

1341. Did you think you could carry out the contract at the prices at which you tendered?—Yes, and make \$50,000 without any trouble.

By Hon. Mr. Reesor :

1342. Did you ever say anything to Mr. Cotton that could lead him to believe that he had a right to act for you in regard to the withdrawal of the tender?—None whatever.

1343. You gave him no authority?—None whatever.

By Hon. Mr. Haythorne :

1344. When you wrote your letter of withdrawal, had you given up all hope of receiving the contract?—I had.

By Hon. Mr. Bureau :

1345. What reason had you for giving the letter to Mr. Cotton instead of Mr. Hartney?—Cotton happened to be at Ald. Starrs at the time by mere accident.

By Hon. Mr. Macfarlane :

1346. You stated that if the contract had been awarded to you, you would have made \$50,000. Why, then, did you withdraw?—I thought it was awarded to Mr. Mackintosh.

By Mr. Ross :

1347. Why did you state in your letter that you begged to withdraw your tender? Wouldn't it have been sufficient to ask for your cheque to be forwarded?—Well, I don't know. The construction of the letter never occurred to me one way or the other. Perhaps it would have been better to put it that way; but I was not particular one way or the other as to the construction.

By the Chairman :

1348. The main thing was to get the cheque back, and you thought it necessary to notify the Clerk to that effect, the contract having been awarded to Mackintosh?—Exactly.

By Mr. Costigan :

1349. Did any person tell you in connection with this matter, that it was impossible for you to get the contract?—I don't recollect any person telling me that.

By Hon. Mr. Bowell :

1350. Did Mr. Charlton tell you that?—No; I think not.

1351. His tender was lower than yours?—I don't recollect. I see there was given in evidence in Toronto something to that effect, but I don't recollect it. He speaks also of having offered me a sum of money. There was no sum offered, either by principal or agent,—no sum whatever was stated.

By Hon. Mr. Wark :

1352. Simply hints thrown out that you might get something?—That I would get something; exactly, sir.

PATRICK BOYLE.

JOHN COSTIGAN, M.P., requested permission to make a statement before the Committee. Having been sworn, he stated:—

While the tenders were being discussed before this Committee, I felt an interest in Mr. Boyle's tender, as a personal friend. That interest went so far, that I was ready to protect him and to secure fair play for his tender. Mr. Charlton, I knew, was acting as the agent of what I supposed was a combination of the other tenderers. Mr. Charlton told me that it was impossible for Mr. Boyle to expect to get the contract under any circumstances, as the influences were so strong in favor of MacLean, Roger & Co., and the combination that he spoke of, that Mr. Boyle stood no chance. I stated that I thought Mr. Boyle's chances ought to be very good—that I considered Mr. Boyle's tender the lowest *bonâ fide* tender of the lot, and I thought, on that ground, that his chances of getting the contract should be very good. Mr. Charlton said, "you are mistaken there, because, even if Mackintosh does not take it, I stand next, and I would take it on my tender." I was preparing to go away, when he called me back, and said, "Boyle can do this, and you, as a friend of