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## The Canadian Yost.

CHARLES D. BARR, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR HECTOR'S TEN PER CENT. THE TRAFFIC IN PARLIAMEN-TARY INFLUENCE.

Mr. Somerville arraigns Mr. Hector Cameron.

How the Independence of Parliament is Undermined-Procuring Railway Subsidies-Levying a Commission-Something for Self and Two "Boys"-Did

Hector have "Twins?" [From the Hansard Reports-Thursday, May 27th, 1886.]

Mr. SOMERVILLE (Brant).-I desire to occupy the attention of the house for a very short time in bringing under the no. tice of the members of this house a matter of vital importance, a matter affecting the independence of parliament and the honest representation of the people in this house. Every member of this house is aware that certain revelations have been made during this session of parliament, not only on the floor of this house, but in the public accounts committee, with reference to trafficking in railway charters by members of this house. We have all heard what has been said with regard to the conduct of the member for West Toronto (Mr. Beaty), in endeavoring to secure for himself and other members of this house, codirectors with him in the management of the North-west Central railway, a sum amounting to \$670,000. We have all heard these revelations, and I fancy that the country, as well as the members of this house, has been startled and shocked to think that such practices are in vogue in this house, which is supposed to represent the free and independent electors of the Dominion of Canada. This is not the only instance which has been pointed out dur ing this session of parliament, which indicates that members of this house who support the government are indulging, from time to time, in practices which do not reflect credit upon them or upon the administration which they support; -prac-

tices which are corrupt in every respect, and which will eventually lead to the thorough demoralization not only of this legislature but of the people throughout the length and breadth of this Dominion. would just call attention, while speaking of railway grants, to the fact that the govbonusing certain railways in certain parts of the Dominion of Canada. Now, I think. and a great many of the members of this house, and I believe a vast majority of the people of this Dominion think, if they had an opportunity of expressing their opinion, that this aystem of benusing local railways by the Dominion government is one of the most corrupt systems that has ever been introduced in this or any other parliament. It has a tendency to demoralise not only the people's representatives in this house, but the constituencies that are represented, and the provinces of which they form part, and, if this government determines to demoralise not only the members who represent the people in this house, but the constituencies and provinces that are represented by those members, by the system of log-rolling which they have established in granting bonuses to local railways all over the Dominion, I think it is time some

action should be taken by the people to put a stop to this system of government. I say that the practice is vicious, and calculated to demoralise the house and the people at large. It is the duty of every honest man in this house to endeavour to put a stop to these practices, and to purge this parliament of the presence of men who bring discredit upon the house and upor our responsible form of government. Now, Mr. Speaker, it has long been a lond idea of the people of Canada that we enjoy the blessings of responsible govern-We know that many years ago we had to strive against those who were try-ing to oppress the people in certain portions of this country, under the old family compact. We all know the struggle that the people of Ontario had to go through to secure for themselves the blessings of responsible government. The people of this Dominion have reason to fuel provided this Dominion have reason to feel proud of the form of government we possess, but at the same time, when they review the acts of this government which have been placed upon our statute books during the last seven years, and which are found recorded in the official reports of this house, they have reason to fear that their rights have been trampled upon in many ways, and that they do not now, in reality, enjoy that responsible government which was guar-anteed to them. Sir, the revelations that have men made here to-night by the hon. gentleman who preceded me, and which have then proven by the documentary evidence he submitted, go to show that for corrupt practices some of the members of the government and their supporters in this house stand out more prominently than the representatives of the people of

any other country I ever read of possessing responsible government. But, Mr. Speaker, I will confine myself to making a specific charge against a member of this house. regret to say that I feel it my duty, as a member of this house, to try to expess some of the practices which have been indulged in by members of this bouse, which are calculated to subvert the true principles of responsible government, to demoralise our whole system, and to render nugatory the will of the people in sending their representatives here. The charge I am about to make is one of a very serious character. I regret that it is my duty to make it, but still, I consider that it is the duty of the people's representatives in this house to expose all corruption, and in this case, although the duty is a very disagreeable one, I shall not flinch from it. I make able one, I shall not flinen from it. I make the charge with the full conviction that I can prove the statements I am about to make. The charge I make is this: That the hon, member for North Victoria (Mr. Cameron), in the year 1884, used his isfluence to procure from the government and parliament a subsidy for the Erre and Huron railway company of \$6,200

and parliament a subsidy for the life and Huron railway company of \$6,200 a mile, for thirty miles, amounting to \$80,000; and that white so company the wrote, in effect, to an officer of the company stipulating that a commission or bound of 10 per cent, on the amount of such subsidy should be put to him. for himself and two other parameters.

isfied of the truth of the charge, and being satisfied that I would be able to establish the truth of the charge if afforded an opportunity, I wrote to the hon, member for North Victoria yesterday, stating that I intended to make this charge in the house to-day. I now do so, and I believe that if I am afforded an opportunity I can establish the truth of the charge in the truth of the charge.

