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Mr. John A. Mathieson, Leader of the Provincial Opposition returned from his western tour on Saturday forenoon last. His Public meetings in Prince County have been an eminent success from start to finish and have roused unbounded enthusiasm in the ranks of the Opposition party. The meetings were all largely attended and admirably conducted. Many who had previously supported the Government, announced themselves as converts to Mr. Mathieson's political faith, and it is expected many others will follow their example and thus the beneficial results of this arousing will continue. On Friday large and enthusiastic meetings were held at Hamilton and Malpeque in the afternoon and evening respectively. These meetings were addressed by Mr. Mathieson, the Leader of the Opposition, as well as by his colleagues in the Legislature, Messrs McKinnon and Arsenault, M. L. A's, also by Messrs John A. McDonald, John Anderson, W. McNeill Simpson, W. Crozier, W. L. Cotton, J. A. Reedy and Joseph Driscoll. The arraignment of the Government was thorough and the speakers were enthusiastically applauded.

As noted elsewhere, Mr. Donald Farquharson, M. P., died at his residence, in this city, at 4.30 o'clock on Friday morning last. He had been in poor health for a long time and took a serious turn for the worse shortly after he had gone to Ottawa for the work of the session. He returned home and gradually sank until death came. Mr. Farquharson was born at Lot 48, in July, 1834, so that he had almost completed his 69th year. Early in life he taught school and subsequently started business at West River, where he built up a large trade. Latterly he conducted business in Charlottetown. He was a very ardent member of the Liberal party, and was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1876, for the West River district and continued to represent that district till elected to the House of Commons in 1902. He was for a short time a member of the Davies Government before its resignation in 1879. When the Liberals again came to power in 1891, he became a member of Mr. Frederick Peters' Government, and when Mr. Warburton retired from the Premiership in 1898 to become judge, Mr. Farquharson was chosen Leader of the Government. He retired from the Premiership in 1902 and was elected to the House of Commons for West Queens. His funeral on Sunday was one of the largest ever seen in Charlottetown.

Gamey Vindicates Himself.

As will be seen in another column the report of the commission white-washing Provincial Secretary Stratton was carried in the Ontario Legislature by a majority of four votes, a purely partisan majority. The truthfulness of Gamey's libelous story and the false swearing of the defence, were fully borne out by the affidavits read in the House which exposed the whole plot. During the discussion of the Commissioners' report in the House, no attempt was made by the Government speakers to defend its numerous conflicts with unchallenged evidence. They contented themselves with abuse of the man who made the charges. Gamey himself, who spoke for six hours showed up well in the debate and made many friends by his frank, but forcible presentation of the whole case. The concluding part of his speech is worthy of reproduction, and is reported as follows: "Underhand and despicable means had been used in the endeavor to obtain discrediting evidence against him. They had gone to the Confederation Life, of which company he had been an agent for 15 years, to see if they could not find something discreditable about him, but they were informed that he had been a valued and reliable agent. They had then gone to the Canada Accident Insurance Company for the same purpose. When they were told by the manager of the Company that his (Mr. Gamey's) business relations with the firm were above board, these emissaries of the government replied that that was remarkable, as the manager of the Confederation Life Assurance Company had informed them that his dealings with Mr. Gamey were not satisfactory. This was but

an incident which showed the dirtiness adopted by the defence and was no proof that he had had any such dealings and so-called 'evidence' of the Government had also paid men to go to Manitoulin and scour the country to get evidence against him, but they were unsuccessful. Neighbors with whom he had had private and business transactions for twenty years had nothing to say against his personal character. The fact that in his own district he had polled the largest vote ever given to a candidate in Manitoulin was another evidence that he was not altogether the peculiar monstrosity that the horse-headed editor of the Globe said he was.

