The Toronto World.

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THE PULP TOWER PLOT

What Kirkland's Relation to It Is.

WHY DON'T HE SKIP.

The Government to Be Arrested for Conspiracy.

What the Committee Did.

Bail Granted But No Takers.

Who Is Lynch—Members In Trouble—The Plot Thickens—Why the Prisoners Are Still In Jail.

Though Mr. Justice Galt fixed bail yesterday for the two prisoners they were not taken out up to midnight. The reason therefor is further on. The committee of the house heard a good deal of evidence yesterday.

Kirkland's Position.

There is one thing that is common to the party papers, and that is denunciation of Kirkland, the American lawyer. The Globe says:

From papers found on the prisoner Kirkland, it will be seen that he came to this country for the very purpose of engaging systematically, and, we may say, of malice aforethought, in bribery, or in anything else which would further his own schemes and secure him his timber limits on his own terms. His business partner consented that he might go the length of ten thousand dollars in the purchase of favorable legislation in Ontario.

The Mai is still more bitter on the friendless American. It is bound to make him the scape-goat of Bunting, Wilkinson and Meek.

That [Mr. Peters' letter] we think, settles the question as to where the money came from. The grit sheets will not need to expend any further ingenuity on that problem. It is obvious that, however the affair developed as it went on, in the beginning it was simply a struggle between Kirkland and certain grit lumbermen for the possession of the ear of Mr. Pardee. Mr. Kirkland's operations on the grit members began very early obviously; and there can be very little doubt that some of them fully intended to betray their leader, and all of them intended to pocket the bribes.

That but for the weakening of one of the grit members the family cabal against Mr. Mowat would have succeeded, and the three worthies who are now posing as purists would have jingled Kirkland's money in their pockets and voted against Mr. Mowat.

Kirkland had spotted his men and had weighed them. They, [Balfour, McKim, Dowling] had readily engaged in the conspiracy against Mr. Mowat.

Kirkland is the bad man and it was with Yankee gold that he tried to do it. So says the Mail. But Kirkland himself in his affadavit says he did not spend a cent in bribing members and when his accounts come to be audited they will show that this is likely to be the case. The money did not come from him. The whole object yesterday was to get Kirkland out of jail, and to get him to join with the other accused in making a common defence. But it seeme he would not consent. Mr. Bunting also offered to retract or modify what the Mail had said about him. But the game is to get him out, frighten him that the country is too warm for him, and get him to skip. Then he will be made the scapegoat again. But if Kirkland is wise he will have nothing to do with either political party. He will listen to none of their offers. If he is only the representative of a Yankee timber firm, who were trying to get timber limits in a questionable way, he will at least meet with fair play. But what Kirkland and his principal, Mr. Peters, have to see to is that they do not mix themselves up with the politicians on either side. The country does not want Kirkland's scalp, or him to be used as a scapegoat; they want to get at the truth of the Bunting-Wilkinson conspiracy, and if Kirkland were to step out that would leave the truth much harder to get at.

THE BIG THREE AND THE TWO PLOTS.

As The World first pointed out there are two plots in this business. There is Kirkland and his trying to get members to aid him in his lumber limit business, and there is the Wilkinson-Bunting conspiracy. Now, public opinion is changing on this first matter. It is being said that McKim & Co. were altogether too intimate with Kirkland, and that some of them were at least prepared to make a deal with him in regard to their influence with Mr. Pardee and the government on their timber policy. These "deals" were on the carpet long before Mr. Mowat and his colleagues were called in, and advised the membars in question to lead the parties on. Kirkland's affidavit also points in this direction. But the Big Three were not the only ones dabbling with Kirkland on the timber limits pure and simple; there was a Big Four, and the public want to know their names. The public want to know what members were dickering with Kirkland.

THE CONSPIRACY.

As to the Pulptower conspiracy that is a more serious matter. The public are anxious to get at the facts and to know what Bunting, Wilkinson and Meek had to do with it. Here it is rather the conspirators that the public want to know about. This is not a timber limit scandal, but it is a grave political crime that is under discussion.

The people will act wisely in keeping the two plots separate when judging of them; though here and there they run into one another.

The object of Mr. Bunting is to make out that there was only one plot and that Peters of Manistee, Mich., and his rattle-brained agent, Kirkland, from Neillsville, Wis., were the conspirators.

WHO STRUCK BILLY PATTERSON?