Mr. CAMERON (North Victoria). - I understood from the hen. gentleman who has ust taken his seat that his charge would take a specific form, and that it would be in that shape in which it could be referred to the committee on privileges and elections; that he meant to make a charge that I had some way violated the Indepen of Parliament set, and that it could be referred to the committee on privilegee and elections. The shape in which he has just expressed it is not that in which I expected it would have been made, from the communication he sent to me. I saked him if he was prepared, on his responsibility as a member of this house, to make a statement which necessarily would be referred to that committee: He has not done so. He has simply adopted the policy of slandar.

Some hon, members.—Order.

Mr. Cameron (Nerth Victoria).—I am in order. I repeat my statement that he has adopted the policy of slander.

Mr. Casey.—Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Is that language parlia-

mentary?
Mr. Speaker. -Stronger language than that, I am sorry to say, has been used in the course of debate here.
Mr. Casey.—The question is, is it parlia-

Mr. Speaker.—It is not perliamentary to use any personal expression, or any lan-guage that is offensive to any hon. member Mr. Casey.—Then the language must be taken back and apologised for. As you have ruled that language that is offensive

to any member is unparliamentary, I require that the hon, member should apolegise for and retract the language before he proceeds. I ask for your ruling on that

sive is contrary to the rules of parliament. I am sure the hon, gentleman will not use any language that is offensive to any hon. member, no matter under what provocation he may labor. Mr. CASEY. - The rules of parliament re-

quire a retraction.

Mr. SPEAKER.—Give the hon. member an

Mr. Casey.-I ask you to rule as to the necessity of an apology and a retraction of the language. Mr. SPEAKER.-If any language that is

bers to apologise; they simply withdraw the expression. Mr. CAMERON (Victoria). -If I have used

unparliamentary language I withdraw it. I am not aware that I had done so. Mr. Casev.-Mr. Speaker has ruled you have done so.

Mr. CAMERON (Victoria). - My complaint against the hon, member who has made this statement in reference to me was that instead of bringing the charge forward on his responsibility as a member of this house ernment, at this session, propose to vote a in such a shape that the matter could have een referred to the committee on nrivi leges and elections, which could have investigated it, he has thought fit to make it in an unauthentic shape. He has made a statement mentioning me personally and he has not done it on his responsibility as a member of this house. There is a well known rule and practice in this house by which any hon, member who seeks to charge any other hon, member with any act done in violation of the rules of parlia ment or that he has in any way placed him-self in a position that the committee on privileges and elections could investigate the matter and decide whether he had acted in such a manner that his seat in this use was forfeited—it required that a member of this house should on his own responsibility as such member stand up and ake the charge. The hon- gentleman has not thought fit to do so. In the course of a debate he raised certain questions and ade a certain statement in regard to me. reply to that statement I say this, and I make the statement on my responsibility as a member of this house, I never made any agreement in any way or shape where by I became interested in any way what ever in any bonus or subsidy that was voted by this house to the Erie and Huron railway and other railway. The hon. gentleman who last spoke, the hon. member for West Huron (Mr. Cameron) has on other occasions referred to me and I take this opportunity of saying that I never had the interest of one acre or one inch of govern-ment land obtained from the government; never applied for any in my own interest I never had any interest in any application ever made or any grant ever made for any timber lands, colonization lands, grazing lands, coal lands or any other land from the government. I never was interested in one single inch of any land granted by the government. I never applied for any in which I had the slightest personal interest and I never received any such land. I have never asked the government, of which I have been a faithful supporter ever since the present government was in power, for any favor for myself or in which I had any personal interest; and I defy any hon, gentleman to prove I have ever done so. In regard to the specific statements which the hon, member for Brant has just made, I beg to make this statement: I was requested by a client, who has been a client of mine as is well-known for a great many years, when he was about leaving this country and going to the Southern States and the West Indies, to act as his solicitor in making an application for aid to the Erie and Huron railway. I was asked by him to procure the co-operation of other gentlemen, not members of this house, who could work the matter up, find and furnish the necessary statistics and information and details in oretatistics and information and details in order that the government could see that
it was a proper grant to be made. When
the request was made to me this gentleman
stated that he was prepared to pay a commission, not only on any government bonusor subsidy that might be given but also on
any municipal bonus, and he mentioned
the name of one gentleman in particular
who would be of sectomac to him in obtaining municipal bonuses more particular-

