

3. This agreement was duly ratified by resolution of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario on 26th March, 1896, such resolution being as follows: "That this House doth ratify an agreement laid before this House by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, bearing date the 25th day of September, 1895, and expressed to be made between the inspector of prisons and public charities and Patrick Louis Connor regarding the manufacture of binder twine in the central prison."

4. By the terms of the agreement and its subsequent ratification the same became and was in all respects an agreement between the respondent and Connor, of the same force and effect as if it had been embodied in a statute of the province of Ontario, or had been entered into by the respondent in pursuance of and in strict conformity to a statute of the said Assembly, and the same became a contract binding upon the Crown with the privity and consent of the said Assembly.

5. The Attorney-General for Ontario submits to this Court that the same could not be altered, amended, varied, or added to, by any act of the Crown, unless and until the same had been authorized by a similar privity and assent of the said Assembly.

6. The assignments mentioned in paragraph 2 of the petition are, if the same were made with the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor in council, and only in so far as they were merely assignments of the said original contract, admitted by the Attorney-General for Ontario for the respondent.

7. The Attorney-General for Ontario alleges that the said assignments merely transferred to the several assignees the rights and obligations of Connor, unaltered and unaffected by any act of the inspector or any act of the Crown unauthorized by the terms of the original contract.

8. The Attorney-General for the respondent admits the occurrence of the fire alleged in paragraph 4 of the petition of right, and that manufacture under the original agreement was suspended for about the period mentioned, but denies that the fire altered in any respect, with regard to machinery or otherwise, the relations of the Crown and the contractor. The machinery alleged to have been put in by the suppliants