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The trial of John Fahey is in some respects the most remarkable that has taken place in Montreal. Fahey, for some years connected with the police force of the city, was at the time of the offence in charge of a private detective agency. He was accused of being a participator in the stealing of money from the vault of the Grand Trunk dépôt at Montreal, on the 30th of October last. He had accomplices who have not yet been tried. There was a natural reluctance in the public mind to believe that a man, well known in the community, and who had long acted in a confidential capacity in matters of importance, could have so grievously betrayed the confidence reposed in him. Fortunately, however, the prosecution were able to complete a case against him which left not the shadow of doubt in the mind of any reasonable person. In addition to this, the defence, conducted as it was with great energy and skill, utterly failed to put forward any theory that was even to a small extent consistent with innocence. There was the presence of the accused at the scene of the robbery; there were his confidential disclosures to his supposed confederate Maxwell, who was in reality weaving a close net round the criminal; there were Fahey's own letters, the genuineness of which was stoutly contested by his counsel, which indicated that, weeks after the robbery, he was projecting further and more daring crimes; and lastly, there was the admission of his confederate Bureau, made to the police magistrate in the first confusion of detection and arrest. All these, and a dozen minor but not unimportant circumstances, laid bare the whole plot. On the other side, there was but the half-hearted suggestion that Fahey himself was desirous of catching some burglar—the personality of whom was a matter of indifference to him. Under the circumstances the jury, less confused than might have been expected by a trial extending over eleven days, appear to have entertained not the slightest doubt as to the guilt of the accused, and a dispassionate review of the evidence must bring every one to the same conclusion.

The *Law Magazine and Review*, referring to the evidence of prisoners in their own behalf, says:—"Ever since the endeavour to pass the Criminal Code Bill failed, hardly a year has been allowed to pass without the agitation being renewed in favour of an Act of Parliament abolishing the present rule which prevents prisoners from appearing as witnesses in their own behalf. As a result of this agitation, several recent statutes dealing with special offences have had inserted in them a proviso enabling the accused to give evidence when he is so minded. A notable instance of the infringement of the old common law rule is that of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, by virtue of which so many prisoners have tendered themselves as witnesses that we are in a position to form a pretty accurate idea of how the system would work in the event of its becoming a principle of universal application. What has been our experience? Simply this: It constantly happens that, after having gone into the witness-box and emphatically denied the charges against them, prisoners are, nevertheless, convicted. Why? Because, in nine cases out of ten, juries treat the testimony of the accused as absolutely worthless, seeing that they have everything to gain and nothing to lose by false swearing; nothing, at least, except the faintest of faint chances of a prosecution for perjury. Cross-examination, we were told, was to be the instrument which should lay bare falsehood, but unfortunately we have learned that it has no terrors for the unscrupulous. A man who is prepared to tell one lie will probably not stop short at a dozen. With the knowledge now acquired, Government might well reconsider the advisability of again introducing their measure of last year, having for its object the admissibility of the evidence of accused persons."

Morrison R. Waite, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, died suddenly of pneumonia on the 23rd of March.