co-operation of gentlemen who will aid this matter; I wish you to set as my selfe torinit, se I cannot be here to at matter myself sme I am will these parties whom you think m

it was intended, owing to his moving abortrom one place to another. That letter we returned to me months afterwards from it dead letter office at Washington, it nev having reached his hands. No agreeme having reached his hands. No agreement was ever made by me, no arrangement was ever made by me; and if any arrangement has been made, that arrangement did not in any way provide for a percentage, commission or interest on my part in any bonus or subsidy to be granted by pastiament to that road; it was an arrangement made by me as this gentleman's solicitor, intending to provide for the commission to be paid me as this gentleman's solicitor, intending to provide for the commissions to be paid to the other parties, not to myself. I had no interest in it and I say, and it is borne out by the fact that he never received that letter, that no agreement or arrangement of any kind was ever made; and in answer to the statement and in the presence of this house, on my responsibility as a member of it, I say that I never had any agreement or arrangement of any kind whatever for receiving any commission, any percentage or any interest in any subsidy to be granted or which was granted afterwards by this house to that railway; that I acted in the matter simply as the solicitor of that gentleman who was largely interested, if not entirely interested, in the road; that in my correspondence with him I wrote to him confidentially as his solicitor, stating the arrangement I had made with other parties whose aid and assistance he wished me to procure in his absence when he could not be personally present and that gentleman not having received that letter no arrangement or agreement could have been made. I state, moreover, that I never have received, never expected to receive and I have no right to receive and I h

been made. I state, moreover, that I never have received, never expected to receive and I have no right to receive one single cent of commission or percentage of any shape or kind on that bonus or any other bonuses ever granted by the government to any railway company. Not only that, but I can say that I have never had any interest in any grants by the government in any way, shape or form, in land or in any other way, and so far as I have been able to maintain the independence of my personal interests in my negotiations with the government, I have done so. I have sent in applications on behalf of my constituents for timber limits, for coal limits and perhape for other things. In that matter I felt I was soing my duty to my constituents and nothing more. I have not asked any personal interests; I have never had any personal interest; I have never had any personal interest; I have never had any personal interest; I have never had any personal interest in any applications I have made to the government, and if the hon, gentleman will formulate his charge in such a way that it can go before the committee on privileges and elections; if he thinks he has discovered a mare's nest by which he can bring forward a personal charge against me—in pursuance of a policy which I will not characterize for fear of

charge against me—in pursuance of a poli-cy which I will not characterize for fear of transgressing the bounds of parliamentary decorum—I defy him to do so; I defy any hon, gentleman on that side to do so, or to prove that I have asked any favor from the government for myself, directly or indirective that I have asked any favor from the government for myself, directly or indirective that I have asked any favor from the government for myself, directly or indirective that I have a server that the server for the server of the server

not parliamentary has been used the hon-member should withdraw it. We have never gone the length of saking hon-memly; that I have ever sought to gain any personal advantage from the fact that I support the government or sought any favor from them other than my duty to my contituents required.

Mr. Somenville (Brant.)-With the per nission of the house, I will comply with the request made by the hon, member for North Victoria. He desires that this matter should be investigated. I desire that it should be investigated, or I would not have brought it to the attention of the house. I believe that the charge that I make can be substantiated. He says it cannot: and

stantiating my charge, and in order to give him an opportunity of showing, as he says he can show, that that charge is not cor-rect, with the permission of the house I will now move for the appointment of a committee to investigate this matter. I may say that this matter would have been undertaken sooner in the session had it not been for the fact that the principal witness I desire to call was not in the country and could not be had. I may state for the information of the hon, gentleman that the letter he talks about is not the letter I speak about at all. I wish to say

that if I move this resolution I do not want it to be understood that it is an amend ment on the motion to go into con of supply—if I may be permitted to move it on going into supply—for I do not wish to move it as a motion of non-confidence.

Mr. Speaker.—Then it ought not to be moved now, but after the house comes out Mr. SOMERVILLE (Brant).—I suppose may by permission of the house.

