

EXPOSURE OF THE INFAMOUS PARTISAN COMMISSION.

In THE REGISTER of last week there appeared the deliberate statement of Mr. Quinn, M.P., in the House of Commons, touching the dealings of the infamous penitentiary commission with a convict named Viau, one of the worst criminals in America, who was induced to give testimony in secret against certain dismissed members of the St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary staff. Thus week we continue Mr. Quinn's most interesting statement.

Mr. Quinn: It was on the evidence of Viau and such man as he that Mr. Oumet was dismissed. The Solicitor General, I do not like to interrupt my hon. friend in his very interesting speech, but I would like him to tell us where he can get evidence that any promise was given to Viau that if he gave information against the officers he would be released, or that he was allowed to wear a beard and moustache. I state with all due deference to my hon. friend, that there is not a word of truth in that.

Mr. Quinn. I say this is a matter of public report in Montreal and in the village of St. Vincent de Paul. I say the officers of the institution know this to be a fact, and I guarantee, if my hon. friend will grant another commission to investigate that charge, that I will prove it as a fact. But these are only some of the things.

The Solicitor General. Do I understand my hon. friend to say here, in his place in Parliament, that he is prepared to prove that the commission gave permission to Viau to wear a beard and moustache as a reward for any information he gave to them?

Mr. Quinn. I undertake to prove that the commission went to St. Vincent de Paul on the 24th of April, 1897, that Viau at that time occupied the position of an ordinary convict, that he was interviewed by the commissioners, that as a result of or immediately after this interview he was allowed to wear his moustache, and was allowed to wear civilian's clothes, and that he continued to do so during the whole time of the sitting of this commission. I cannot prove by the men who composed this commission that they made these promises. I have had too much experience of them to attempt to prove it by them, and I would not attempt to prove such a thing by Viau, one of the notorious convicts in the penitentiary, and whom I know too well. But he is one of the men on whom the commission relied to get evidence against Warden Oumet. What more? My hon. friend is startled and I do not wonder at it. I know he is not aware of any of these things, but I refer him to Mr. Oumet's counsel. Let him ask Mr. Greenfield.

The Solicitor General. I have had several conversations with Mr. Greenfield, and I never heard him make that statement. Mr. Quinn. I will give another. The Solicitor General. Better prove this one first. Mr. Quinn. My hon. friend does not know that these convicts were taken by the commissioners into a private room in the penitentiary and there examined, and before they left that room were sworn not to divulge the fact that they had been cross-examined by the commissioners. My hon. friend does not know that.

The Solicitor General. No, nor do you. Mr. Quinn. I know it from as good authority as any hon. member of this House. I know it by the word of two members of the Bar of the city of Montreal. The Solicitor General. Give us their names. Mr. Quinn. Mr. Leblanc and Mr. J. N. Greenfield. The Solicitor General. They are responsible for the accuracy of your statement. Mr. Quinn. Yes. My hon. friend did not know that, and I do not wonder that he should be astonished. I was horrified, or rather I would have been if I had not had my experience at Kingston penitentiary investigation, and seen the way in which the officers of that institution had been held up to the ridicule and contempt of the convicts, and looked more like criminals than did the convicts, while the convicts who were able to give information to the commissioners looked more like the warden and the guards. The hon. member for Laval (Mr. Fortin) brings as a charge against them that a large quantity of the stone and a large quantity of the cement were not accounted for. What are the facts? The evidence comes from a man named Crane who made all the measurements. Mr. Crane belongs to Brookville, I understand. He swore to measurements, and I am informed that the measurements were never made by him but by convicts, and were sworn to by Crane as facts. In any event, the disappearance of this stone or cement was not a matter chargeable to Mr. Oumet. It was under the supervision of the Department of Public Works, and all that Mr. Oumet had to do with it was to see that the convicts, detailed for this particular work, were kept at the work and properly looked after. He had no account to take of the stone or the cement. There was an officer of the Department of Public Works to attend to that.

