



FORGERIES COMMISSION.

Conclusion of Le Caron's Evidence.

AUTOGRAPH PHOTOGRAPHS PRODUCED.

An interesting letter - The Informer's Cool Departure - Examination of Mr. Soames, the "Times" solicitor - The Parnell Forgeries Produced at Last - Pignott's Play - Flanagan the hired slanderer - What the Letters Cost the "Times."

LONDON, February 14 - Mr. Soames, solicitor for the Times, testified before the Parnell commission to-day that he visited Dublin in May, 1888, in quest of evidence. At the office of Alexander Murphy, Attorney General, he had an interview with a person who was introduced to him as a former employee in the office of the League, and who produced a slip bearing the signature of Miss Anna Parnell, spokeswoman of Patrick Egan's handwriting, and a bundle of documents which the witness inspected at length. He copied some of these documents and made notes of others. Witness arranged that the documents should be brought to London and they were brought here on Whit Monday, 1888, and embodied in an affidavit produced during the trial of the suit of O'Donnell against Walter for libel. Mr. Soames said he was first consulted regarding the alleged Parnell letters at the end of November or the beginning of December, 1886. He produced five letters, including the letter, a fac simile of which was printed in the Times. Attorney-General Webster said the letters had been photographed. At Chief Justice Hanna's request he handed the photographs to the Bench.

Mr. Soames said Mr. Macdonald, manager of the London Times, handed him the letters. The letters were submitted to an expert in April, 1887. Before that genuine specimens of Mr. Parnell's handwriting were collected and other specimens had since been collected. At Attorney-General Webster's request witness submitted genuine specimens of Mr. Parnell's signature. Soames said he had obtained specimens of the writing of Henry Campbell, Mr. Parnell's secretary. He had no means of judging who wrote the letter, a fac simile of which was published in the Times. Mr. Inglis, the expert, asked him to get further specimens of Campbell's writing. Witness then produced further specimens of Mr. Parnell's signature, which he had obtained since the fac simile was published in the Times. Parnell signed as magistrate, orders of admission to the House of Commons, a paragraph written for a newspaper and the Klaimham jail book, which contained nine signatures. Soames said he believed the body of the letters which appeared in the Times was in Campbell's writing, while the signature was Parnell's.

LETTERS FROM EGAN. When discovered the Parnell letters he also came across documents which he supposed to be Egan's. Three of Egan's letters were found in Darey's house where two letters in Campbell's writing were also discovered. Witness produced these letters with other specimens of Egan's writing.

Sir Charles Russell said: "We are only able to give these documents cursory glance. The court must assume that all will be unquestioned." Attorney-General Webster rejoined that he did not suppose Sir Charles would admit the genuineness of the letter. Soames testified that Richard Pignott gave the Parnell letters to Houston, secretary of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union, who handed them to Macdonald. Soames produced a letter from Byrne, referring to a cheque for £100 which Parnell promised him when he suddenly went to France in September, 1887. Witness said he employed Detective Moser to go to America to trace the source of certain documents known to be forgeries. He never used these documents in any way. They were not received through Pignott. On cross-examination the witness said he was not consulted regarding the publication of the articles on "Parnellism and Crimes," though he knew they were being prepared early in 1887. Flanagan, the son of an Irish judge, co-operated with a gentleman on the Times in preparing the articles. Up to January, 1888, twelve letters had been obtained from Pignott. Later, more letters written by Egan, O'Kelly Davitt were obtained, making a total of seventeen.

PRICE PAID FOR THE PARNELL LETTERS.

He did not know precisely what was paid for the letters. Probably whatever was paid passed through him. The first payment of \$1,000 was made to Houston. It was partly for his expenses in going to America and partly for the payment of Dr. Maguire and other assistants. The successive subsequent payments to Houston were \$200, \$300, \$400, \$12, \$180, \$650, \$242, and \$100. Witness paid Moser about \$2,000 for \$250 and another agent named Tompson \$300 Tompson Davitt's letter the witness said he took pains to form a conclusive opinion. He decided that it was genuine.

A CONFESSED SCOUNDREL.

LONDON, February 12 - The cross-examination of Le Caron was continued before the Parnell commission to-day. He said neither O'Kelly nor Parnell had ever written to him. The English expelled O'Kelly because he had joined with Parnell in the open movement. O'Kelly denounced O'Kelly. Witness believed O'Kelly was a violent opponent of the League. Witness said he delivered sealed packets from Devoy and O'Leary to Egan in Paris in 1881, and acknowledged that the security of the seals alone prevented him from opening the package. He again saw Egan in America in 1883.