Mr. CAMERON (Victoria).-As this is

personal matter I crave the permission of the house to ask that the hon. gentleman. instead of moving this matter by way of amendment to go into committee of supply, should formulate his charge in a tangible shape, as the rules of parliament require, and that then I should have the opportunity of meeting it; and if the house thinks fit, have it referred to the committee on privileges and elections. It is not right that a member of this house, on a motion to go into committee of supply, should rise up and make an informal heuse. If the hon, gentleman wants to take the responsibility of moving a motion which affects the seat of another hon, mem-

which affects the seat of another hon, member—because if his motion has any foundation it would affect my seat—he should take the responsibility of doing it in a way in which, if he fails to prove his charge, he should have the responsibility of having it reported that he has not proved it, and that the charge was malicious and unfounded. I claim that it is not proper to bring it forward in this way; I taid him se this afternoon, and that the proper way was for him to rise in his place, before the orders of the day were called, and to make a specific charge, if he had one to make, and then give the house an opportunity of referring it to the committee on privileges and elections, if they thought fit to do so after hearing my answer to the charge.

Mr. Mills,—I do not understand the rule of pasilament to be what the hose, gentleof parliament to be what the hos, gentle-man has stated it to be. It is open to any hon. gentleman, who believes that an member has violated the indemender member has violated the independence of parliament act, to state upon what ground he thinks that violation has taken place. He can state anything he may know affect ing the position or the seat of an hon-mem ner. He may say, se the hour. A said, that if a committee is appropriate the said to establish his

is simply in the shape of a motion of non-confidence in the sovernment. The gov-ernment move that the house go into com-mittee of supply, and he moves in amend-ment that they do set, but that a com-mittee be appointed to investinate whether I wrote a certain letter or whether I did not; whether that letter or whether I did not; whether that letter or write. Now, is that a matter which our properly be refer-ed to a committee or not it is every letter which any hou, gentleman has written a subject which can be referred to a com-mittee to enquire intel Is there any foun-dation for the charge, or for a committee, unless it be a matter effecting a seat of a member! If it is a matter effecting my seat, let him take the proper constitutional way unless it be a matter effecting a seat of a member? If it is a matter affecting my seat, let him take the proper constitutional way of bringing it up. If it is not, what right has he to enquire into what letters I have written or not. I may say that the letter he refers to was a letter marked private and confidential, and that any man who read that letter, with that superscription upon it, disgraced himself as a man of homorposcuse I say that that letter is marked private and confidential and was addressed to a particular person; and if that person goes and shows that letter to another person, be he the leader of the opposition or a member of the opposition, the man who reads that letter is a dishonorable man.

Man.
An hon, member.—Order.
Mr. Cameron (Victoria).—What does the hon, member for Brant propose to do. He proposes to sak for the appointment of a committee to enquire whether I wrote a certain letter which proposed or suggested —what? If it suggested or proposed anything or made any arrangement or agreemens on my part which in any way violated the independence of parliament act, then his propose course is to move that it be rehis proper course is to move that it be referred to the committee on privileges and elections. If he did not do that, he has no right to bring it up here; and I repeat, if I dare to do so, that it is just this policy of

slander—
Some hon. members.—Order.
Mr. CAMERON (Victoria.).—Well, I withdraw the expression slander, and say it is the policy of attacking members on this side of the house because members on the other side have been pretty sorely hit in matters of this kind.
Mr. Speaker.—I think this is not a matter of privilege or of urgency. A debate may be interrupted by a matter of privilege but it must be a matter arising from some-

but it must be a matter arising from something occurring in the middle of the debate; thing occurring in the middle of the debate; it must be a matter of urgency and of recent occurrence. This does not seem to be a case of that kind, for which it is proper that a debate should be interrupted. The time for bringing it up is before the orders of the day are called, when there is nothing before the house. May says:

"The latter part of this statement is limited to breaches of privilege committed during a discussion, or so immediately before it, that no earlier opportunity of making a complaint had arisen; as, for example, an insult or assault upon a member or any sudden act of disorder. In such cases, debates have been interrupted by complaints of breaches of privilege." Mr. Somerville (Brast). - Then I under-

stand that I shall be in order in moving this motion to morrow before the orders of the day are called. Mr. SPEAKER.-I think so. I think it is a question of privilege affecting an hon-member, and a motion affecting the conduct of any member will then be in order. Mr. Somenville (Brant), -Then I will reserve moving the motion until to-mor-

quiry - Referred to the Commi on Privileges and Blections

[From the Globe's report.

