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Vol. XLVI, No. 22.

LINDSAY, THURSDAY, MAY 28th, 1903.

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## THE GAMEY CASE ARGUED BEFORE THE COMMISSIONERS

Messrs. Blake and Johnston Review the Case From Their Respective Sides

HOLD OPPOSITE VIEWS

### Mr. Blake Speaks very Severely of the Defence Witnesses and Mr. Johnston Rebukes Him

(Mail and Empire.)  
Hon. S. H. Blake, K. C., known as one of the most able of Ontario's brilliant lawyers, made a masterly effort on Thursday in his summing up on behalf of the prosecution of the evidence submitted to the Royal Commission in the Gamey enquiry. Calm, dignified, even-voiced, disdaining to appeal to the emotions, yet at all times powerful and convincing, he placidly and dispassionately argued from premise to conclusion, picking up the scattered threads of evidence and making of them a strong net of circumstance, in which not only Hon. J. R. Stratton, Provincial Secretary, but his colleagues, and his aides-de-camp are hopelessly entangled. He dwelt at length on the position of the entire Ministry in relation to Gamey's transfer of allegiance, and deprecated the fact that a Minister of the Crown could fall so low as to regard as a matter for jocular comment the willingness of a member of Parliament to sell his constituency and himself for a few paltry pieces of patronage. All knew of what Mr. Stratton, their brother Minister, was doing, and all were therefore culpable before the country.  
That there was a corrupt bargain, none could deny; it appeared in the letter of September 10th. In return for Gamey's support he was to receive the consideration usually given to Government supporters.

### TWO IMPORTANT POINTS

Mr. Blake brought out two points of very great importance. One in regard to the Sullivan to Gamey telegram of January 27th, and the other relating to the X.Y.Z. letter. He showed that although both Stratton and Sullivan denied that the Minister had any knowledge of that telegram asking Gamey to

come to Toronto on the following day, January 28th, Mr. Stratton told Mr. Hammond that Gamey would be in Toronto on the following day. Mr. Stratton had had no communication with Mr. Gamey, no other means of learning his movements save by the telegram, and he swore that he had no knowledge of that.

The X. Y. Z. letter of February 10th, the existence of which Mr. Stratton said was unknown to him, and which Sullivan said was written on his own initiative, was a direct and specific answer to a letter sent by Gamey to Stratton on February 7th, informing him that "there was a row on," and intimating that he might resign. Moreover, although the letter was an important one, no answer was sent. This was a direct proof of collusion between Sullivan and Stratton.  
Regarding the letter of September 10th, the Aylesworth letter, Mr. Blake showed that although Gamey and Sullivan had taken away the letter from Mr. Aylesworth's office, because no money was forthcoming that same letter found its way to the office of the Premier. How did it get there if the money was not paid?  
STRATTON AND SULLIVAN HIT  
Considerable time was spent by the learned advocate in considering the evidence of Frank Sullivan and of Mr. Stratton. In scathing periods he vented his indignation on the Minister who could so far forget his honor and his responsibilities, and so far outrage all decency as to urge a witness to "forget" some of the things, and who could ask the same witness to make a change in a signed interview after the interviewed man's back was turned. A Minister of the Crown giving lessons to a young man in perjury and forgery! Such a man would not stop at committing perjury and forgery himself. What credence could be placed in his story, or in the story of his secretary, who also may have been asked to forget.

The evidence also stigmatized Frank Sullivan, said the counsel, as a man utterly reckless of truth, filled with deceit, a hardened sinner, while the shamelessness of his manner in the box had been an outrage on decency.  
The general condition of affairs at the buildings was touched upon, as shown by Sullivan's unblushing statement that anyone in the buildings with eyes and ears open could pick up hints that could be turned into money. Mr. Gamey's position as a detective was justified, and the address delivered with an eloquent peroration in respect of the duties and responsibilities of a Minister of the Crown, as shown by his oath of office.

Mr. Blake was at all times convincing, and the case as presented by him was complete.

