

how the money currency of this country should be made and where, to be swift to depreciate the talent of his own country, and to make a contract which eats out all the ambition, all the heart, and the whole kernel of the work, so far as skill and artistic ability are concerned, and leave the mechanical shell for Canada and for Ottawa. Then he says :

It might be well to state the company's intention more in detail, with the paragraph in question made a part of the proposed contract.

I want you to note that, because when you come to the contract, you will find it is not in it.

It is our intention to submit a model, or models, of each instrument, note, stamp or card, exhibiting the same just as it will appear when printed from the engraved plate, for the approval of the Government, and, upon approval of the same, to engrave in the parent establishment—

That is in New York.

—the original dies of portraits, vignettes, lathe work, borders, &c., with which the matrix die of each note or stamp will be partially prepared, carrying same to Ottawa for finishing.

What finishing? Simply assembling or putting together, and then lettering in the name of the bank, or the name of the note, that is all. The whole of the important work has been done before they are assembled together.

All the transferring—

Simply the mechanical operation. Here is your round roll of soft steel, here is your die, and you put it in place, apply the pressure, roll it two or three times, and you have a transfer from the die to the roll. There is the work, but it is simply mechanical.

We might add, that no Canadian labour would be displaced by our so doing, as the labour employed heretofore in making such original engravings, in our opinion, has been largely that of non-residents.

Now, that is an imputation which is not true. In the early history of engraving, outside labour had to be obtained; but in the course of the work our own Canadian people have come to learn it, and to become adepts in it; and it is an imputation which I, for one, am not going to take from Mr. Freeland or any other alien who wants to get a contract. But he puts in another memorandum, and he goes into it still more closely, and he says now :

But, desirous of meeting your wishes, we modify the seemingly objectionable paragraph so that it may read, "partially engraved dies." And to prevent misunderstanding as to the meaning of the word "partially," we will prepare here the different pieces composing the details of the different dies, transfer them to what we may term the matrix dies—those from which the rolls are taken that make the plates—put in such work as may interlace with the several pieces, but always leave some portion of these matrix dies unen-

graved, and transporting them to Ottawa, finish and harden them there, and do all the balance of the work in Ottawa.

Which means, when translated into English, that nine hundred and ninety-nine thousandths of the work is done in New York, and that simply the assembling of the parts and some little lettering have to be done after they are put into the plate in Canada. He says here :

At our interview on Monday it was stated that the present contractor intended to purchase \$20,000 worth of machinery.

That sentence just opens the light upon—what? Upon the fact that not only was the Finance Minister willing to interview, and to talk, and converse with the American Bank Note Company, and be willing to use the correspondence of the British American Bank Note Company in his conversation, but he was not willing to ask Mr. Burland, who is president of the American Bank Note Company, if that Bank Note Company had any other proposition to make. Now, they say :

But, desirous to meet your wishes, we modify the seemingly objectionable paragraph so that it may read, "partially engraved dies."

Let us go to the contract; the contract reads this way :

That the original dies of portraits, vignettes, lathe work, borders and other patterns or designs, and the matrix dies used in connection with any work under this agreement, may be engraved at the establishment of the contractors in the city of New York, in the State of New York, one of the United States of America.

No partially engraved dies in the contract. Willing to meet their wishes in a letter, but when it comes to the contract, the contract is absolute and gives them the whole power, the word "partially" being left entirely out. Now, I think I have made it pretty plain as regards the conditions and specifications. What happened after that? Well, Sir, on the 5th of January, directly after this correspondence, the Minister is convinced by that letter and memorandum, and he telegraphs to the American Bank Note Company that he is willing to recommend the acceptance of their tender, provided the details can be arranged to his satisfaction. The hon. gentleman then goes to Council and reports, and on the 7th of the month he gets an Order in Council passed, on his report, authorizing him to do that, if the details are arranged to the satisfaction of the Finance Minister. Until he obtained that authority, he never opened his lips, nor had the department any communication with the British American Bank Note Company. After he had committed himself thoroughly to the American company, after this correspondence and after the hon. gentleman had received the power, then he wrote a letter to the British American Bank Company returning the \$5,000 deposit and stating, we have had a better offer and we