

The Government did what has no precedent, they made a law by which the whole of the fees for serving of Process may be taken from officers appointed by themselves, and placed in their own pockets and the pockets of other Lawyers ; thus rewarding the transgressors of the law. That the Government as constituted in 1881 (when *Sec. 1 of Order VI.* was passed) is fairly open to the charge of having made a law to benefit themselves, can clearly be established. In 1881 the Government was composed of five members, four lawyers and one layman. I know from experience that Mr. Wood, the layman, took no interest in any law relating to legal matters, and therefore is in no way responsible for the law of which I complain. The other four members were Hon. O. Mowat, Hon. T. B. Pardee, Hon. Mr. Fraser and Hon. A. S. Hardy, all lawyers and senior partners in law firms, from which I assume they draw a share of the profits. It will readily be seen that legalizing the serving of Process by Lawyers would increase the fees and emoluments of the offices, and would consequently increase the dividends of the senior partners—the makers of the law. I wish it distinctly understood that I make no such charge against Hon. Mr. Mowat though theoretically responsible. I am confident that had he been left to his own judgment no such Act as that I complain of would have been put on the Statute book. Few men know Mr. Mowat better than I do, having sat with him in Parliament for years before Confederation, and afterwards as a colleague in the Ontario Government. I have had the fullest opportunity of knowing him in and out of office, and can truthfully assert that a more honest, upright or unselfish man never ruled this or any other country ; his steady aim is to do that which is just and right in all his public and private acts. Now that he has a number of new colleagues who are in no way responsible for the scandalous Legislation we complain of, I confidently expect that on our case being submitted, showing the gross and indefensible wrongs practiced on Sheriffs and litigants, he will be supported by them in passing a law that will be just to all parties.

In March, 1889, I received returns showing the number of Writs of Summons issued out of the H. C. J. and C. C. in 38 Counties in 1888, and also returns of the number of Witnesses examined in said Courts, and showing how the services and the fees were divided between the Lawyers and Sheriffs :