In the house on Friday,-Mr. SomeRVILLE rising to a question of privilege, reminded the house of his romise to bring up at this stage his charge against the member for North Victoria (Mr. Cameron). He reiterated his charge and asked for an opportunity to bring his evidence forward. That this might be given he proposed the following resolution:-"Mr. Somerville having stated in his place in the house that he is credibly informed and believes that he can establish by satisfactory evidence that Hector Cameron, then and now a member of this house, was in the year 1884 using his influence and exertions to procure from the government and parliament a subsidy for the Erie & Huron railway company of \$3,200 a mile for 30 miles, amounting to \$96,000, and while so ed he wrote to an officer of the company in effect stipulating that a bonus or pany in effect stipulating that a counts of commission of 10 per cent. of such bonus should be paid to him, for himself or for himself and two other persons, whose cooperation in the business he had secured, one-half of the commission to be paid on the other half the subsidy being voted and the other half on the money being paid over, a select committee be appointed to inquire fully into the allegations with power to send for persons, papers and records and to examine upon oath oraffirmation with inetructions to report the evidence and all proceedings, and that such committee be composed of Mesers McCarthy, Langelier, Masmaster, Fleming, Desjardins, Colby and Lister."

Mr. CAMERON (Victoria)-After the full Mr. Cameron (Victoria)—After the full statement I made last night it is scarcely necessary that I should say anything today. I will repeat the statement I made, however, that I never made any agreement of any kind for any commission on that bonus in which I was to have or expected to have any personal interest. My action was as solicitor for the gentleman who was interested in the matter. No agreement was made with him of any kind, and the was as solicitor for the gaintleman who was interested in the matter. No agreement was made with him of any kind, and the letter that has been referred to was never received by him until long after the whole matter was over, and whatever was proposed in that letter, be it produced or not. I had no interest and didn't intend to have any. I took no action in the matter except to send in the application for aid. I never approached any member of the government or asked any member of the government for this subsidy, or asked any member of the house to vote for it or used any influence at all, but simply handed the application to the minister of railways, and told him I was acting as selicitor in the matter. Any proposal made was made not for myself but for posal made was made not for myself but for ctient, who had requested me to procure
the services of other pertends in the matter, vectors in binnel was leaving the
country and was away a the time the applention was put in the class parties.

judgment of men who desire to look at this matter from a new-political standpoint—men who desire to look after the independence of this house, to purify this house and free it from the presence of men who have been trafficking in their positions as members of parliament. I am prepared to abide by the verdict of the outside public in regard to my conduct in this matter. I feel satisfied the people will feel that I have acted in their interest. (Cheers).

Sir Hector Langevin expressed regret that the charges had not been brought for-

that the charges had not been brought for-ward before and said they should be refer-red to the committee on privileges and elec-

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT said the state ment that the mover of this resolution was to blame for the delay was not justified. The hon, member for Victoria (Mr. Cameron) was absent from the house, he believed, until about the end of the second month of the session and from that time till the present the delay was caused by witnesses not being available.

Sir H. Langevin's motion to refer the matter to the committee on privileges and

matter to the committee on privileges and elections was carried on a division.

the Committee—Mr. Bickford, Mr. sidlaw and others summoned.

The Privileges and Elections Committee met Monday morning to consider the charges preferred by Mr. Somerville (Brant) against Mr. Hector Cameron. The chairman of the committee was not present, and after waiting over half an hour for a quorum, Sir Hector Langevin moved that Mr. Hall should take the chair. No opposition was offered, and Mr. Hall took the chair. Mr. Somerville repeated his charges, and asked that a summons be issued for Mr. E. O. Bickford of Toronto, with orders to produce all letters and telewith orders to produce all letters and tele grams received by him from Mr. Cameron grams received by him from Mr. Cameron in reference to the procuring of a subsidy for the Erie & Huron railway. He also asked that Messrs. J. D. Edgar, M. P., Henry Smyth, M.P., R. M. Wells, M.P., George Laidlaw and J. J. Hawkins be summoned to give evidence. The orders for the attendance of these witnesses were granted, and it was decided to call another meeting Thesday, provided the attendance. meeting Tuesday, provided the attendance of Mr. Bickford could be procured..... Tuesday—There was no meeting, as Mr. Bickford did not put in an appearance, and on Wednesday parliament was brought to

The Curious Position of Mr. Hecter Cam [Toronto Globe, May 29.]