"Mr. Gamey then went into the question of the intimate relations of the Provincial Secretary and Frank Sullivan, a connection which the former had denied. Sullivan, said Mr. Gamey, was the go-between all through, and much of the case depended on his part in it. In the very beginning, the Sullivans were found commencing the negotiations, for the purpose of using his position as a member if he would support the Government. Then it was Frank Sullivan who had introduced Mr. Gamey to the Provincial Secretary, which would have been a curious circumstance if Frank Sullivan had had no previous connection with Mr. Stratton. Then Sullivan had written that he had seen our man and he wanted to go into other deals. This indicated that one deal had been put through, but there had been no evidence that there had been any other deals put through but that with the Provincial Secretary. The 'other deals' suggested were those of obtaining evidence in the Algoma election, and the buying of Mr. Smyth's support.

"Then there was the telegram sent by Frank Sullivan two days before the Globe interview was given, telling Mr. Gamey that it was important that he should be in Toronto on Thursday or Friday. Was it reasonable to suppose, asked Mr. Gamey, that Frank Sullivan should bring him all the way to Toronto to discuss a private deal and never mention it to him.

"All through the case the hand of the Provincial Secretary could be seen directing the movements of Frank Sullivan. Sullivan's letters were sufficient to tie the Provincial Secretary with Frank Sullivan. Sullivan knew too much of letters written by the Provincial Secretary not to be in his confidence. On February 7, said Mr. Gamey, he had written to Mr. Stratton in regard to the approaching meeting of the Executive on February 16. On February 11, Frank Sullivan had written the 'X. Y. Z.' letter, containing an enclosure which proved to be an absolute reply in every particular to the letter written to the Provincial Secretary. How should Frank Sullivan know the contents of the letter of February 7, to the Provincial Secretary if he had not been informed of it by Mr. Stratton? The enclosure was couched in a style and phraseology altogether beyond Frank Sullivan, and one which indicated the work of a man accustomed to the preparation of speeches and interviews. For instance, the 'grasping' of the phantom of power was mentioned. Frank Sullivan would never think of that phrase, for the timber limits he was in the habit of grasping were not phantoms, but realities.

"Mr. Gamey then commented on the fact that Sullivan, a mere clerk, had gone to another department and said in effect to an official there: 'Here, Ford, get a suit on and type this for me.' It was peculiar that when the Provincial Secretary wanted two important confidential documents typewritten he had left his own department and gone to that same official.

"Anyone who had read the letters that had a bearing on the case, Mr. Gamey said, could not help but see that there was collusion between the Provincial Secretary and Frank Sullivan. In those letters there was corroborative evidence enough to hang the biggest rascals in the Province, even if he was a cabinet minister. At the piano factory interview it had been proved conclusively that there was something between Frank Sullivan and Mr. Stratton.

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"Mr. Gamey had noticed, he said, according to the newspapers, had indicated that he would not take any steps to expell him from the House. That was very kind of the Premier who was noted for being a good-hearted fellow. But the Premier knew very well that if the commissioners had done their duty that he and his associates would not be in a position to expell or talk of expelling anyone from the House. After all that had occurred, such as the burning of the West Elgin ballots and the

Shannon, where it was shown that the Sullivan, if he had not been left and were with the theological party which he clothed himself, would do the manly thing and appeal to the people. But he was afraid to do that for the very simple reason that the people would lose no time in expelling him, and they would do it so quickly that he would not have time to remember that he had ever seen in the House. A friend had written to Mr. Gamey from the Southern States after reading all the facts of the case and he had said that what was needed to turn the Ross Government out was force, and he suggested what the people of the South would do if they had tolerated such a Government. Just what that suggestion was, said Mr. Gamey, would not repeat in the House.

"Mr. Gamey next declared that he would take the earliest opportunity he had of repeating his charges throughout the country, and if the Provincial Secretary would dare take any legal action against him he would then have the case whirled by him, and would be tried by his countrymen and not by paid officials of the government. He added that he would sooner be plain R. R. Gamey than the Hon. J. R. Stratton, Provincial Secretary, and recipient of the bouquet of flowers from government officials, whose souls were polluted with perjury.

"Mr. Gamey next repeated that he had other information in his possession bearing on his charges, but he would not make it public in the House, as he did before. He would benefit by past experiences, and only disclose this additional evidence at the proper time.