### SOME AMUSING INCIDENTS

There were several amusing incidents in the course of the day. Just before court opened, Mr. J. J. Foy, K. C., M. P. P. came in, and was shaking hands with the lawyers in the case. Mr. Blake, in greeting him said with very striking emphasis: "My dear Foy," and even the courtcrier wreathed his features into reminiscent smiles.  
While Mr. Blake was commenting on the evidence of Frank Sullivan, he referred to the expression "our man" he had intended his father. "Hardly respectful, was it?" said the Chancellor. "No, my Lord," said Mr. Blake, "but it nevertheless smells strongly of Frank Sullivan."  
The Chancellor also commented on the fact that although Sullivan and Gamey were in so many deals they had not realized on any of them.  
"The devil does not always reward his children," said Mr. Blake. "But we have evidence on this point," returned the Chancellor.  
"Except the facts in this case," said Mr. Blake.  
Capt. Sullivan, the hero of the Shannon deal, was referred to as a veritable Old Man of the Sea, who still clung to the Government, despite the fact that he was reported for bribery in the West Huron election.

### THE \$1,200 TO BE PAID IN

On the resumption of the enquiry at 10 o'clock Mr. Du Vernet, counsel for Mr. Gamey, submitted to the commissioners the position of his client in relation to the deposit of the \$1,200, which he says he borrowed from Sullivan. Counsel said Mr. Gamey was willing either to deposit in court a cheque for \$1,200, payable to the order of Frank Sullivan, or else to deposit a cheque to the order of the registrar, provided the commissioners would guarantee that no claim would be made by Sullivan. He had information that the I.O.U. of Sullivan had been assigned.

The Chancellor told the story of the two highwaymen, who were impeding one another in the progress of their unlawful business, and appealed to the courts for a ruling. The present case was similar. Mr. Gamey acknowledged that the \$1,200 must be deposited to be subject to the order of the House. Payment to Sullivan was entirely out of the question.

### THE PREMIER WAS ANGERED BY CONSERVATIVE SPEECHES

Mr. Ross Made a Hot Reply to Suspicions of the Government's Honor  
On Thursday Dr. Beattie Nesbitt attacked the government because road monies had been sent to certain persons in West Nipissing shortly before the general election without waiting for them to furnish bonds as required by the rules of the Public Works Department. The doctor declared that this had been done with the corrupt intention of influencing the election.  
Mr. Ross jocularly assured Dr. Nesbitt that he could not prove his charges. When were good roads needed if not at election time?  
Hon. Mr. Latchford said that the appointment had been made on the recommendation of Mr. Michaud, M. P. P. and denied that the Government had any corrupt intention. While the rules of the Department might have been violated, it was sometimes the custom in case of small payments to send out the monies without waiting for bonds in order to get the work done early.  
Mr. Whitney pointed out that the rule of the department had deliberately been broken—a pretty state of affairs indeed for a minister to be compelled to admit. He criticized the premier severely for his phrase, "You can't prove it," and said it was one that his predecessors in the office he held would have deemed unworthy of them. It was not the first time the premier had used such language with regard to charges made in the House. With such a leader it was not strange that a Minister of the Crown should have risen in his seat and promised good treatment to any member who would sign an agreement to support the government.

### MR. ROSS INDIGNANT

The premier's bitterly indignant manner when he rose to follow Mr. Whitney was in contrast to his genial mood earlier in the debate. He declared that what he had said was that it could not be proved that there had been any corrupt bargain. The member for North Toronto knew that if he would only be fair. It had been suggested that there had been such a bargain. This was merely a suspicion.  
"I said that he could not prove it now. This mode of conducting political warfare is most inimical to respectable and reputable politics. Cannot we do anything in the world without being suspected of sinister motives? Are we to assume that every man who discharges political duties has sinister motives? Are we to assume that every man who discharges political duty has corrupt motives? I would leave political life before six o'clock to-night if I thought so. I would repudiate any political party headed even by a Gladstone or a John the Baptist who proposed that no man could engage in public transactions without his motives being impugned. It drags politics into the mire, and I pity the miserable soul of the man, whether in this House or out of it, who is seeking in a sneivelling, sneering critical way, his own hands not being too clean sometimes."  
Premier said he wished to say that he made no reference to Mr. Whitney in his latter words.

### DOCTOR HITS BACK

The inference was that he meant Dr. Nesbitt, and the member for North Toronto promptly responded. He said what he had alleged was that there had been corrupt intention. Reproaches did not come with good grace from certain quarters. He asked the House to remember who had handled the Gamey letter.