It would not be fair, because it would be premature, for us to say that Mr. Hector Cameron is guilty of the very serious charges brought against him by Mr. Some erville of Brant. The allegation is that Mr. Cameron in 1884, while using his innany, wrote to an officer of that company a share of ten per cent. on the \$96,000. In justice to Mr. Somerville it must be said that he has brought the charge in the most direct, open and manly fashion. He moved for an investigation before a select committee of seven members, of whom but three are liberals. He satisfactorily answered the assertion that the charge should have beeen moved earlier by stating that the principal witness has been out of the country till within the last few days. The charge could not have been brought during Mr. Cameron's absence in England, and he did not take his place this session till about three weeks ago. Since then, till within a week, the principal witness has

seen beyond reach.
The presumption from Mr. Somerville's conduct is strengthened by Mr. Cameron's. He does not deny that he wrote a letter such as designated but he says, first, that he wrote it as solicitor for others; and next that it cannot properly be brought against him as evidence. It would be "very dishonourable," he states—and he appears to sup-pose himself an authority on honor—for pose himself an authority on honor—for Mr. Somerville to base his charge on a let-ter marked "private and confidential."

As he had no way of recognizing the let-ter except from Mr. Somerville's summary of its contents, and as he says the letter with those contents is marked in a partic ular way, one cannot escape the inference that Mr. Cameron is scarcely competent to decide absolutely upon points of honour. In fact it would be absurd to hold that Mr. Somerville, in a matter of grave public interest involving the independence of parliament should hesitate to read any lietter of fered him. The wish to escape exposure of a person who attempts to levy tribute from his seat in parliament could surely bind in no degree either the party on whom he had tried to levy or anyone who might become aware of his attempt. A contrary doctrine would enable every blackmailer and threatening letter writer to carry on his busines under the mark "private and confidential." If Mr. Hector Cameron is not guilty how etter from the mere mention of it?

What we are surprised at is that he should have pleaded so curiously. Is he unaware of the latest doctrine of parliamentary privilege and honor, as propounded by that other eminent authority, Mr. Dalton McCarthy? Does he not know that that alm ersen's report on the White-Bowell-Jamis en scandal alleges it to be perfectly prope

Does he not know that Sir Heetor Las yin, also an authority on henour thirty-two thousand in taet—insis Mr. Beaty was quite right in stan for "The Boy?" Does he not know of the recof the boodle bill, an occurr

If he does know the

most equal to Sir Hector's, Sir John's or Mr. Pope's.

We would very much like to see Mr. Cameron clear himself, but has he considered how singular a position he would occupy if by some miracie he could do so? Then he would have to leave the tory party. For by staying in it he would practically accept the gospel of parliamentary privilege according to McCarthy, after rejecting it as applicable to his own defence. But we dare say he will not find himself in that dilemma. His case is going before the committee on privileges and elections, which contains enough of ministers and subsidized members to put through any whitewashing report which Mr. McCarthy may think expedient to concoct.

A Serious Charge, [Ottawa Free Press, May 28.]

Mr. Somerville of Brant in parliament last night preferred aserious charge against Mr. Hector Cameron of North Victoria and demanded an investigation. He charged that the latter member in the year 1884 used his influence to procure from the government and parliament a subsidy for the Erie and Huron railway of \$3,200 a mile for thirty miles, amounting to \$96,000, and that while so engaged he wrote in effect to an officer of the company stipulating that a commission or bonus of ten per cent, on amount of such subsidy should be paid to amount or such subsidy should be paid to him for himself and two other persons whose co-operation he had secured, one-half of such commission to be paid en the subsidy being voted and the other half on the money being paid over.

Mr. Cameron claims that the charges are

Mr. Cameron claims that the charges are untrue and we hope they are; but candor compels the admission that his denial in parliament last night was not very impressive. His line of argument that because he wrote upon a letter "private and confidential" it would be dishonorable for any person to read it in the house was rather an admission that the letter might contain second him. How the opposition were tain something. How the opposition were going to read such a letter to the house does not appear when Mr. Cameron admits that the letter so endorsed never reached the hands of the person to whom it was addressed, but was returned to him from Washington as the writer through the medium of the dead letter office. Mr.Cameron's surprise was manifest when Mr. nerville stated that the letter described by Mr. Cameron was not the letter upon which he based this charge was percepti-ble to the house. Why Mr. Cameron should be surprised does not appear; be-cause Mr. Cameron's own admission was that this "private and confidential" letter of which he spoke never reached the hands of the person for whom it was intended, but was returned to Mr. Camero

personally as the author.

We do not purpose commenting upon the matter further at this stage, other than to say that Mr. Somerville discharged last night a most painful duty in a most delicate, manly and honorable manner.