Egan introduced him to Mr. Parnell in the lobby of the House of Commons. He conversed with Parnell and was complimented by him on his work. The Irish Republican Brotherhood was then opposing Parnell so far as the home organization was concerned. Parnell complained of this opposition would have been clipped had they not obtained assistance from America. The most important of Mr. Parnell's conversation concerned his views as a revolutionist. He declared that he did not see why an insurrection should be unsuccessful.

KEEPING A SECRET.

Sir Charles Russell, counsel for the Parnellites, and Sir Henry James, counsel for the Times, here announced that they had agreed not to produce the documents which were the subject of discussion last Friday. Witness said the Government had paid him £2,000 between February, 1889, and August, 1870. He spent every cent for public purposes. The V. C. organization, which numbered 25,000 members, deliberately and knowingly supported the dynamite policy. In the convention of 1881, 162 of the delegates favored the use of dynamite. The convention held in Madison Square Garden, New York, in 1884, advocated the dynamite policy. Le Caron said, Senator Jones, who had denied his former evidence, was considered a "carpet bag" senator. He had not heard of any crime being attributed to Jones.

AUTOGRAPH PHOTOGRAPHS.

Le Caron produced a photograph of Parnell. He said he had received two of these photographs. One was mailed to him in care of the League head quarters in Dublin. The envelope was stamped with the House of Commons stamp. Mr. Parnell in witness' presence signed one photograph, "Ours truly, C. S. Parnell." The other photograph was similar signed. Le Caron was unable to swear whether the photograph produced was Mr. Parnell's gift or the one mailed him. Egan gave him his photographs, which was signed "best regards," in Paris in 1881. Egan also gave him a photograph of a leading member of the League, similarly signed. He saw Egan write the words mentioned on both photographs. Byington sent Egan two photographs with a note, saying, "Please give these to our friend to take to America."

SECRET WARFARE.

Le Caron said the convention of 1881 in Chicago unanimously agreed to carry on a secret warfare. The V. C. comprised the dynamite party, apart from the O'Donovan party. The secret organization was first conceived in 1869. The V. C. dated from 1872. Ross was expelled from the organization for insubordination. The connection between the supreme council and the V. C. was ruptured at the Boston convention in 1884, each organization claiming to be the legitimate body.

LETTER FROM JOHN DEVOT. Mr. Parnell requested witness to write to Devoy, Sullivan, Hines, and Carroll. Witness in fact received from America one of John Devoy's original letters dated "Office of James Reynolds, No. 41 Orange street, New Haven, June 24, 1881."

the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union, altogether \$3,000. Soames said Pignott told of interviews he had with Solicitor Lewis and Mr. Labouchere. The letter sent Pignott several £10 notes. One of these was forwarded to Ireland and then re-directed to London. Witness produced a copy of the letter with accompanied it. It had never occurred to witness to ask Pignott how he acquired the letters. Neither had he asked Houston. Pignott showed a witness a letter from Lewis accusing Pignott of having admitted he forged the letters and his reply, whereupon witness required that the statutory declaration be made in which Pignott detailed all the communications between himself and Lewis, including the offer of £1,000 by Lewis, on behalf of Labouchere, if he would swear he forged the letters. This statement caused a sensation.

Soames said Pignott did not tell of the correspondence he had with Archbishop Walsh, of Dublin, regarding the letters. He never heard of this correspondence until he heard it mentioned in court last evening. Briden Inglis, Soames said, the Times engaged Birch and Ellis as experts. He never promised Pignott £5,000, on the ground that it would be impossible for him to live in Dublin after giving evidence for the Times, and that he wanted to make some provision for himself. Witness told him he could not listen to such suggestion, but Pignott might rest satisfied that the Times would never see him ruined through his honesty testifying to all he knew.

Soames said a man calling himself Wilson wrote to him offering to give information. He recognized the writing as that of O'Brien, an emissary from Egan to Labouchere. The offer to furnish information was simply a "plant." He had O'Brien watched. At Labouchere's instance O'Brien was sent to Dublin to see Pignott. In Dublin O'Brien assumed the name of Sinclair. The man following O'Brien traced him to Labouchere's and Pignott's houses, and then traced Pignott, Lewis and Parnell to Labouchere's residence. The witness knew O'Brien as a man known in America as Robertson. It was "Robertson" who deluded Detective Moser with letters which had since been admitted to be forgeries. Kirby was paid £250 to go to America and procure from Sheridan the original Parnell letter, a fac simile of which was published in the Times. Mr. Harcourt saw this letter.

