

instructions of Attorney General Campbell they were all taken off and every one disfranchised. The member for East Simcoe (Mr. Bennett) asked: 'What was the reason,' and the reply of the hon. member (Mr. Crawford) was: We will come to that—but he failed to come to it. The member for East Simcoe said: Then there was no reason and the member for Portage la Prairie answered: No, no valid reason; they were just simply disfranchised. Now, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you the whole facts of the case and the members of the House can see how very different my true statement is from the figment of the hon. gentleman's imagination—all too vivid imagination as it is—which he pictured to the House. I have here the certificate which Judge Walker, who is chairman of the registration board for every constituency in the province of Manitoba, and I have here the certificate referred to by the hon. member for Portage la Prairie. I will read that first. This is what Mr. D. M. Walker, the chairman of the registration board, certifies to:

Winnipeg, June 29, 1903.

I, David Marr Walker, chairman of the Board of Registration, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the names, residence and occupation of the persons appearing on registration register of registration district No. 2 of the electoral division of Springfield, added at the adjourned meeting of the Court of Revision held at Lac du Bonnet on the 24th day of June, 1903.

D. M. WALKER.

Now, how did that court of revision come to be adjourned. I will tell. The man who held the court of revision in this constituency was an ardent Liberal partisan who lives in Selkirk. That very fact is evidence that the Manitoba government cannot be so very bitter to their political opponents. They left it entirely in the hands of those who constitute the Board of Registration, of which Judge Walker is chairman, to appoint all the returning officers, and although there are forty constituencies, thirty-five of these constituencies were divided between nineteen Conservatives and sixteen Liberal revising barristers. Was not that a good proportion to give our opponents in view of the fact that they had only about eight members in the legislature? The court of revision was held under instructions of a proclamation sent out by the Attorney General's department, and the time and place were mentioned therein. That court of revision was held, and at the end of the day this Liberal official took it upon himself to adjourn the court of revision to another time and another place in order to accommodate a little bunch of his own political following in another district that he wanted to make sure would get on the list. He went beyond his powers and he went beyond the law, and Judge Walker would not give him the same certificate that he gave to every other con-

stituency in the province of Manitoba and which read as follows:—

Winnipeg, June 16, 1903.

I, David Marr Walker, chairman of the Board of Registration, do hereby certify that the annexed is a true copy of the names, residence and occupation of the persons appearing on the several registers of the electoral division of Carillon, and duly qualified to appear as such as electors for the said electoral division.

D. M. WALKER.

Mark the words 'duly qualified' to appear as electors; I defy you to find in the certificate granted by Judge Walker to which the hon. member (Mr. Crawford) referred these words. The chairman of the registration board was of opinion that the adjourned meeting was illegal, and he referred the matter to the Attorney General's department, and that is the reason these gentlemen did not vote at the election, and that is the true version of the case, and it is an entirely different version from that given by the hon. member (Mr. Crawford).

Now, Sir, there are a few things this government has done outside of their election methods, and since I see the genial Minister of the Interior in the House—and he is getting more genial every day—I will touch him up a little on a few acts of his own administration. We have heard of certain men being kept in the employment of this government who are a disgrace to the country, and the attention of the people of Canada cannot be too often drawn to that fact in order that they may severely and justly punish this government when they seek their suffrage. We have heard of Philip Wagner; we have heard of Mr. Nixon, and we have heard of others who have been taken under the wing of the Minister of the Interior. It would appear that if an official of this government is an ardent political partisan, who is willing to commit political crimes, that constitutes a stepping-stone for him to preferment, or at least to increased remuneration.

Then, take the case of Mr. Nixon, the gentleman who was at the head of the land agency at Macleod. This gentleman, it was reported, had for some years been going astray, had been leaving the straight and narrow path, and had been appropriating to his own use the moneys of the people of this country, moneys that had been paid by people for their land, but had never been forwarded to the government and no account of which had been sent in. These things coming to the ears of the government and an inquiry being demanded, the same Mr. Leach who got his \$3,000 position by reason of his operations in connection with the thin red line in Manitoba, was appointed to conduct the inquiry. He went to where Nixon operated, and in twenty-four hours found sufficient to justify him in reporting that there had been several hundred dollars of