The Solicitor General. Who was that officer? Mr. Quinn. I do not know his name, but I am informed that there was one. The next charge the hon. member for Laval (Mr. Fortin) made was that letters belonging to the convicts were not delivered to them and were left lying in the vault for years, and also that letters given by them were never mailed. If my hon. friend has read the evidence, and he must have found that the evidence concerning this matter is that Mr. Papineau, the secretary of the penitentiary, was the officer who had charge of that particular branch. It could not be expected that the warden of the penitentiary could be also warden's secretary, the head officer of Public Works, guard and everything else in the prison. He was there as the chief officer and of course had to see that his subordinates attended to their duty, but the secretary, when asked what had become of these letters, made no answer in many instances. Well, did the Department of Justice dismiss Papineau, who was directly responsible? No, but they dismissed the warden. Papineau was not dismissed but sent down to a position in the Dorchester penitentiary.

There is another great charge made by my hon. friend from Laval (Mr. Fortin) about the sale of goods by prisoners—a custom which has existed in the penitentiary from time immemorial. I can remember as a boy visiting the Kingston penitentiary, seeing the prisoners offering tooth-picks, and little nick-nacks of that kind which they had made themselves, for sale to visitors. That was permitted by every warden from the time of Warden Macdonald, some 30 years ago, and one can readily understand that a concession of that kind would rather help to improve the morals of the convicts. That however, is one of the complaints against Warden Oumet. I do not know whether it is forbidden by any law of the department, but I do know that 30 years ago it was allowed by Warden Macdonald in the Kingston penitentiary. There is another charge that of selling goods to the prisoners, but when we come to the evidence, we find that the selling consisted merely of the disposal of some apples by some of the guards to the convicts, and was permitted by the inspector and the department. In any event, it was not such an outrageous violation of duty as to necessitate the dismissal of the warden.

The next statement made by the hon. member for Laval (Mr. Fortin) is that the warden had a set of harness made upon a model of the harness for the Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Quebec, without any expense to himself, for his own personal use and benefit. I am informed that that is not the case at all. This evidence shows that this harness was allowed by the department to Mr. Oumet for use in the penitentiary, and it was used for the purposes of the penitentiary. There is also a charge that he kept four or five horses, and I am told that this is grossly exaggerated, and that there is no evidence to prove it. I am told that he kept two horses with the knowledge of the inspector and the department. These two were used for the service of the penitentiary, and the warden used them occasionally when he required them.

Now, my hon. friends made a great mistake about a yacht. Without going into all the details which they went into about the ownership being in two individual officers of the department, one of whom died, and some difficulty occurring about the ownership. I am informed that the facts are that a certain gentleman had permission to have a yacht built in the penitentiary, and further the material, and everything in connection with it. He had it built, with the knowledge of the department, in the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary out of materials furnished by himself. And, after the yacht had been built, he permitted the officers of the penitentiary to use it for the pleasure of certain boys in the river in the neighborhood, and also for following prisoners on certain occasions who had attempted to escape. Certain materials which had been furnished by him and destroyed by prisoners who were working on this yacht, were afterwards supplied out of penitentiary materials, and no bill was ever sent to him though he has always been ready and willing to pay for them. It has been the subject of a charge against the warden that this yacht was built at the expense of the Department of Justice, when as a matter of fact according to the information I have, it was built by this gentleman out of materials furnished by him, and if the materials were furnished by the penitentiary it was to supply the place of materials destroyed by the convicts who were working on the yacht, an account of which has been said long ago. Now, my only object in referring to this matter at all was that the statements made contrary to the understanding arrived at, I believe, between my hon. friend the Solicitor General and the hon. member for Pictou (Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper) who is absent, and was absent when these statements were made, could not go unchallenged. I do not pretend to state what I have stated from having read carefully every page of the evidence brought before these commissions. But I do say there is not one fact of which I have spoken in connection with the

