by Mr. Bunting, into whose office Dr. Dowling had been inveigled by Wilkinson requesting him to see Bunting about having the protest in South Renfrew withdrawn. The door was locked and the offers made. Amongst the proposals was one that Dr. Dowling should resign his seat to allow an outsider, who Mr. Bunting said was to enter the Meredith Cabinet as a representative of the Catholics. Dr. Dowling was to receive $3000 for giving up his seat in addition to the other moneys.

When the Attorney-General moved the adjournment of the House till three to-day the motion was carried in silence which contrasted greatly with the usual questions asked of the Government respecting business to come up on future days. Not a few members retired at once, but many remained and gathered in knots of

EAGER TALKERS AND LISTENERS.

Mr. Hudson and another member of the Opposition crossed the floor and warmly congratulated Mr. Balfour on the part he had taken in exposing the scoundrelly conspiracy, and added that they would have done precisely the same thing if they had been similarly approached.

THE MEN IMPLICATED.

J. A. Wilkinson is well known as a Conservative politician and an agent of the party. He has been engaged in many elections in promoting Conservative interests. It was he who first published the Big Push letter in his paper, the West Durham *News*. After that he was known by the name of Big Push Wilkinson. He was a member of the Conservative brigade which appeared in Muskoka, Algoma and West Middlesex.

Edward Meek is a lawyer who occupies offices in the *Mail* building. He was a member of the Young Men's Reform club once, but went over to the Conservative party in the N. P. struggles, since when he has been one of the most venomous enemies of the Reform party. He has taken part in many election compaigns. He is a frequent companion of Bunting. Meek will be summoned.

Christopher Bunting is managing director of the *Mail*, and a bitter Conservative. He was charged by the Hamilton *Times* with trying to bribe members some weeks ago. He was not arrested with Kirkland and Wilkinson because he has property and cannot fly the country.

F. S. Kirkland (or Kirtland) hails from Wisconsin. He is five feet eleven in height, slender build, black hair, long side whiskers, heavy moustache, and shaven chin. He is extremely handsome in appearance though of a Mephistophelian cut. He has been here since before Christmas and spent a great deal of his time in playing billiards in the Rossin house, where he was a guest.

THE ARREST.

About nine o'clock Detective Murray quietly entered the gallery of the House, and approached the front tier where F. S. Kirkland was sitting. Without attracting attention he put his hand on Kirkland's shoulder and, bending his head, whispered a few words. Kirkland, who appeared to be deeply interested at the moment, jumped to his feet, and fronting Murray with a face ashy pale, demanded to know on what charge he was arrested. Murray answered something not audible, and Kirkland at once left the gallery Murray following close at his heels. A cab was waiting at the door and the startled prisoner was at once driven to No. 2 police station, where he was locked up. The warrant was signed by G. T. Denison, Police Magistrate, as was also another warrant issued for the arrest of John A. Wilkinson, which in effect charges the prisoner with "conspiracy to corrupt and frustrate the constitutional procedure and action of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario." As soon as Murray had caged his first bird he drove down to the Walker house with his second warrant and found Wilkinson

PACING EXCITEDLY

up and down one of the corridors. When the warrant was presented he became so nervous that he was unable to hold the blue paper, and it fluttered to the ground. Upon arriving at No. 2 station he was obliged to wait in the main room until a couple of homeless wanderers had got through their prayers for a night's lodgings, and then his name was registered, his valuables were removed, and he was consigned to the same wing that sheltered the unfortunate Kirkland. It was not a pleasant sleeping apartment, in fact the members of the night relief were unable to sleep owing to the stink that arose from the vagrants already housed. But as it was impossible to secure bail, the newly-arrived prisoners were obliged to put up with it. As soon as detective Murray, with his assistants, Rogers and Wynne, had executed their warrants, they proceeded to the Walker house and demanded the key of Mr. Wilkinson's room, but the manager declined to give it up. He, however, gave a guarantee that none of the

PRISONERS' BELONGINGS

would be interfered with, and the officers then proceeded to the Rossin house, where they secured a similar guarantee as to Kirkland's baggage.