The Tory Organ's Defence of the Percen tage Levying. [Toronto Mail. May 31st.]

The charge against Mr. Hector Cameron is, in plain English, that he attempted to fluence to procure a government subsidy of | collect from Mr. E. O. Bickford a commis-\$96,000 for the Erie & Huron railway com- sion on the bonus granted by the Dominion ent to a railway which Mr. Bick ford had promoted and built. Mr. Cameron's answer is that he did not make any such attempt. The principal evidence on which the opposition case rests is supplied by a letter written by Mr. Cameron to Mr. Bickford which appears to have been stolen in transitu. Mr. Cameron says that this letter contains a proposition regarding the payment of a percentage of the government subsidy by Mr. Bickford to a third partynot a member of parliament-who had aided Mr. Bickford in promoting the road, but that he himself never made any such demand for himself. The matter has been referred to the committee on privileges and elections, but it is doubtful if a complete investigation can be held. Mr. Somerville has kept back the charge until the closing hours of the session, the reason he assigns being that a leading witness has been out of the country. The Globe, however, re-

quires no witnesses. The day after the charge was made in the house, our generous cotemporary found Mr. Cameron guilty, despite his strenuous denial, and withou waiting for Mr. Somerville's proofs. It will be observed that in Mr. Cameron's case, as in the case of Mr. John White, the opposition prefer no charge against the government. It is not pretended that the subsidy granted to Mr. Bickford's line was secured by Mr. Cameron's influence. On the contrary, it is admitted that in subsid-izing this line the government simply fol-lowed the rule laid down with respect to railroad subsidies in general, and all that is alleged is that Mr. Cameron did wrong, which remains to be proved. It is a very different case from that of Messrs. Cook and Mills, where a minister of the crown, flying in the face of departmental practice and of ordinary business methods, released a political supporter of a debt due to the crown within a few hours of his retirement from office, and at a time when the administration to which belonged was functus officii. There a reform member and a reform minister are implicated in a questionable transaction by which the country lost a considerable sum of money. Here a conservative member is accused of wrong-doing, but not with ministers or fellowmembers; nor is it alleged that the public interests have suffered by him in any manner. The policy of scandal-mongering which the opposition have adopted, for

want of a better, is neither entertaining to the people nor profitable to themselves. GREENBANK.

[Correspondence of The Post.] CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTH-DAY.—The Queen's birthday passed off very pleasantly here. In the quoit match which started at 10 a. m., the first money was won by C. Dusty and the second by H. J. Harrington. In the fore part of the afternoon a closely contested football match was played between Manchester and our own juniors. The visiting team won the highest number of goals. After this came the match nchester and Greenbank's first nemer match, manuscretz came our over men. On the whole our boys played well and we think that with practice they may ce the result of the return mat

TRA AND CONCERT. -The ten and cor

LOCAL NEWS-LETTERS

SEAGRAVB. [Correspondence of The Post.]
THE PULPIT.—Rev. Mr. Thorn of Sunderland is to occupy the pulpit on Sunday

VROOMANTON. [Correspondence of The Post.]
Picnic.—Father Rholeder will hold his annual picnic on the 9th of June. The attractions offered will be equal to those offered on previous years and a most enjoyable time is expected.

VALENTIA.

[Correspondence of The Post.]
SHILOH SABBATH SCHOOL.—The anniversary of the above school will be held on Sunday and Monday, June 13th and 14th.
On Sunday a sermon will be preached at 2 o'clock by Rev. R. Allin, after which a collection will be taken up in add of the about lection will be taken up in aid of the school. On Monday, services will commence at 1 o'clock in Mr. T.G. Emmerson's grove near

LIFFORD.

Correspondence of The Pest.1

Picnic.—A grand picnic is expected to take place in Mr. Wm. Waid's grove on the 8th con. on Saturday, June 5th, under the auspices of the Ballyduff brass band, when a splendid time is expected.

Steam Threshing.—Mr. Wm. Colvin has numerical asterna engine for threshing. has purchased a steam engine for threshing from the Joseph Hall M'fg Co., Osh-awa, and intends to do quite a business threshing in the coming season. HORSE BUYING.—Mr. Cavanagh, a horse buyer from Peterboro, was through this part during the past week. He bought a

OAKWOOD.

heavy draught team from Mr. Alex. Brad-burn for the handsome sum of \$350.