"In conclusion, the member for Manitoulin declared that he would go home proud of the fact that he had told the truth; proud of the fact that no one could accuse him of being a perjurer. As sure as there was a Providence that discriminated between right and wrong, the day of reckoning would come sooner or later. "And I wish to say, that the Provincial Secretary knows in his inmost heart, and in the presence of his Maker, that what he has said is false. I leave my case to the future and to a just Judge to determine who is right and who is wrong."

Ottawa Weekly Letter.

THE WEEK IN PARLIAMENT. The session of the week in Parliament was an admission by Mr. Schell, the Liberal member for Glasgow, that he had supplied goods to the government for use at the Glasgow Exposition. The matter was referred to the Committee on Elections and Privileges, and Mr. Schell's seat, if precedent is followed, will be declared vacant.

Hon. A. G. Dain's railway commission bill, with amendments suggested by the Opposition to guard the rights of the municipalities, was advanced. Hon. Raymond Prefontaine's estimates were discussed, and it was shown that in his capacity as a minister he sold the Government steamer "Bayfield" to party friends for \$3,200, shortly after his departure, and spent over \$3,700 in repairing the vessel.

Other instances in which the same minister has given away public property for a mere song were also brought to light. Hon. Sydney Fisher, when confronted with the fact that the British war department was purchasing cattle in the United States and sending them to Canada by admittance of his ignorance of this regrettable condition of affairs. The Government has made little effort to assert the country's rights for consideration in the matter.

A government bill to prohibit the manufacture, importation or sale of altered bottles or substitutes for bottles was passed in committee of the whole house. The Grand Trunk Pacific bill was discussed in committee of the house and several clauses were held over for consideration. When the bill comes up for its third reading a number of amendments will be proposed.

Hon. T. E. Bennett promised the Opposition that he would not renew the contract with the Standard Chemical Company, Longford, which has been supplying wood alcohol at excessive prices. This is a great victory for the opposition.

GOVERNMENT IGNORING OUR INTERESTS. The British government is purchasing cattle to restock Boer farms in South Africa and has been drawing its supplies from the United States. Hon. Sydney Fisher says he has protested against this outrage on Canada, but the little minister has been ignored by the Imperial government clerks in Downing street, and thousands of available Canadian cattle are still on the hands of their Canadian owners. While the sought representative of the farming industry was absent in Japan, British agents were talking business in the United States, and Canada is out some millions of dollars as a result. If the cattle had been bought by strangers the absurdity of Mr. Fisher's position would not be so palpable. But it is self-evident that the minister of agriculture is unable to cope with difficulties which arise under his very nose. It must be gratifying to the United States dealers to know that unsolicited business comes their way, at a time when the Laurier government is using all its much vaunted influence without so much as scouring the crumbs which fall from the table. While the situation, so far as Mr. Fisher and his fellow cabinet ministers are concerned, is laughable, the position of Canadian cattle dealers is most serious. The galaxy of business men at the head of affairs in this country should go into hiding, after the exhibition they have made of themselves in this case.

HON. MR. FISHER'S TRAIT. The scandal arising out of the purchase of cattle for the restocking of Boer farms in South Africa, has drawn attention to the fact that Hon. Sydney Fisher is a leading member, drawing such a vast sum from the public treasury. If such a condition of affairs were to be discovered in England, the offending member of the government would be forced to retire from public life. Under the Laurier regime it is different, and is a common practice for Canadian ministers to maintain their personal organs, largely at the expense of the people. Mr. Fisher, however, is by far the worst offender. Recently the Auditor-General refused to consent to the payment of bills sent in by printing companies for work done outside of the government printing bureau. Mr. McDonald found that the papers owned by Mr. Fisher and his fellow ministers were charging more than it cost the government to do the work. He properly refused to concur in the arrangement, and a special bill has been introduced to legalize the payments. Such practices are utterly opposed to the primary principles of pure government, and cannot be too strongly condemned.

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