The reform managers say that they are convinced that Lynch was Mr. Stimson, the man who changed $3000 at the bank of British North America. Mr. Stimson is not a son-in-law of Andrew Allan, of Montreal, as stated in one of the interviews published in The World yesterday. He is a large farmer and cattle feeder near Sherbrooke in the Eastern Township. He married a daughter of the well-known Lemoine family of Montreal. It is only fair to make this statement as far as Mr. Allan is concerned, for it has been said that this Wilkinson-Bunting plot is a second Pacific scandal. Andrew Allan is the last man to be mixed up with anything of the sort.

J. A. Wilkinson.

F. S. Kirkland.

ACCEPTING A BRIBE.

In accepting the bribe in question it is said by a lawyer and member who ought to know, that Balfour and McKim laid themselves open to the penalty contained in the following clause of the statutes of Ontario, chap 12, clause 45-46:

The offering to, or the acceptance of, a bribe by any member of said assembly to influence him in his proceedings as such, or the offering to or acceptance of any fee, compensation or reward by any such member for or in respect of the drafting, advising upon, revision, promoting or opposing any bill, resolution, matter or thing submitted to, or intended to be submitted to the said assembly, or any committee thereof, shall be punishable by "imprisonment for such time during the session of the legislative assembly then being held, as may be determined by the legislative assembly."

Kirkland's Alleged Lavishness.

As a good deal has been said about Kirkland's alleged lavishness since he arrived in the city it may be stated that since his arrival in Toronto on Jan. 7 last, a friend of his states that he received only $800 from his business partner. His bill at the Rossin house was $420 up to the date of his arrest and he still has $200 in the hotel safe. Besides paying his own bill he paid the expenses of one of his firm's employes, who was with him nearly all the time. There is not anything extra extravagant in the expenses named. *One* bottle of wine per day since his arrival would alone amount to $200.

Something Big Ahead.

It was given out late last night that there was to be a turn of the wheel that would startle public opinion in favor of Bunting and Wilkinson. It was hinted that some other arrests might me made; it was even said that three and perhaps four members of the government would be arrested for conspiring against Messrs. Bunting, Wilkinson and Meek.

Judge Galt Will Take Bail.

Application was made before Judge Galt at Osgoode hall yesterday to release Wilkinson and Kirkland on bail.

Mr. Murdoch appeared for Mr. Wilkinson, who also emphatically denies any attempt to bribe the members present in the following paragraph of his affidavit: "The charges laid in said information, so far as I am concerned, are untrue and unfounded, and I am advised and believe are as to the others, also untrue and unfounded."

The judge at first did not appear to be impressed with the argument made by Wilkinson's counsel or by the affidavit.

Thereupon Mr. Caswell applied for bail on behalf of Kirkland, and read the following affidavit, which, after reciting formally that the deponent was arrested and is at present confined in jail, continues as follows:

"I never in my life met Edward Meek, mentioned in the said information, previous to or appearing at the police court yesterday, and I have only met C. W. Bunting three or four times, and I have met John W. Wilkinson quite a number of times, and Lynch also I have never met, and do not know him. I have never entered into any conspiracy with the said John A. Wilkinson, C. W. Bunting, E. Meeks, or any person or persons for any such or similar purposes to those mentioned in said information, or for, as I believe, any improper purpose whatever, and I court the fullest investigation possible. I came to this city about January 23 last, having previously purchased 10,500 acres of land from the Ontario government, and I came with the object of trying to induce the commissioner of crown lands to change his mode of disposing of mining lands, so that at an advanced price the timber should be sold along with the soil and not reserved as in my patents. I visited the commissioner and several members of parliament to urge them to try and induce the commissioner or the government to change its plan of selling these lands as above indicated. I was satisfied, and am yet, that the said change would be for the benefit of that part of the province.

"I have never given a single dollar or any larger sum of money to any member of the Ontario parliament for any purpose whatever, since I came here, or before, and I never offered to pay money to any one of them. I have been asked by Mr. McKim for money to pay him for his services that he alleged he had rendered on my behalf, in explaining to other members of the legislature the policy that I considered best in the interests of the country in dealing with the lands west of Lake Superior, that is to say, I held the view that lands west of Lake Superior should be sold at a fixed price, giving the purchaser the right to the standing timber upon the lands, and that this would materially facilitate occupation and development. Mr. McKim from time to time reported to me that he had induced several members on the reform side to adopt these views and that they would all vote against the government if the matter was brought up and the government refused to adopt this policy, and it was for this service that the said McKim repeatedly requested me to pay him money, but I always declined to pay him money until he succeeded in getting this policy to prevail.

