The Evening Mercury

FRIDAY EVE'G, JULY. 4, 1891

Sir Hector Langevin's Complicity The evidence given by Mr. Murphy Elections on Friday last is still the talk in political circles where it is considered most damaging to Sir Hector Langevin. The witness stated in the clearest and most positive terms that in November, 1887, he gave Sir Hector in his own house in Quebec \$10,000. This was exclusive of other sums paid to his son and son in law to bolster up the newspapers in which they have an interest, and which are special organs of Sir Hector's. All the previous evidence given went to show that Larkin, Connolly & Co. had paid money at various times to Thomas McGreevy and his brother Robert, but there wa nothing to show that Sir Hector him self had received any money. Since Mr. Murphy testified Sir Hector says his statement is untrue and that he will be prepared at the proper time to ve this. Of course it would unfair to hold him guilty if he is able to prove his innocence or clear himself of the charge. But do not all the circumstances point to the truth of Mr. Murphy's statement? The evidence that has already been given, the truth of which has been es tablished by the books of the firm; the of the letters between the Engineer of the Department and Mr Thomas McGreevy; his letters to his brother Robert, as well as the letters from one member of the firm to another all form a chain of evidence which goes far to establish the truth of every charge made by Mr. Tarte not only against Mr. McGreevy, but also against Sir Hector. It is said that the revelations yet to be made before the com mittee are of an equally damaging character as those already made public Be that as it may, the testimony already produced is quite sufficient to establish the guilt of both the Minister and member of Parliament unless they can destroy it by the strongest rebuttal

This case, in addition to its moral aspect, has also a legal one. If the guilt is brought home to Sir Hector and McGreevy, it will not only be established that they have committed a great moral crime against the community, but that they have also seriously infringed the provisions of the Act for securing the independence of Parlia-That Act provides, that if any member is concerned in any public contract or work, directly or indirect-ly, he is liable to a fine of \$200 for every day that he sits and votes in the House. Not only that, but the Act declares that any person holding a contract with the Government who admits any member of Parliament to any part or share thereof, or to receive any benefit thereby, shall for every offence forfeit and pay \$2,000. So it will be seen that if the charges are established Sir Hector and McGreevy can be proceeded against in a court of law, as also the contractors, for an infringement of the act. There is still another act under which they could be indicted. The statute of 1883 for the better prevention of fraud in relation to contracts declares that wherever a contract with the Dominion of Canada is proposed or entered into, the making of any offer, proposal, gitt, loan, or promise to any officer or person in the employment of the Government of Canada, with the intent of securing the influence of such officer or person to promote the obtaining or execution of such contract, is a misdemeanor, carrying with it a penalty of from \$100 to \$1,000, with imprisonment for a period of from one month to one year. If the contractors have made the offers alleged, and if clause as to the period within which a prosecution can be commenced does not protect them, they are punish-The able in the manner indicated. indictable, fo stipulated that where an officer accepts any such offer or gift he shall be liable to the same penalty. Mr. Murphy himself admitted that the firm had paid \$100 to one man to get him to withdraw his tender, and that an offer had been made to another person to withdraw his tender also. The provisions of the act are, therefore, wide enough to bring all the parties concerned within the clutches of the law if the truth has been brought out in the evidence.

When the charges were first made by Mr. Tarte, Sir Hector replied that he had never received any money for his personal benefit. This was looked upon as an admission that if he had received any it was only for political purposes, so as to leave a door of escape for himself as far as any personal charge is concerned, should it come out in the inquiry that money had been paid. There is no doubt that he was under great apprehension that most of the damaging facts connected with the scandal would be brought to light. There is no doubt also that Sir John Macdonald was aware of these, and that he was greatly troubled in view of them coming to light. Before these disclosures he had expected to close his public career amid a blaze of glory and without the ugly shadow of such a scandal darkening his retiring footsteps. But it was fated otherwise, and those who are likely to know best believe that anxiety and worry over this matter was the immediate cause of bringing on the trouble which ended his days. Nor are we surprised at this when we reflect that in its nature and extent this scandal far transcends the Pacific Scandal of 1873. That consisted of one act, by which Sir Hugh Allan handed over to the Government some \$365,000 wherewith to corrupt the electors by purchasing their votes in support of the Government and its The money was Sir Hugh's and he never was recouped for it. But in the Langevin-McGreevy scandal the public have been robbed of more than divided between the contractors, Mo Greevy, his brother, Sir Hector and his son and son-in-law. A goodly por-tion of this sum was spent for political purposes in keeping alive Conservative papers, and in bribing Sir Hector and McGreevy constituents, as well as the constituents in other ridium constituents in other ridings. The business has been going on for years, and seems to have been reduced to a system for stealing the money from the public treasury for the benefit of the parties above named. Verily it was high time that a stop should be put to uch disgraceful transactions.