charges referred to by the hon. member for Laval (Mr. Fortin) that I have not substantiated by reference to the evidence of different witnesses examined before these commissions. I think the statement of the hon. member for Laval exaggerates the facts as given in evidence before the commissioners. I do not say it goes to exaggerate the finding of the report, because from my experience of the reports sent in by these commissioners, they are prepared to exaggerate any evidence brought before them. I should like to see the Solicitor General take the same stand in this matter as he took in the case of the Kingston penitentiary, and though justice may be tardy, I hope he will meet out to the man who have been dismissed, both in Kingston and St. Vincent de Paul penitentiaries, the same treatment as he did to the engineer of the Kingston penitentiary by giving him an opportunity to exculpate himself from charges made by the commissioners of the Kingston penitentiary last year.

MONTRÉAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The great city at the head of ocean navigation of the St. Lawrence is yearly increasing its already massive proportions. East, west and north its boundaries are extending, so that we begin to see signs of the whole island of Montreal being at no great distant day one vast city. Montreal is not by any means a grasping city. Had she been so, and were she so, that lust of power and self-aggrandizement which to-day governs most of earth's great nations, she would ere now have swallowed up a number of populous suburbs which owe their existence to her presence, and which are now, although under distinct municipal legislation, practically parts of herself. As it is, there are good grounds for saying that the census of 2001, will show Montreal to be possessed of a population of 300,000.

The Irishman in the race for wealth and social position jogs along in the even tenor of his own way, seldom leading, but yet holding his ground fairly well. Many of the disadvantages under which he laboured in Ireland confront him in his new home in Canada. In the land of his birth the religious creed which he professed was hated by his alien masters; in Montreal, he has not to go beneath the surface to find evidences of an antipathy just as intense. At home he saw the land of his affections despoiled by foreign marauders, who did not scruple to steal it, as they stole every thing else within reach; in Montreal he finds it doomed to the same unholy treatment. And to render the situation more painfully humiliating he finds the bitterest opposition coming from Catholics of French origin—a class from whom he had good reasons to look for different things. As yet the Irishman moves along as indifferent to abuse as he is to praise, building churches, supporting the pastors of his church, meeting the demands of the collection-box before being shaken under his nose on a Sunday, spreading education and in every way fulfilling his destiny, which appears to be the dissemination of Catholic truth over half of the American continent. In Montreal he represents forty-five thousand of the population, which proportion is steadily increasing.

MR. DANIEL GALLERY.

This gentleman is as rash of the soil as you can find him. Leaving his native home in the patriotic County of Clare, Ireland, in broad day-light, when merely a boy, Mr. Gallery with other members of the family came on to Montreal where he has resided ever since and where as a merchant and public-spirited citizen he became well-known and highly esteemed. At the last municipal contest he beat his nag into the City Council as representative for St. Anne's Ward, having defeated by a narrow majority a most able energetic and faithful guardian of the people's interests, who for many years previously had sat for the division of St. Anne's ward. Mr. Gallery is now acting mayor of Montreal and as he is still a young man whose rise has been rapid as it has been honorable to himself, I am safe in predicting that, in connection with future Municipal and Parliamentary contests in this city, we are far from having heard the last of him.

MR. B. WALSH.

Some years ago this gentleman commenced a grocery business at 812 Dorchester street, Montreal. His financial capital was not large, but he had capital brains, capital habits, capital business capacity and away he went and above every other consideration, he had a capital vein. Setting out a few days ago to interview his old friend at the old stand, I found to my astonishment, not unmingled with some pain, an entire stranger "running" the business. "What!" said I to myself "has the poor fellow made an assignment?" "Is it a smash up or a breakdown?" "Eight or ten doors further west, sir," said the obliging stranger in answer to my question. I proceeded in the direction indicated and soon recognized the genial countenance of my friend Mr. Walsh surrounded by a crowd of anxious purchasers of all ages, sexes, colours and conditions. But here was a difficulty. How was I to force my way through that struggling mass of masculine and feminine humanity. Believing that