"You are a hero," said one prominent member of the party to Mr. Balfour after the adjournment. "Only a man of pluck would have dared to do what you have done." "I was so annoyed by the approaches that were made to me," said Mr. Balfour, "that I determined to expose the bribers."

THE MEMBER FOR HAMILTON.

Mr. Gibson, of Hamilton, did not say anything, though the Hamilton *Times* says that he was one of the members approached by Bunting. A friend of his said that he could have made a most damaging statement had he desired to do so.

THE COALITION GOVERNMENT.

The coalition government was to consist of Mr. Meredith (attorney-general and premier), Alex. Morris (minister of education), D. Creighton (provincial treasurer) and three members from the reform side whose names have not transpired. They will, however, be given in the evidence of the members.

A very peculiar article appeared in the *Telegram* about two weeks ago suggesting the coalition government that has now transpired to have been the one in view in all these negotiations. Who inspired this article will form part of the investigation. It was double-leaded and attracted some little attention at the time.

The penalty prescribed by law is two years in penitentiary and a fine of £500.

The detectives working on the case were Murray of Toronto, Wynn of Clifton, Rodgers of Barrie. They have taken a lot of baggage.

The centre of the conspiracy was in Meek's office in the *Mail* building, and the chief accessories were Bunting, Meek, Kirkland and Wilkinson.

Arraigned in the Police Court.

The announcement that the alleged conspirators were to be arraigned in the police court yesterday morning caused an awful jam of humanity around the buildings in Court street. After Magistrate Denison had cleared his daily sheet, he ordered F. S. Kirkland, John A. Wilkinson, Christopher W. Bunting and Edward Meek to be arraigned. Kirkland and Wilkinson were put into the pen, while Mr. Bunting and Mr. Meek took a seat at the table, facing Clerk Nudel. Mr. Fenton intimated that all four shoud be treated alike, and accordingly Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Kirkland were invited to step inside the rail. The magistrate read the indictment, which was sworn to by Detective John W. Murray.

THE EXAMINATION ADJOURNED.

The magistrate then asked Mr. Bunting to plead. Mr. Clarke on his behalf, said he would ask an adjournment until Friday, and he raised the question of jurisdiction of the police magistrate. He said that no offence had been committed under common law, and if any offence had been committed it was an intriguement of the privileges of the provincial legislature. Fifteen minutes or so were consumed discussing the jurisdiction of the magistrate, when Mr. Neville asked what amount the court would require for bail. He said his client would offer any amount of bail. Mr. Fenton would not agree to bail, even if a million dollars were offered, and the magistrate adjourned the case till Friday morning.

Kirkland and Wilkinson were taken from the room, and remained in the building till 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when they were driven to the jail in a cab. During the interim a large number of their friends visited them.

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

The committee on privileges and elections met yesterday morning at 10 o'clock. Mr. Harcourt was in the chair. After some discussion it was decided not then to take evidence but simply to hear the statements of members.

Dr. Dowling's Statement.

Last Thursday Messrs. Bishop and McKim went to my room and said Wilkinson wished to see me at the Walker House. I went down and saw him. He said he intended purchasing a number of votes of Government supporters. He offered me $2000 to vote against the Government, and $3,000 if I would resign my seat; also that proceedings in a protest case against me would be dropped. He told me to call upon Mr. Bunting, who is wealthy, and could be trusted. I saw Mr. Bunting, who tried to persuade me in a manner similar to Wilkinson. Kirkland, Wilkinson and Lynch visited me frequently at my room. Lynch handed me an envelope containing $2,000, with conditions written on the back, which offered to bet me the enclosed amount that I would vote for the Mowat Government during the session and would not resign my seat. Kirkland told me he had lumber lands in Algoma. He wanted better terms from Pardee and could not get them. He had enough money to buy up enough votes to turn the balance of power. He told me a coalition Government was in the interests of the Province, and wished me to sign an agreement to support it. He said a vote of want of confidence would be taken in a few days on the timber policy of the Government; that several members on the Government side of the House would vote with the Opposition, and he wanted my vote among those dissatisfied.