THE farmers will be glad to learn that the United States Government have revoked the order requiring a quarantine of fifteen days on all sheer nd swine entering the States fro Canada. It will be remembered that this order was passed because Canada heretofore had required only a veterinary inspection of such animals when entering Canada whereas the fifteen days quarantine was en-forced in the States. Our Government in order to have the regulations in both countries the same p an order in council on the 6th of June enforcing the fifteen days' quarantine. The result will be that sheep and pigs can now be sent into the States with out any delay. This will be a great boon to farmers and to shippers of such stock, especially those engaged in the lamb trade, which is a very extensive

one in Ontario. The McGreevy Investigation.

Otrawa, July 1.—The Privileges and Elections Committee met this morning for an hour, but did very little work. Counsel for all the parties and Mr. Tarte were present, but the only witness was Mr. Gobeil, secretary of the department. The committee had ordered summonses to be issued to Patrick Kelly, Quebec, and Nicholas Connolly to appear before the committee and bring all the checks, bill books and vouchers bearing upon the question which may be in his possession. The witnesses had not appeared, the committee has met with so much obstruction and so much indifference to its commands that it is in no mood to stand any more, and the secretary was this morning instructed to send subpeanas for service upon Messrs. Kelly and Connolly. Mr. Geoffrion said he could not go on with Mr. Murphy's examination without the vouchers for which the committee had sent. Besides that Mr. Murphy had with all the other witnesses gone away with the knowledge of the chairman until Thursday. That the chairman should have sent he witnesses away until Thursday. That the chairman should have sent he witnesses away until Thursday when the committee had adjourned until Tuesday annowed the members, and, as Mr. The McGreevy Investigation. nesses away until Thursday when mittee had adjourned until Tues

day. That the chairman should have sent the witnesses away until Thursday when the committee had adjourned until Tuesday annoyed the members, and, as Mr. Davies said, it was a most flagrant contempt of the committee. A number of papers, statements and letters were identified by Mr. Gobeil and put in as evidence. There was nothing in them that was new in the case. The committee adjourned until tomorrow.

Ottawa, July 2.—At the Privileges and Elections Committee today there was a crowded attendance of both members of the committee and outside visitors. In the absence of Mr. Girouard, Mr. Kirkpatrick was called to the chair. While Mr. Girouard has shown from the beginning an inclination to be just to both sides or rather to the various sides concerned, there being different interests involved, Mr. Kirkpatrick has on every occasion acted as if he were the counsel for Sir Hector Langein. In this way his presence in the chair is not so acceptable to disinterested parties as it would otherwise be. It will be remembered that certain notes and cheques, some of which were material to the closing of the examination of Mr. O. E. Murphy, were in the hands of Mr. Fitzpatrick, one of the counsel for Mr Thomas McGreevy. Netwards by the House, that all these papers should be produced, on Friday last Mr. Fitzpatrick was subponaed to appear before the committee with these cheques and notes and certain other documents pertinent to the case. This morning he was in attendance, and, after handing in a batch of notes and cheques, he asked that notes dated lat June, 1884, which are supposed to corroborate the payment of money to Mr. Thomas McGreevy, be withheld from the witnesses Mr. Robert McGreevy and Mr. O. E. Murphy, until such time as they were on their cross-examination. Several members, including Mills. Edgar and Mulock, objected to any Mr. Thomas McGreevy, be withheld from the witnesses, Mr. Robert McGreevy and Mr. O. E. Murphy, until such time as they were on their cross-examination. Several members, including Mills, Edgar and Mulock, objected to any of the papers being distinguished from the others, but Mr. Kirkpatrick thought they should. Ultimately it was decided to leave all papers accessible to members of the committee with the exception of the notes in question which should not be known to the witnesses, Murphy and Robt McGreevy, until their cross-examination.