the boldest policy is always the best, I set out resolved to open a passage, or die in the attempt. I succeeded, however, in forcing my way, without any greater casualty than standing on the loss of an old lady from Beaver Hall Hill, disarranging the head-gear of a couple of young ladies from Falaise street and inflicting some trifling injury to the spinal column of a little man from Victoria Square. Surrounded as he was with an eager throng, I expected only a cold formal greeting, such a chilling reception as one might look for from a Cret politician in office, but Mr. Walsh was more than hearty in his demonstrations. Over and over did he congratulate all interested on the improved appearance of THE CATHOLIC REGISTER, bringing a most pleasant interview to a close, by assuring me that he wears a night-gown and goes to bed at 10 o'clock. I was glad to learn that the splendid new building occupied by Mr. Walsh was his own property, free and unencumbered.

THE CATHOLIC BENEVOLENT CLUB.

This is one of the institutions of Montreal, a city rich in institutions for social and intellectual advancement, a city where every phase of human suffering is relieved, a city of prudal charity where the recipient is never questioned regarding creed, a country and a city where the great God is worshipped in almost every living tongue. The chest of the Club is to provide pleasant rooms with good reading matter for the Catholic sailors who during the summer season frequent Montreal, as well as to guard them against the whiskey-sellers and inhuman hawk who seek their prey along the wharves of all great cities. Glancing over the report for 1898, I find its list of officers made up of the following philanthropic laities, viz:

- President—Lady Hingston. 1st Vice-Pres.—Mrs. McNamee. 2nd Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Casgrain. 3rd Vice-Pres.—Mrs. James. Sec.-Treas.—Mrs. Thomson. The Executive Committee is composed of Mrs. Doyle, Mrs. McCarthy, Miss Feran, Mrs. Weir, Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Rogers, Miss M. Sheridan and Mrs. Tabb. The Catholic Sailors Club of Montreal owes much to its zealous officers, and to its active Executive Committee, as well as the general public, irrespective of creed, but I will not be accused of making invidious distinctions, nor shall I be open to the charge of fomenting zealous rivalries in Montreal where the whole facts are so well known, when I say that for much of the success which has attended the "club" is one man—E. B. McNamee—is pre-eminently entitled to recognition. Time and money he has given with lavish liberality, until he has given the future of the institution may be placed beyond peradventure. Success to the Catholic Sailors Club of Montreal.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN STORAN.

There passed to his reward at his late residence, 1821 Notre Dame St., Montreal, on the 27th ult., an indulgent father and affectionate husband, and a law-abiding citizen, in the person of John Storan, at the comparatively early age of 52 years. Mr. Storan was a native of the County of Clare, Ireland, which place he left whilst yet a lad, settling with his father four sisters and a brother in Montreal, where until the time of his death he has since resided. Mr. Storan was actively identified with every good work initiated in St. Patrick's Parish, where he was well known and highly esteemed. Indeed of him it may be truly said that in the large congregation of that parish none were more docile, none more zealous in the practice of what the Catholic Church teaches.

The Panic in the Church of England.

Dr. Guinness Rogers, speaking upon "The Ritual Strife: What have we to do with it?" at a meeting of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, held in the Memorial Hall, London, said that there were a number of societies in the country openly and secretly seeking to bring the English Church bodily over to Rome—the Order of Corporate Reunion, for instance.

In the Syrian Catholic Church.

A Mass for the dead will be said in the Syrian Catholic Church (St. Vincent's Hall) on Sunday morning 17th of July, at 9.80 a.m., for the repose of the souls of those who were lost on the steamer La Bourgogne, more than 40 were Syrians on their way home to the old country. God reward those who will pray for their souls.