Mr. Balfour's Statement.

On Tuesday morning I was first approached by Kirkland, who talked change of Government policy in timber lands. He said he was prepared to go any length short of murder to succeed. He said Caldwell had given Pardee $25,000 to make no change in the timber policy. He said if I would make a change in favor of his timber policy he would pay me for it. On Thursday McKim told me, in the Walker House, that "Big Push" wished to see me. I went to his room. He talked about a change of Government bettering the Province. He said Mr. Meredith would be Attorney General; Morris, Minister of Education, and Creighton, Treasurer. The other offices would be filled by the Reform party. Mr. Harcourt would be leader of the Liberal contingent. He said that while Archbishop Lynch lived the Grits could not be ousted, but the Archbishop would be dead within four years. He said Mowat, along with his colleagues, mortgaged property to pay for the Algoma campaign. Kirkland saw me afterwards and told me he would give an extra $1,000 if I would make a speech in favor of a change of timber policy on Friday. Wilkinson handed me a round robin to sign.

THE ROUND ROBIN.

We, believing it would be for the advantage of the Province to have a coalition government which should be run by men of both parties, and that it would tend to the defeat of the Mowat Government, hereby agree to vote against them on the first and every subsequent opportunity to the end of the present session, in order that they may be defeated and an end put to party strife.

He said if I signed it Harcourt would then declare himself leader of the new party, as he was only waiting to be assured of a sufficient number of followers. On Saturday Kirkland came to my room and wanted me to name my price. On Sunday morning McKim handed me $1,000 which he said Wilkinson gave him to give me. I refused the money. Wilkinson came in afterward and told me I could have the registrarship of Regina. My work there could be done by deputy, and I could retain my seat. He assured me Harcourt had daily intercourse with Bunting. He was very anxious to have the matter closed up, and gave $800 without my promising anything. I had no conversation whatever with Bunting.

To Mr. Harcourt, Mr. Balfour said that he had been assured by him that he would not assist in the onset against the Government.

Mr. Mowat moved that a sub-committee composed of the leaders of the Opposition, Messrs. Meredith and Morris, Mr. Frazer, Mr. Badgerow and the mover be appointed to further consider the whole matter, and report to-morrow if possible. The motion was carried and the committee rose.

THE MEN ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN APPROACHED

were Dowling, McKim, Cascaden, Balfour, Lyon, Hart, Murray. Mr. Gibson, of Hamilton, is also said to have been approached.

The penalty prescribed by law is two years in penitentiary and a fine of £500.

THE thanks of the Province are due to Messrs. McKim and Balfour for the courageous stand they took in exposing the cancer of bribery which threatened the body politic. The knife of public prosecution is the only cure for that terrible disease. We dare not allow so dire a malady to lurk in our political system.

TUESDAY'S *Mail* found fault with Sir Richard Cartwright because, in a speech the other day, he voiced the following sentiment:

"More sir, I say it with regret, but I say that the *people of Canada have deliberately retrograded.* * * * I say that, to-day in Canada, to our shame be it said, *public morality is painfully low, and public opinion is painfully weak.*"

In the same issue the *Mail* contains the report of the attempt made by an organized gang of men of low morality to seduce from their allegiance to the Government certain members who represent Liberal constituencies, and when we remember that the managing editor of the *Mail* is accused of being a principal in the conspiracy to corrupt the Legislature of Ontario, we are in a position to know the reason why the *Mail* took exception to Sir Richard's opinion, which no honest Canadian will deny, no matter how much he may deplore it.