"I never at any time endeavored to corrupt any member of the legislature, and in all my interviews with members I merely endeavored to convince them that the timber should be sold with the land on the Lake Superior country."

County-crown Attorney Fenton opposed both applications.

His lordship held that the charge was a misdemeanor at most, that misdemeanor was bailable, and in the light of the affidavits he would grant it. He would admit both prisoners to bail, which he fixed at $8000 each—$4000 personally and two responsible securities in $2000 each.

Why Not Bailed.

Up to a late hour last night the two prisoners had not been bailed. One reason given for this is that certain persons had offered to bail the two jointly if Kirkland would assume responsibility for the payment of the money, and recognize Wilkinson as his agent. He refused to do this, as he has made up his mind that there is no case against him. It was therefore impossible for Wilkinson to be bailed out by the same parties, to have done that would have constituted him the recognized agent of the conservative party. So they both languish. Kirkland, however, has personal friends in the city, who will likely take him out to-day.

A Conspiracy Commission.

If there does not seem to be a likelihood of getting through the conspiracy business in a few days a commission to enquir fully into the whole thing may be appointed.

Before the Committee.

The United States consul in this city was present at the meeting of the committee on privileges and elections yesterday morning, presumably to watch proceedings in the conspiracy investigation in order to see that Kirkland received his rights as an American citizen.

H. P. Dwight, manager Great Northwestern telegraph company, was called and was given until to-morrow to decide whether he would produce all the telegrams sent to and received from Ottawa by C. W. Bunting and J. A. Wilkinson since Jan. 19.

W. H. Higgins, formerly of the Whitby Chronicle, testified that he had seen Stimson both at Ottawa and in this city. He saw him on Tuesday on Wellington street with C. W. Bunting.

In cross-examination, Higgins said Wilkinson and his gang stole his pocketbook containing a private letter from Archbishop Lynch which he (witness) was electioneering in Muskoka. Stimson, Higgins said, was a broad shouldered man, and was employed as a rancher.

A CONSERVATIVE'S EVIDENCE.

Thomas Goldie, Guelph, came forward as a voluntary witness. He acknowledged writing the unsigned letter on telegraph blanks to Wilkinson. He said: I never met Wilkinson until he came to Guelph in the latter part of January last. He introduced himself to me as "Big Push" Wilkinson. He said he had strong hopes of defeating the Mowat government, and was confident a coalition ministry would be formed. He wished me to see Mr. Laidlaw, and see what his feelings were. In the course of conversation he spoke about Bunting. He told me that he expected to use money, and in one instance gave me the amount. He also mentioned the office in the Northwest. I gave him no definite answer, but promised to write to him. I consulted with a personal friend and concluded that I could not take part in such a dirty piece of business. I decided to wash my hands of the whole affair. I never approached Mr. Laidlaw with any proposition to desert his party. I think too much of myself and too much of Mr. Laidlaw. The letter I wrote was merely a piece of bluff, intended to put Wilkinson off.

Mr. Fraser—Why did you mention Mr. Bunting's name in the letter?

Mr. Goodie—Well, I didn't care whether I saw Bunting or Wilkinson. I was determined to wash my hands of the affair, and for that reason came to Toronto as mentioned in the letter. I saw Mr. Wilkinson in his room at the Walker house, and told him that I wouldn't have anything to do with his negotiations. I think he said that he believed some of the government's supporters would desert when the Algoma question was brought up.

Mr. Fraser—Then, what you heard and saw during your dealings with Wilkinson would lead you to believe that members who were supporting the government were being corruptly approached?

The witness assented, and in answer to another question stated that he saw Mr. Bunting the day after his interview with Wilkinson. He told him of his talk with Wilkinson, and although he could not remember distinctly, believed Bunting advised him to have nothing to do with Wilkinson. He made the statement voluntarily in order to free Mr. Laidlaw from any imputation, although he had opposed him at the last elections and would do so again.

Mr. Laidlaw, at his own desire, was sworn and stated that he had never been approached by any person who had sought to influence in any way his vote in the legislature.

MR. M'KIM'S STATEMENT.

