

Q. Is your correspondent reliable?—A. Our correspondent is reliable at Cobourg. We have selected our correspondents with great care, and particularly after they have served us sometime we learn to rely on them absolutely.

Q. You have been in the newspaper business, I suppose, a great many years?—A. Yes, 26.

Q. And you have had charge of arranging stories that have come in from your correspondents and preparing them for the paper?—A. Yes.

Q. When you arranged to publish the reports of Mr. Gordon's speeches at Hamilton and Lindsay, did you think they were any way unusual from other stories of a similar character that *The Globe* had published over a great many years?—A. Well, we considered them very outstanding and remarkable in the public interest. That is evidenced by the fact that they were prominently displayed.

Q. I mean, they were not really different from other articles which you had published at other times. Of course, it was not the same speech that you had published at other times, but in your experience you have published other articles of a similar nature?—A. We have published political speeches that were hot, and charges, of course.

Q. What is that, Mr. Clarke?—A. Political speeches that were hot have been published from time immemorial, and charges have been made from platforms, and have been reported.

Q. Charges similar to those?—A. I don't know that. I believe—

Q. Well now—A. I can't say.

*By Mr. Howard:*

Q. It was your own correspondents who attended at those meetings and took the story?—A. In Cobourg?

Q. In Cobourg.—A. Yes.

Q. And sent the story to you direct?—A. By telegraph.

Q. By wire?—A. Yes.

Q. You took it in Toronto. Did you revise the story, or did you publish it as sent?—A. Published as sent, with the necessary editing. In any transmission there are words, letters transposed, and punctuation left out; such things as that have to be revised before it goes to print.

*By Mr. Bowman:*

Q. Mr. Duff refers to similar statements previously made. In the editorial referred to, January 8, the charges are spoken of as being sensational, implying a major scandal?

The CHAIRMAN: I thought Mr. Clarke said that was the 9th?

The WITNESS: That would be in the editorial of the 8th.

*By Mr. Bowman:*

Q. That is the way your paper treated this statement. It was treated by them as a sensational statement?—A. That is the editorial opinion of the *Globe*.

Q. Implying a major scandal. So that it was not a common statement made every day?—A. No.

*By Mr. Speakman:*

Q. Do you write the editorial columns?—A. Not at all.

Q. So the editorial was written by another man who formed his own opinion as to the importance of the story?—A. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: Since the editorial has been questioned, perhaps it would be better if we put it on record.