

## REPORT.

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THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed by Order of Reference of Your Honorable House, of the 27th February last, to inquire and report as to the truth of the following charges brought by the Hon. John A. Macdonald, Attorney General for Upper Canada, against Mr. George Brown, a Member of the House, while acting in 1848 as a Member and Secretary of the Commission appointed by Government to inquire into the condition of the Provincial Penitentiary, viz :

*First.* With having recorded falsely the evidence of witnesses examined before the said Commission.

*Second.* With having altered the written testimony given by witnesses, after their evidence was closed and subscribed.

*Third.* With having suborned convicts to commit perjury.

*Fourth.* With having obtained the pardon of murderers confined to the Penitentiary, to induce them to give false evidence, or in words substantially to the same effect.

### BEG LEAVE TO REPORT :

That in obedience to the said Order of Reference, Your Committee have fully and carefully inquired into the said charges, and herewith beg leave to submit the whole proceedings had by them, and the evidence taken before them, in connection with the subject.

Your Committee having maturely considered the said evidence, and diligently compared the testimony submitted to the Government by the Penitentiary Commissioners in 1849, with the written testimony taken by them, are of opinion that the testimony so reported by the said Commissioners, is not the true testimony given before them; they are further of opinion that to persons, such as the witnesses brought before Your Committee, acquainted with the complete evidence, as really given, it would appear that if the evidence reported by the Commissioners was the evidence written down by their Secretary, there was a falsification of the original testimony. But how far Mr. Brown (who conducted the affairs of the Commission, and was in fact the Secretary also,) was to blame separately from his colleagues, Your Committee express no opinion.

With reference to the subornation of perjury, and the promise of pardon to convicts to give evidence; Your Committee find