After some discussion as to the necessity of putting witnesses under oath, Mr. McKim consented to be sworn and read the following statement;

I had an acquaintance with Mr. Wilkinson before this session. I board at the Walker house, and he came there early in the session and sat at the same table with me. He told me he knew I was in business difficulties, and named three registry offices in the Northwest—Calgary, Regina, and Edmonton—but he thought he would keep Calgary himself, and he thought I should take Edmonton. He told me he had them at his disposal. He said that if I would take the office and vote against the government an allowance of $500 could be got for expenses, and traveling expenses paid beyond Winnipeg. He said he had been at Ottawa, and had arranged these matters as to the disposal of the offices. I at once told a member of the government all this, and after a consultation I determined to find out how far he would go with his corrupt proposals. I declined what he first offered. He had proposed there should be a coalition government. That there would be no dissolution of the house as they feared to go to the country, the catholic vote being against them. We ultimately settled that I was to get $2000 and the office—$1000 was to be paid when I had voted, and $1000 more in May when I was to get the office. I asked for security. He proposed that Mr. Bunting of the Mail should give his own note for $5000 to be placed with an agreement that I was to sign, and with a letter which he showed me from Hon. D. L. Macpherson, which he said was written to give him the disposal of the appointment at Edmonton, and was to be endorsed with a recommendation in my favor. These were to be placed in the hands of some one satisfactory to me to secure the carrying out of the agreement. Wilkinson had explained to me that he had seen Bunting, who would give his note for security, as proposed. He made an appointment for me to meet Bunting about it in the Mail office on the day the speaker gave his first dinner. I went to the Mail buildings, and instead of finding Bunting as agreed I was shown into Mr. Meek's room, where I found Wilkinson, who introduced me to Meek. They prepared an agreement for me to sign agreeing to vote against the government, and had a note for $5,000 with both their names on it. I objected, and insisted on having Bunting's note as agreed. This they said Bunting declined to give. Wilkinson at this time made a partial endorsement on the back of the letter in my presence, and was anxious to complete it by filling in my name, if I would accept his and Meek's note for $5,000, which I refused. Wilkinson then undertook to make an appointment for me with Bunting that night, which he did. About half-past ten, after leaving the speaker's dinner I went alone according to Wilkinson's directions, to the Mail office, where I met Bunting. He took me into a room alone, shut the door, and kept me talking for nearly two hours. He talked in favor of a coalition government. He said he knew that Wilkinson had promised me his (Bunting's) note for $5,000 as security, and he said he knew all about it, but from his position in the party and on the Mail he could not put his name to paper; but he assured me that whatever arrangement I made with Wilkinson and Meek it would be carried out, and that Meek was the party's solicitor and controlled the party's funds. He pledged me his word and honor that whatever was promised me by Meek and Wilkinson would be carried out, and said that Sir John always took good care of his friends. He also said that Meek was the solicitor in the petition against Lyon, and if he would vote right it could be withdrawn. I left the Mail office just before 1 o clock in the morning. Wilkinson then left town for some time. During his absence I met Mr. Kirkland, who spoke to me about his views on timber matters. Shortly afterwards he asked for an interview in my own room, and then he said there was no use talking to Pardee, as he could not change his policy. He said he had seen Meredith and talked the timber question over with him, and that he (Meredith) said he would take four or five days to consider it, and that at the end of the time he had seen Meredith again, when he told him that he agreed with his policy, and would bring it up in the house. He said he had also seen Bunting, and that Bunting agreed with his views. He also told me that he had spent $32,000 in lobbying a legislature in the States. He had hoped to get along here without the currency, but he had found he required it, and had sent for $15,000 or $20,000. I also mentioned this and all other conversations of the kind to the government. Kirkland afterwards offered me $3000 for my support in the house. After this Wilkinson returned to town, and we had a talk over Kirkland and his timber scheme. Subsequently Wilkinson said he had been at a caucus, and it had been decided to make the Yankee the scapegoat. On a subsequent occasion he told me they had looked the Yankee up, and were not going to work with him, as he would be coming with his claims against the new government, and that they would want the timber to divide up among themselves. During this time I met Bunting one evening in the speaker's lobby. We went out together to Front street, and up and down John street, and had a long talk. He told me he had been at Ottawa, and had now the power to defeat this government. He told me that it was all settled to defeat them. About my own affairs, he repeated over and over again that I would get what had been promised, and would be well taken care of. I also told him about Kirkland's offer, and he told me to get all I could from the Yankee in addition to what I was getting from them, and he would help me to do so. He also told me that in case of Mr. Mowat's defeat there would be no dissolution. He again promised that Lyon's protest would be dropped. Last week Wilkinson finally agreed to pay the $500 cash in hand, and that I was to get the office and $500 more cash in May. He asked me into his room in the hotel, and introduced me to a Mr. Lynch of Michigan, and left me with him, saying we could do our own business. Then Lynch asked me if I knew Mr. Meek. I said I did. He said Meek was his solicitor, and showed me a large envelope, and he read what was written in it, something about a bet with me about Dowling voting, and he took out a large roll of bills from the envelope, of which one was a $100 bill, and he said I could count it and put the money back in the envelope and seal it, and he would leave it with Meek to be paid over after the vote. I told him I would only take the cash, and our interview ended. Kirkland afterwards on the same day asked me if I would take $750 cash from Wilkinson, but I refused it. On Saturday, 15th inst., Wilkinson came back to me and told me he would give me $1000 if I would trust him for the other $500. The $1000 he was to give me that night, but he did not. Next day, 16th March, between 12 and 1 o'clock, Wilkinson came to my room and told me to come to his room and he would pay me. I went down and in his room he handed me a roll of bills and told me to count them, which I did. There were ten $100 bills on the bank of British North America. He produced a round robin pledging me to vote against the Mowat government and to support the coalition. I signed it. I then took the money straight to Balfour's room and asked him to count it, which he did. Immediately after dinner I went to find the speaker, but found he had gone home. Then I found three members of the government and told them I had got $1000 from Wilkinson, and asked them what I was to do with the money. They advised me to place it in an envelope addressed to the speaker not to be opened until the attorney general requested it. I did so, and gave it to the speaker on his return on the 17th inst. Wilkinson told me that Meredith would not move the amendment on motion to go into committee of supply on the government timber policy until there were enough supporters got to defeat the government. He said from time to time that the amendment would not be moved on such and such days, mentioning different days of the week, as the matter was postponed from time to time. On Saturday or Sunday he told me the amendment would likely come up on Monday. Almost every day during our negotiations Wilkinson told me that he had been at a caucus. On one occasion he told me that when they undertook anything of this kind they would swear it through. On another occasion he always said it was cheaper to spend money in buying members after they were elected than spending a lot of money at elections, and running the risk of being defeated.