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[Correspondence of The Post.] PERSONAL.—Rev. Messrs. Wilson and McMullen left for conference, Mr. Wilson on Monday via of Whitby and Mr. McMullen driving via his old home, Bethany. Mr. Shaw will take Mr. McMullen's appointments in the meantime...Mr. McIlyaine and family have arrived here and will occupy the premises lately occupied by Wm. Cassidy.

VISITORS.-Mrs. Wilkinson, wife of Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, spent a few days here, staying at her brother's, Dr. Jeffers...Mr. D.Anderson, law student, Toronto, spent a short vacation here.... Mrs. Calvin Gilbert, Toronto, spent a few days at her mother's, Mrs. Rilance... Mr. E. Cliff and Mr. G. Anderson put in the 24th in Toronto....Mrs. P. Anderson, widow, spent a a few days visiting friends in Toronto about the same time.

> CANNINGTON. [Correspondence of The Post.]

PASSED. -Mr. J. Vicars, son of the Rev. Mr. Vicars of this town, has just passed his examination as civil engineer and land surveyor. We congratulate you, Jack.... Rev. Mr. Fallis who has for the past year been the junior minister of the C. M. church of this place, has recently passed his final examination and will hereafter be placed in full charge of a circuit. Mr. Fallis has made hosts of friends here, by his consisentlife and unassuming manners, and when he leaves, as he must shortly do. the kind wishes of the whole community will go

PERSONAL,-Dr. D. N. Carmichael of Mount Pleasant paid a short visit to his riends here on Sunday last....Fred Fiddler has again become a resident of Canning ton. Welcome back, Fred..... The salvation army has a pretty new lady captain

who can sing like a nightingale.
"THE MIRROR."—We are sorry that
Messrs, Cave and Chester of the "Mirror" newspaper have found it necessary to leave Cannington. They have removed to Sun-derland. We wish them success in their

new field. 'CRUELTY TO ANIMALS."-Your Sunderland correspondent fairly hugged himself with delight a few weeks ago, as he described in glowing terms how a number of the "missing links" of his town changed the wheels of a buggy which they found in the shed of one of the hotels of that place. According to the ideas of the Sunderland correspondent, a very praise worthy deed was done, but among civilized communities such deeds of infamy are usually cried down, but Sunderland evidently "glories in her shame." We are inclined to take a lenient view of the present case, we do not believe the said "missing links" ntended to change the wheels; they found the buggy, and being unused to see such a vehicle in their rural solitude,

around" until they got the wheels off; got them mixed and never suspected they had been changed till they saw the fact reported in the Cannington Gleaner.

THE PRESBYTERIAN S. S. CONVENTION on the 26th May, proved a decided success. Very encouraging reports were received from the various schools within the bounds. The addresses were well received, especially those delivered by the Rev. Mr. McEwan, late surety of the provincial s. s. associa-

CELEBRATING THE 24TH.-Cannington done itself proud on queen's birthday. The celebration tops off anything of the kind ever attempted by the less important vil-lages of this district. The day was ushered in by the cannoniers, who charged up a ew big anvils and made more noise than the Yanks are making over the fishery question. We had the band of the 34th pattalion to furnish music and the members turned out as early as the printers generally go home the morning after publication night, and played loud and long. Everybody came out in their best attire and the streets looked gay and festive. A big crowd flocked in from the country round and the greatest interest was taken in the various features of the program for the day. During the morning we had a lacrosse match between the "Young Can-adians," our local club, and a junior club from Uxbridge for a silver cup. was a three-hour-play-as-you-please match and the home team polished off their opponents with three straights. Then we had during the afternoon a whole list of games, which were worked off in the park, every one so well that all events were closely disputed. Following is the prize

Half-mile—1 T. K. Henderson; 2 H. Barber. Obstacle race—1 A. Maybee, 2 H. Barber. 200 yards race—1 John White, 2 W. White-100 yards race—1 John White, 2 J. Ross. Boys race, under 15 years—1 A. Maybee, 2 A.

oking race—1 John White, 2 W. Payne towing lacrosse ball—1 E. A. Carswell. Throwing 16-pound shot—1 Jas. 10 in.; 2 John White, 34 ft. 6 in.

Running long jump—1 W. White, 19 ft. 2 in.;
John White, 18 ft. 8 in.
Standing jump—1 W. Mathiesen, 9 ft. 10 in.; 2
iohn White, 9 ft. 4 in.
Tub rece—1 R. Brown, 2 George McGarr.
Two best dressed calithumpians—1 A. Lindar; A. Craig and A. Shier, equal.