Soames was re-examined by Sir R. D. Webster. He said there was no bargain with the Times to purchase letters. If the Parnell letters were forgeries then the writing of the others, signed with the names of Egan, Campbell, Davitt and O'Kelly of Tyrone, must have been forged. The bodies of six deluded Parnell letters were in the writing of Campbell.

WITNESS NOT.

Witness never heard that the letters were offered to other papers, but had heard that the documents had been offered to Lord Hartington before they were offered to the Times. Houston produced no voucher for sums paid. Six months were occupied in acquiring if the documents were bona fide. Witness was convinced that the letters were genuine and he thought that just before the second reading of the Crimes bill would be a fitting time to show the country the character of the men making themselves prominent in Irish affairs. The commission here adjourned.

A HIDEOUS MASS OF INQUIRY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 - The Times London correspondent says: "The Parnell Commission, from being a wearisome and exasperating infliction, has stepped into a place of absorbing interest. The fact that Richard Pignott was the man who sold the letters to the London Times' agent and is believed by all the Parnellites to be the one who forged them was printed in these despatches some time ago. He was then described quite accurately as the worst specimen of an unprincipled scoundrel that even the subterranean depths of Irish informidom had ever produced, but it seems now that he has still further claims to pre-eminence.

PIGNOTT'S BARGAIN.

When Pignott came to London last October to assist the Times in preparing its case before the commission he promptly struck the Times for £5,000 as the price for going on with the matter. As the Times had bought the letters from its Irish informant and not Pignott, it declined to pay this blackmail and refused to give more than a written statement that if Pignott went into the box and swore to the authenticity of the letters it would not see him ruled by the consequences of the act. This was not good enough for Pignott, who straightaway began negotiations with Mr. George Lewis, who is Mr. Parnell's solicitor. After some bargaining Pignott is asserted to have made a confession to Lewis before witness that he forged the letters.

THE QUELLED DETECTIVE.

Now comes the curious part of the story. It is well known that the detective Moser, who was sent to America by the Times, was gulfed into paying something like a thousand pounds for a package of letters which turned out all to be forgeries. The man who achieved this trick is one O'Brien, formerly a solicitor in Dublin, who is known to Moser under the alias of Robertson. This O'Brien subsequently came to England, and under the name of Wilson tried to repeat the experiment of selling documents to the Times. This time it failed, and detectives set a watch on him and traced him to the company of Pignott, and thus discovered Pignott going to the house of Mr. Labouchere, where he met Lewis and Parnell.

LABOUCHERE'S GAME.

Thereupon the Times put the screws on Pignott, who admitted that he had been negotiating with its adversaries and receiving money £10 at a time, from Mr. Labouchere. He turned over the last of these ten-pound notes to the Times along with the whole con-

the proprietors of the oleo factory at 100 and under, which is much cheaper than it can be laid down there from Chicago. In creamery butter a very medium lot was sold in this market at 25c, and 25c to 25c is fine enough. We quote: Creamery - Finest..... 25 to 26 Earlier made..... 22 - 23 Eastern Townships..... 19 - 22 Richmond..... 17 - 19 Montserrat..... 19 - 21 Brookville..... 18 - 20 Western..... 16 - 18 Kashmir..... 17 - 19 ROLL BUTTER - Most of the desirable lots arriving are absorbed without much difficulty at from 17c to 18c for Western and 18c to 20c for Montserrat as to quality.

O'BRIEN AGAIN ARRAIGNED. DUBLIN, February 18 - Mr. O'Brien was arraigned at Tralee to-day on the last summons issued against him for offences under the Crimes act. An extra force of police and military was on duty. Mr. O'Brien looked pale. During the hearing Mr. Healy, Mr. O'Brien's counsel, called Col. Turner a scoundrel. The magistrate demanded that he retract, but Healy refused, and he was forcibly expelled from court. The court abruptly adjourned.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN CHICAGO.

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COMMERCIAL.

MONTREAL MARKET QUOTATIONS.