In cross-examination, Mr. McKim said he was advised in the course he pursued by Messrs Fraser, Pardee and Hardy and Mr. Fraser at once said, "I assume the full responsibility of having advised Mr. McKim to go on with the negotiations. For my part, I am perfectly willing that it should be known that I advised Mr. McKim to entrap the men, as I would have entrapped them myself if they had attempted the same corrupt offer to me. I am quite willing to defend my conduct anywhere."

Mr. McKim said, in reply to Mr. Meredith, that having heard the witnesses Walsh and Higgins describe Stimson he had no doubt the man was identical with the Lynch who gave him the money.

Alex. Craig, clerk at the Rossin house, gave unimportant evidence regarding parties who had called on Kirkland, and the committee adjourned.

King Dodds' Opinion.

From the Canadian Sportsman.

Of all the dirty puddles that ever existed, Canadian politics appears just now to be the dirtiest. Men destitute of every qualification but the ability to outlie Judas Iscariot, and capable of performing any trick however despicable, appear to be the choice weapons eagerly sought after by both political parties. Added to this the two leading newspapers, grit and conservative, have through their leading columns exhausted the slang dictionaries of the universe in their efforts to damn each other's character. Verily the young men of Canada, if they are to believe either the Globe or Mail, would consult their own respectability by turning pickpockets rather than politicians.

AN UNINTERESTING SESSION.

The Commons in Committee of Supply—Sir Charles Tupper's Case.

OTTAWA, March 20.—To-day's sitting of the house of commons was perhaps the most uninteresting of the whole session.

The resolution empowering the government to purchase the Eastern Extension railway was concurred in. The house then went into committee of supply and passed items of expenditure in connection with legislation, penitentiaries, administration of justice and the militia service, discussion being carried on in conversational style.

A meeting of the privileges and elections committee has been called for to-morrow, when Sir Charles Tupper's case will be discussed.

In the railway committee this morning a long discussion took place on the report of the sub-committee on Mr. Mulock's bill recommending that the time during which railway trains may stand upon crossings shall be limited to two minutes. Sir Chas. Tupper complained that the sub-committee had entirely ignored the testimony of Messrs. Hickson and Van Horne and therefore he would oppose the bill. Mr. Muloch consented to withdraw the bill after receiving a promise that the government would introduce this session an amendment to the general railway act providing that trains shall not be allowed to stand on crossings for more than five minutes.

TARIFF TACTICS.