Robt McGreevy, until their cross-examination.

Sir John Thompson complained that the examinations of none of the witnesses were yet concluded to permit of cross-examination, and it appeared to him that their examination was never to be closed. It was shown him by Mr. Geoffrion and others that not until this morning were the papers produced necessary to carry on the examination of these witnesses, and it had yet to be ascertained, after looking into them, if all were produced or not. From the beginning of the investigation the work of the committee was delayed through the other side holding back documents.

through the other side holding back accuments.

The examination of Mr. O. E. Murphy was continued. He identified another batch of letters as being received by himself from the other members of the firm of Larkin, connolly & Co., in regard to the change of the material in respect to the change of the material in respect to the Esquimatt graving dock in British Columbia. These letters also referred to the lengthening of the dock. The reading of the particular letter from Michael Connolly, which referred to Messrs. Baker and Shakespeare, at that time representing Victoria in the Commons, as a "Pretty brace of pirates," created roars of "Pretty brace of pirates," resenting Victoria in the Commons, as a "Pretty brace of pirates," created roars of laughter. They demanded \$5,000 for thei influence with Sir Hector and Connolly promised them \$500 each.

Bad Crop Prospects in Russia Bad Crop Prospects in Russia.

ST. Peterbroko, June 30.—The harvest in Russia this year is likely to be the worst on record. The prices of cereals are rising hourly. Rye has never before been so dear. Throughout Central, Western, and the greatest portion of Southern Russia, the outlook is dismal. Ministerial reports say the winter crop in South and East Russia perished by frosts. Famine is already visible in the faces of the peasantry of Kostroma. Discose has already broken out. The only food is oatmeal mixed with tree bark or similar ingredients. In Kazan among the indigentarceoiving meals gratis are 146 noblemen and 76 priests. In other districts similar conditions are reported. In the Jewish colony at Rovnopol many people are dying of hunger, and hundreds have to huddle together, several families in one room, for the sake of warmth. Some papers contain advertisements of children for sale. The Government is tuking precautions. The Government is taking precaution against expected revolts. Taxes are collected with the usual regularity and failure to pay is visited with severe flooring.

Wigilant Care. Vigilance is necessary against unexpected attacks of summer complaints. No remedy is so well known or so successful in this class of diseases as Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. Keep in the house as a safeguard.

The C. P. R. Has the Gall.

Orrawa, June 30.—At a meeting of the Committee on Railways and Canals today. Sir Heotor Langwin in the chair, as important discussion took place in granting a charter to the Alberta Railway and Coal Company through the Crow's Nest Pass. This application was refused Last seasion at the instigation of Sir John Macdonald, who said that it would be necessary to find out whether there was room for one or more railways, lest the company in question might have a monopoly of the pass. Today it was again refused by the Government, Mr. Haggart saying that the understanding between the Government and the C. P. R. was that the latter should build it.

The British Columbian Southern Railway Company was also alplying for leave to pass through the Crow's Nest Pass The committee was in favor of granting the charter; so that the mineral fields of the Kodenay Valley be developed, but those promoting the bill refused to go ahead with it since the Government were opposed to it. The C. P. R. Has the Call.

A New Colorado Lake

Yuma, Ariz., July 1.—The Colorado desert basin at Salton, 60 miles west of Yuma, is rapidly filling up with fresh water from the subterranean passage believed to be connected with the Colorado river, caused by the high waters of last February. At last advice the basin was converted into a lake five miles wide. The machinery is being removed from salt factories at Salton. The Southern Pacific rallraad/track passes through the basin for most than 50 miles, its lowest point being 23 feet below the sea level. The Colorado.river is 160 feet above the sea level at Yuma. If the subterranean pasage connects with the Colorado above Yuma the lake will be over 400 feet in depth and over 50 miles long. If the waters continue to rise the Southern Pacific track will be submerged for nearly 100 miles, and the great desert of Colorado will be converted into a vast lake.

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FRIDAY.

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has been the theme of our Cheap DRESS GOODS. It is easy to get trashy goods at low prices, but OURS ARE FIRST CLASS GOODS at THIRD CLASS PRICES.

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