## HALIBURTON SHOULD STAY PART OF VICTORIA COUNTY

### Col. Hughes Tells Why the North Should not be Joined to Muskoka—About Running for a United Victoria

When Col. Sam. Hughes was at home for the holiday he discussed with the Watchman-Warder the proposed Redistribution Bill whereby the district of Haliburton will be joined to Muskoka, and the remainder of the riding of North Victoria be united with the south to make one riding for Dominion purposes. Col. Hughes said:

"The government propose abolishing one riding in Durham since the population there does not warrant two; and one in Victoria. In order to accomplish the latter change Haliburton county is to be annexed to Muskoka. I object to the change, in the interests of the people of Haliburton. There is no association between Haliburton and Muskoka. They are divided by a rocky lake region as yet impassable except over the Bobcaygeon road to Dorset, and that is passable only a few months each year. Muskoka and Haliburton, from east to west, extend upwards of one-hundred miles. Only one corner of township, viz. Dorset, in Sherbourne township, has any association with Muskoka. Moreover, the trade of Haliburton is with and through Victoria county. The Gull and Burnt River waters flow from Haliburton through Victoria, and the timber trade follows these streams. The wagon roads from Victoria to Haliburton are many, and in fact the only ones. The Victoria branch of the Grand Trunk system runs from Lindsay to Haliburton village in the centre of the county of that name, while the Toronto branch runs from Toronto to Haliburton, easterly through Haliburton, connecting with the Grand Trunk near Kilmount, in Victoria county. Many of the settlers of Haliburton are ex-Victorians, while the social, commercial and general business associations between the two districts are most intimate.

### ARE JUDICIALLY ONE

But the strongest reasons from a federal parliamentary viewpoint, why Haliburton should remain attached to Victoria for Dominion election purposes are that the legislature of Ontario has united them politically, for now East and West Victoria comprises all of Victoria county and all of Haliburton; and the two further constitute not only a united political division, but a single judicial district. The voters' list for both are revised by the same authority, the assessors are the same; jurymen from both alike assemble at Lindsay for the assizes; and for all intents for Dominion purposes the two are one.

### PEOPLE TO COME IN

Further reason for retaining the old-time union may be found in the fact that the great water powers and other natural resources of the northern region are only now being developed. In a few years the population will have greatly increased, and by next census instead of two, possibly three members will be the portion of the two counties.

### MAY NOT BE DONE

Asked if he thought the Liberals would force their plan to have only one Victoria, and to add Haliburton to Muskoka, the colonel replied: "I have a good deal of faith in the fairness of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Hon. A. G. Blain, Sir Richard Cartwright and others; and I feel assured that when they see the absurdity of their friends' proposal, they will promptly retract. I am sure that the people of Haliburton annexed to Muskoka, I would advocate that even though it has only a population of upwards of 6000, it should have a member of its own. There are many good men there, who could ably represent it; but being part of political and judicial Victoria it should remain so."

### WOULD HE RUN

"But, in case of there being only one Victoria, would you contest that?"  
The colonel smiled and said: "In case I am around when next election comes on—and unless something unforeseen occurs, I'll likely be about—my course and line of action will be determined entirely by the people. I have never yet asked a man to support me in convention or election. I respect too highly. But the Conservative convention of Victoria will in future, as in the past, decide all such matters.

"Did you not formerly decline the nomination for South Victoria, and refuse to be a candidate?"

"That is all past," said the colonel. "The nomination was offered me for South Victoria years ago, soon after I came to Lindsay; but then I had no thought of entering parliament. Soon afterward friends insisted on my running for the north riding—the late Geo. Laidlav, Nelson Heaslip, Rev. Mr. Logan and scores more—and reluctantly consenting. I faced the great adverse majority there and finally won. It is not generally known that only the strong Liberal party for the Commons in North Victoria, in East Peterborough, the portions for the Commons in North Victoria, while the hobo being Conservative, while the Peterboro is now in political North Victoria, but not in East Victoria for the legislature. North Victoria for the Commons is in no sense as safe as either East or West Victoria for the Legislature, or as South Victoria for the Commons. The loyalty and firmness of Conservatives coupled with the independence and good sense of scores of Liberals have held me thus far firm in North Victoria. Yes, delegations have repeatedly, since 1887 asked me to stand for South Victoria; but, at first, I had no intention of entering politics, and could not afford it. Then when I finally accepted the Victoria, and I finally accepted the Conservatives and independent Liberals redeemed it. I could not thereafter in honor, leave them to accept a nomination in an easier and safer riding. No, the loyalty of the grand people of North Victoria and Haliburton in shadow as in sunshine, has endeared them to me. They know, too, that they shall never be deserted by me of my own will. In case the districts are made into one Victoria, I can't help it. The convention for the whole county, North and South, will decide whether or not I shall be the candidate at next election."

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(Continued on Page 6.)