Modifications to Be Made in Morrison's Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The Star says a committee of tariff reformers made a canvass of the house and found Morrison's bill wanted the requisite number of supporters to secure its passage. On consultation it was decided to recommend certain modifications in the bill which they claim will give it an assured majority of nine over the republicans and Randall's followers. The split that will follow will be violent and permanent. There was more excitement to-day over the tariff question than has been apparent since it was first raised.

TORONTO TO THOUSAND ISLANDS.

Proposed New Line of Steamers—A Conference at Oswego.

OSWEGO, March 20.—Officials connected with the Ontario and Western railway were here yesterday consulting with reference to a line of steamers from Toronto to the Thousand Islands, touching at Charlotte and Oswego, and running in connection with the railroad. It is believed arrangements will be made.

Desperate Affray With Train Robbers.

ST. LOUIS, March 20.—Three negroes named Lewis, Freeman and Anderson boarded several freight trains near East St. Louis last night and to-day and with drawn revolvers overawed the conductors and brakemen and robbed the cars. At noon a posse headed by Alderman Green from East St. Louis attacked the negroes six miles from this city. After an exchange of over forty shots the negroes were arrested. Anderson received a big load of buckshot in the side and arm. Alderman Green was shot in the knee.

John Austin's Amours.

JERSEY CITY, March 20.—John Austin, arrested at Red Bank for abandoning his family, was found at a hotel with a young miss of this city whom he had registered as his wife. On Austin was found a large number of affectionate letters from young girls living in different parts of New York state. His wife yesterday obtained a divorce. The costs were paid by the relatives of the young lady whom he took to Red Bank and whom he will marry.

A Seventy-Two Round Fight.

PITTSBURG, March 20.—James Davis of Wheeling and Jim Conners of this place fought a prize fight to-night in a barn at the east end with hard gloves for a silver cup valued at $200. Seventy-two rounds were fought. Conners won. Both men were badly punished. Davis at the conclusion was so weak that he was unable to stand. When the fight was over fourteen policemen forced the door of the barn and arrested Davis and a number of spectators. Conners escaped. About 200 persons were present.

Mitchell Whips Denning.

NEW YORK, March 20.—Chas. Mitchell, of England, weignt 160 lbs. and Joe Denning, of this city, weight 200 lbs., fought four rounds with soft gloves to-night for $250 a side. The result was practically decided in the first round. During the whole contest Denning was not able to get in a single blow. Mitchell was declared the winner.

A TRULY RURAL SCANDAL

A SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER SEDUCES ONE OF HIS PUPILS.

Maria Hannah Baird's Story in the Assize Court—Asking for $1500 for her Alleged Wrongs.

The cities of Ontario are not the only places where scandals abound. In fact the rural parts and small villages often favor the rest of the province with a romance or a scandal that, to use a vulgar phrase, "knocks the city cold." Such a one has been brewing up in the township Howick, in the county of Huron, for some months, and it broke forth with all its odious bearings in the assize court in this city yesterday, before Chief Justice Hagarty and a jury. Maria Hannah Baird, just coming 21, as she put it, stepped into the box, and showing unmistakable signs of her folly, told the story of her alleged wrongs. John James Sweatman, a general storekeeper of the village of Fordwich (Huron) and the father of six children, was the defendant in the case, and Miss Baird claimed $1500 damages through her father, William Baird. N. G. Bigelow and Mr. Munro appeared for plaintiff and B. B. Osler, Q.C., for the defence.

The young woman told her story with a good deal of nerve. Five years ago she was one of Sweatman's pupils in the methodist Sunday school at Fordwich. Then she went to live in defendant's house as a domestic. This was in March, 1879. Two months afterwards Sweatman led her astray in his own house. These relations were kept up for a year, when she went away home to her mother. She remained at home until April, 1882, when she returned to Sweetman's house as a domestic. Their improper relations were renewed and kept up until Aug. 27, 1882, when she again returned home. The girl often met defendant again, and in September 1883, she discovered that she was pregnant. Still her relations with defendant continued, and after the knowledge of her condition became known to her mother, she set about to see what her seducer was going to do for her. Sweatman said he would send her to a friend of his named A. W. Laur, who keeps a hardware store in Hanover, 25 miles from Fordwich. Sweatman said he had arranged with Laur to have the girl brought to Toronto and provided for in the lying-in-hospital or some other institution. In the meantime, according to the girl's evidence, there was a young man named Robert Brunton who was about leaving Fordwich for the States, and it struck Sweatman that it would be a good thing to place the blame of Miss Baird's ruin on Brunton. He would be gone and no one would know whether it was true or not. But subsequents events knocked these calculations out. After the girl arrived at Laur's house in Hanover, she received letters from the defendant. One of them was read in court, and as it has a material bearing on the christian character of the defendant it is reproduced. The letter was in answer to one from the girl, in which she suggested a plan of coming to Toronto for her confinement:

FORDWICH, Jan, 3, 1884.—*My Dear Friend:* I think the plan you speak of is the best, as your friend will see you safely there, and you will have no trouble after. I think you are better there. Don't let your friends here know it or they may stop you from going there. I saw John (her brother) and he said that some one must have given you money, and you can guess who they blame for it. I told them what you said. He (John) said there was no use in your going away, as they would bring you back and make you prove to things. So you need not look to him for any help or assistance. I am glad that you have a friend there, and you can trust him to help you. I would like to hear from you often, but we are running a risk and must try to be content with as little as possible for a few months; and I trust a kind providence will help us, yet don't you forget for to pray for it and I won't forget to pray for you night and day. But I must deny knowing where you are. So you see the need of keeping things in the dark until you are able to return, when I hope you will at not a very distant day be able to look down on some of the serpents here. There is an oyster social here to-night at the leading spirit's to pay for the organ in the church on the hill. Some of the folks are there. I am not, and will take my oysters in writing this. The Sunday school are all the same as last year, but we miss your pleasant face every Sabbath. When you write send the letter the same as the last, but address the letter to your mother yourself, and seal it for her. She got your letter to-day and I did not see her since. The roads are blocked up now, but expect they will be running to-morrow and this will be sent to you, so you will get it on Monday. You must try and be brave for a few months and all will be well. Your mother knows about you. The rest of them will know it very soon, so keep your mind to yourself, as you know whose happiness is depending on it. Good-bye for a short time. Good help and keep you until you are safe to return to see us again. I can only X (kiss) the shadow for the substance at present. Good-bye with love from your friend ever thine. M. H. B.

P.S.—Write when you said you would. You must keep your secret to yourself. John (her brother) sent to F. J. to find out news. Mind what you say to Frank. They are bound to find things out if they can. All depends on you being firm, so mind what you do and don't let any of them know your mind. I am afraid we must stop writing or they will hear it. Your friend M. H. B.

The girl said it was arranged that Sweatman should sign the letters "W. M." to to his letters, but he did not do that and affixed her own initals "M. H. B." According to arrangement, Laur brought her to this city on Jan. 10 last. Here again she admitted that she transgressed and stopped at two different hotels with Laur. She remained in Toronto until a week ago, when she returned to her mother's house. Sweatman had given Laur $25 to bring the girl to town, and he promised her $4 per week until two weeks after her confinement.

Letters that passed between Laur and Sweatman were put in. Sweatman in addressing Laur always used the prefix "Dear Sir and Brother," and he spoke of things between them being "on the square." The letters were principally instructions to Laur how to proceed in getting the girl out of the way. Laur was put in the box and swore that Sweatman had visited him, admitted his guilt, and promised to see the girl through and pay all expenses. He had a witness hid under his counter when Sweatman was making this assertion.

While examining Laur Mr. Osler asked him if he and Sweatman expected to be turned out of the lodge and the church for their conduct. Laur said: "We may be turned out of the lodge, but I don't know about the church."

In cross-examining the girl Mr. Osler asked her if she ever had anything to do with any of the young men in Fordwich, naming several of them over. She said she never had anything to do with any man outside of her seducer and Laur. She admitted that she told her mother that Frank Brunton was responsible for her condition, but this was done to shield Sweatman. She also said that she had been almost persuaded to sign a paper setting forth that "Sweatman had never had anything to do with her, and that she would not commence proceedings against him." She never signed the paper.

It also came out in evidence that something had come between the friendship of Sweatman and Laur, and that the latter had been instrumental in a measure in having the suit brought by the girl, although it was did in her father's name.

The case was not concluded when the court rose at 6 o'clock.

THE SCOTT ACT IN OXFORD.

A Majority of About Eight Hundred for the Measure.