St. Vincent de Paul Excursion.

On Monday next, July 18, St. Patrick's Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will hold their annual excursion to Niagara Falls and Buffalo, per steamer Empress.

THE HOME SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY LIMITED. ESTABLISHED UNDER LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY. CAPITAL, - \$2,000,000. Office, No. 78 Church Street, Toronto. DIRECTORS: HON. SIR FRANK SMITH, Senator, President, EUGENE O'KEEFE, Vice-President, WM. T. KIELLY, JOHN FOY, EDWARD STOOKE. Solicitor: JAMES J. FOY, Q.C. Deposits Received from 20c. upwards, and interest at current rates allowed thereon.

The Robert SIMPSON Co. Limited Stock-Taking Specials. This is stock-taking season and our rule is to clear stocks rather than place them in inventory and carry them over another season—an explanation of these special values. Colored Dress Goods: 52 in. English suiting, reg. \$1.25 per yard, special.....\$0.25 40-in. Tweed, with knoop, reg. 60c, special..... 25 See our table of dress goods in all wool, fancy and plaid, reg. 40c to 60c, special..... 25 48 in. and 52-in. fancy covers, cords, chevrons etc., were 75c to \$1.00 per yard, clearing at.... 45 Specials in Mantle Section: 20 only Ladies' Travelling Wraps, light and dark fancy plaids, reg. \$6.50 and \$8.50, special to close 3.50 Ladies' Travelling wraps, new fancy plaids, beautiful colorings, this is the first arrival of new goods special at..... 4.50 Children's Seaside (crotchets) in cadet, sage, navy and fawn cloth, trimmed with combinations, pretty effects, for cool evenings, were \$3.50 and \$4.00, 12 only to clear at..... 1.50

WM. A. LEE & SON GENERAL AGENTS 10 ADELAIDE STREET EAST TELEPHONES 692 and 2076. THE EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF ONTARIO, LTD. HEAD OFFICE—Cor. Adelaide and Victoria Sts., TORONTO. SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL - \$354,900.00. E. MARSHALL, Secretary. E. F. CLARKE, Manag. Director.

THE TEMPERANCE AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO. OFFERS THE: Best Plans and Rates and the Most Desirable Terms of Life Insurance Obtainable. For desired information apply to an Agent of the Company, or to H. SUTHERLAND, Manager. HON. G. W. ROSS, President. HEAD OFFICE: "Globe" Building, corner Jordan and Melinda Sts., Toronto.

YORK COUNTY LOAN AND SAVINGS CO'Y IS DOING It has an army of thirty thousand systematic savers. It embraces the whole family, men, women and children, and it loans upon homes on the sinking fund plan. LITERATURE FREE. JOSEPH PHILLIPS, President, Convent's Life Building, Toronto.

Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co. Incorporated 1886. Paid-up Capital.....\$2,000,000 Reserve Fund.....1,150,000 Total Assets.....11,400,000 Office: Company's Buildings, Toronto St., Toronto. DEPOSITS are received at 3% per cent. interest, paid or compounded half yearly. DEBITORS ISSUED in Currency or Sterling, with interest coupons attached, payable in Canada or free by law to invest in the Debentures of this Company. MONEY ADVANCED on Real Estate security at current rates and on favorable conditions as to repayment. Mortgages and Municipal Debentures purchased. J. HERBERT MASON, Managing Director, Toronto.

Empress Hotel. Corner of Yonge and Gould Streets TORONTO. Terms: \$1.50 per day. Electric Cars from the Union Station every Three Minutes. RICHARD DISBETTE - PROPRIETOR. RICE LEWIS & SON, (LIMITED), COR. KING & VICTORIA STREETS TORONTO.

DR. EDWARD ADAMS, HOMOEOPATHIST. 557 Yonge Street, N.E. Cor. Wellesley Street. "Nervous System." Hours—9 to 10 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Telephone 3160.