

COMMISSIONER'S PREFATORY NOTE.

The Investigation, of which a Report will be found on page 16 and the following pages, commenced at Stratford on the 23rd of November and closed on the 11th of December, 1886.

The Complainant in the case was Mr. John Idington, Q.C., County Crown Attorney for Perth, and Member of the Board of Collegiate Institute Trustees. The Defendant was Mr. William McBride, M.A., Head Master of the Institute. Mr. John Idington and Mr. J. E. Harding, were Counsel for the Prosecution. Mr. James Fleming, M.P. for Peel, was Counsel for the Defence.

Thirty-seven witnesses were examined, and their evidence was taken under oath by the Commissioner. The number of Charges was twenty-nine. The Commissioner's notes of the Evidence given extended to 218 pages of foolscap, and the number of "Exhibits" put in was 124.

The names of the witnesses, with the pages of the report on which their evidence is quoted, will be found on reference to the Table of Contents.

The Report of the Commissioner on each of the charges not ruled out will also be found on reference to the same Table.

The list of Exhibits will be found on pages 57-61.