WOODSTOCK, Ont., March 20.—The Scott was carried in Oxford to-day. A very large vote was polled. The majority for the act will be about 800. The following majorities, for and against, are all in at present:

	Against.	For.
Woodstock	202	
East Oxford	5	
Tilsonburg	48	
Ingersoll		3
West Oxford		49
North Oxford		1
North Norwich		79
South Norwich		142
Dereham		150
Norwich		70
Embro		45
West Zorra		37
East Zorra		66
East Nissouri		154
Blenheim		79
Brownsville		60
	255	935
Majority for the act		680

AN ACTION FOR SLANDER.

Half of the Town of Oshawa Attend a Trial at Whitby.

WHITBY, March 20.—About 200 people from Oshawa were in town to-day to attend the trial of Mrs. Evans against Alex. Mackie of that town. The case was heard at the assize court before Judge Cameron, and is an action for slander. Some two years ago a Mrs. Evans arrived at Oshawa from Flint, Mich. She has been married twice, was divorced from her first husband and does not live with the second. Rumors have been rife around Oshawa regarding her character, and the names of several male residents have been connected with the scandal, especially Daniel Hinckson, into whose family the rumors penetrated. Mr. Mackie is a son-in-law of Hinckson. Mrs. Hinckson got a lady to write to Flint making enquiries concerning the character of Mrs. Evans in that city. An anonymous letter was received giving Mrs. Evans an unenviable reputation. The defendant is alleged to have circulated rumors about the woman on the strength of these letters, the result being a suit for slander. The defence is that the obnoxious words were used on privileged occasions, that is in the Hinckson family. Many witnesses were examined and the case will be continued to morrow.

An Unfortunate Resemblance.

WELLAND, Ont., March 20.—Chief of Police Gilchrist last night arrested a man here on the strength of his resemblance to O'Callaghan, the Sandwich jail murderer. He gave his name as John Wilson, born north of Toronto, but refused to give the county or township, and appeared very anxious to get out of the country. It is considered doubtful if he is the murderer.

Three People Drowned.

ST. JOHN, N.B., March 20.—David Kyffer of Portland, St. John, aged 45; George Ambrose of Black River, aged 10, and a lad named Wagner, aged 8, went out from Black River yesterday to gather drift seaweed. The boat upset and all were drowned. The bodies were recovered.

"A Horrible Fiction."

WASHINGTON, March 20.—In the house to-day S. S. Cox spoke at length upon the tariff and revenue laws, arging that both be wiped out. He called them "A horrible fiction under which you legalize the robbery of more than 99¾ per cent of the American people for the enrichment and aggrandizement of the other ¼ per cent."

No Subject for Jesting.

BURLINGTON, Iowa., March 20.—The Hawkeye on Tuesday published a humorous sketch of the celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Thomas Kelly was offended by the publication, and yesterday visited the editorial rooms and assaulted Burdette. The parties were separated after both their faces were badly disfigured.

Parnell Looking Ahead.

LONDON, March 20.—Parnell is preparing for the dissolution of parliament. He has already selected sixty parliamentary candidates. His party will contest ninety seats, and expect to carry seventy-five.

Grand Trunk Coal Contracts.

BUFFALO, March 20.—It is understood the Buffalo, New York and Philadelphia, Erie and Alleghney Valley railroads have cancelled the rates given their shippers on Grand Trunk coal contracts.

Minnie Hauk Bruised.

PALESTINE, Tex., March 20.—A passenger train on the Pacific telescoped with a freight train near here this morning. Minnie Hauk and her company were on the train. They escaped with many bruises and contusions.

Handling a Pistol.

BIRCHWOOD, Tenn., March 20.—James Bowens shot and killed Miss Rourke while handling a pistol after he had taken her home from church.

Cattle Plague in Illinois.

ROCKFORD, Ill., March 20.—A fatal disease has appeared among the cattle here. They are taken sick at night and die before the morning. The bodies are much bloated.

Killed by a Policeman.

CHICAGO, March 20.—Thomas Scott, thief, was shot and killed by Policeman Leonard to-day while endeavoring to escape arrest.

FAIR WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, TORONTO, March 21, 1 a.m.

Lakes and Upper St. Lawrence: Light to moderate, variable winds; fair weather; not much change in temperature.

SAFE OVER THE SEA.

Steamship.	Reported at.	From.
Caspian	Halifax	Portland.
Circassian	Liverpool	Portland.
Austrian	Halifax	Glasgow.
Australia	New York	Hamburg.
Silesia	New York	Hamburg.
W. A. Scholten	New York	Rotterdam.
City of Chester	New York	Liverpool.
Assyrian Monarch	London	New York.
Abyssinia	Queenstown	New York.
Bothnia	New York	Liverpool.