FLOUR, GRAIN, &c. FLOUR - The late advance in the price of wheat has induced much greater confidence on the part of holders of the market. The price of 100 per bushel more money than at this time last week. Advice from Winnipeg report much stronger markets there, strong bakers commanding 10c per bushel advance, with a further rise anticipated. In this market, sales have transpired to-day at \$5.40, and in one instance an outside figure was obtained for one lot. Broken strong No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, No. 13, No. 14, No. 15, No. 16, No. 17, No. 18, No. 19, No. 20, No. 21, No. 22, No. 23, No. 24, No. 25, No. 26, No. 27, No. 28, No. 29, No. 30, No. 31, No. 32, No. 33, No. 34, No. 35, No. 36, No. 37, No. 38, No. 39, No. 40, No. 41, No. 42, No. 43, No. 44, No. 45, No. 46, No. 47, No. 48, No. 49, No. 50, No. 51, No. 52, No. 53, No. 54, No. 55, No. 56, No. 57, No. 58, No. 59, No. 60, No. 61, No. 62, No. 63, No. 64, No. 65, No. 66, No. 67, No. 68, No. 69, No. 70, No. 71, No. 72, No. 73, No. 74, No. 75, No. 76, No. 77, No. 78, No. 79, No. 80, No. 81, No. 82, No. 83, No. 84, No. 85, No. 86, No. 87, No. 88, No. 89, No. 90, No. 91, No. 92, No. 93, No. 94, No. 95, No. 96, No. 97, No. 98, No. 99, No. 100.

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MARRIED. GRUER - MCGILL - At the Jesuit Church, Denver, Colorado, on the 2nd January, 1889, by Rev. Father Wade, S. J., James M. Gruer, formerly of Ormsworth, P. O., to Libbie, eldest daughter of John McGill. (This good lady has more than once favored the readers of the Colorado Chronicle with useful correspondence. We wish her happiness in her new state. Ed. C. CATHIE.)

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MONTREAL MARKET QUOTATIONS.

FLOUR, GRAIN, &c. FLOUR - The late advance in the price of wheat has induced much greater confidence on the part of holders of the market. The price of 100 per bushel more money than at this time last week. Advice from Winnipeg report much stronger markets there, strong bakers commanding 10c per bushel advance, with a further rise anticipated. In this market, sales have transpired to-day at \$5.40, and in one instance an outside figure was obtained for one lot. Broken strong No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, No. 13, No. 14, No. 15, No. 16, No. 17, No. 18, No. 19, No. 20, No. 21, No. 22, No. 23, No. 24, No. 25, No. 26, No. 27, No. 28, No. 29, No. 30, No. 31, No. 32, No. 33, No. 34, No. 35, No. 36, No. 37, No. 38, No. 39, No. 40, No. 41, No. 42, No. 43, No. 44, No. 45, No. 46, No. 47, No. 48, No. 49, No. 50, No. 51, No. 52, No. 53, No. 54, No. 55, No. 56, No. 57, No. 58, No. 59, No. 60, No. 61, No. 62, No. 63, No. 64, No. 65, No. 66, No. 67, No. 68, No. 69, No. 70, No. 71, No. 72, No. 73, No. 74, No. 75, No. 76, No. 77, No. 78, No. 79, No. 80, No. 81, No. 82, No. 83, No. 84, No. 85, No. 86, No. 87, No. 88, No. 89, No. 90, No. 91, No. 92, No. 93, No. 94, No. 95, No. 96, No. 97, No. 98, No. 99, No. 100.

MONTREAL HORSE EXCHANGE, POINT ST CHARLES. The receipts of Horses for week ending February 16th, 1889, were as follows: 369; left over from last week 34; total for week 403; shipped during week, 268; sold, 31; left for city, 72; on hand for sale and shipment, 32. Trade during the week has been quiet, the sales were numerous, but prices ruled considerably lower than of last week. Average prices \$80 to 150, including one heavy team at \$400. There is a demand for heavy work mares and drivers with three car-loads to arrive early in the week.

MONTREAL STOCK YARDS, POINT ST CHARLES.

The receipts of live stock for week ending February 16th, 1889, were as follows: 555 cattle, 87 sheep, 4 hogs, and 46 calves; left over from previous week, 37 cattle. Total last week, 640 cattle, 37 sheep, 4 hogs and 20 calves; left on hand for sale, 62 cattle; receipts last week, 570 cattle, 146 sheep, 12 hogs and 20 calves. Receipts for the week at these yards were small and trade on the whole was dull, the demand being limited, butchers having bought an over supply for carnival. The supply of beef will be