CHARGES ARE DISPROVED

Gamey Commissioners' Report Presented to Legislature.

A Toronto despatch says: The finding of the commissioners in the Gamey case was read before the House on Thursday afternoon. It is as follows:

As to the demeanor and credibility of the witnesses generally, the commissioners would report that most of them seemed to be desirous to tell the truth. Of the more important witnesses the commissioners were impressed by the evidence of Dr. Arthur, Dr. Struthers, and Mr. J. F. Boyd.

Frank Sullivan and Mr. Gamey were two of the chief actors in the variety of transactions under investigation, and their evidence is contradictory and irreconcilable at most if not all important points. Both, by their own confession, practiced systematic duplicity and pursued tortuous courses of dealing with self-serving interests much in view. Implicit reliance should not be placed upon their uncorroborated statements in material points, and where these statements conflict with those of independent or disinterested witnesses the latter should be preferred.

"CAN'T YOU FORGET?"

Whatever comment may be made upon the expression attributed to the Provincial Secretary by Mr. Hammond, when recalled, it seems to the commissioners unwarrantable to assign to it such exaggerated import as to overshadow the whole body of substantial evidence in favor of the Minister and against the member. The testimony of Hammond was on a comparatively minor branch of the enquiry, that is, relative to the Globe interview, which, apart from the payment of money as to its price does not loom largely in the investigation, and the statements of Hammond are not in conflict with those of the Provincial Secretary, save as regards some variation in details which happen very commonly in evidence of different speakers.

THE GLOBE'S INTERVIEW.

It was a proper thing to take steps to advertise publicly the change in the political attitude of Mr. Gamey, and had greater prescience been vouchsafed, the publicity would likely have been more advantageous if made earlier.

Looked at in the large, Mr. Gamey's version is, that his purchase originated with Frank Sullivan and the Provincial Secretary, that he was taken to the Minister's office, whom he did not know, that the letter he was to sign was all ready, and put before him for signature, and the information volunteered by the Minister that the protest would be withdrawn, all the patronage given to him, and unstated valuable consideration paid when he signed, but as the money was not ready, the bargain and sale were not then consummated.

Mr. Aylesworth's evidence alone, at which it was not disputed verity attached, suffices to show that this version is misleading and untrue.

GAMEY NOT CREDIBLE.

The conduct and memory of Mr. Gamey, as to these bribe monies, detract from his credibility, at a momentous point in his life, and within a few months of the concurrence, he is uncertain as to the day when and the person from whom the $3,000 came. Having conferred with prominent men in his party (as he says) and arranged his methods, he employs his share, $1,500, in business, as if it were a legitimate transaction. He makes no mention in his statement to the House of how he came into possession of $1,200, part of the moiety, said to be received by Sullivan and of which, he says, $900 was paid into the Crossin business. But, when this is discovered by search in the Crossin books, the two pages containing entries for the 10th and 11th September disappear, not by the hands of Mr. Crossin—and Mr. Gamey is the only other who had access to them.

Then follows the procuring of the deposit slip from the bank by Mr. Gamey and its disappearance.

Then the explanation given to the reporters at Buffalo, with a view to publication, that this $900 was collected during the summer in Manitoulin Island; and the final statement under oath, that it was part of a loan of $1,200 from Frank Sullivan.

DIDN'T GET IT FROM STRATTON

The evidence on the other side precludes the conclusion that this $3,000 was received by Mr. Gamey from the Provincial Secretary on or about the 11th of September, and, if that be so, its true source is not yet disclosed.

THE $500.

And, again, as to the $500 said to be received on the 29th January. Though Mr. McGregor comes expressly to assist Mr. Gamey at this stage of the enterprise, and does assist in correcting the Globe interview, and though he and Mr. McGregor meet that same night and discuss the matter, yet the money is not exhibited or mentioned. It is not shown to anyone, but carried about continuously in Mr. Gamey's pocket until produced in the House. And then, when Mr. Gamey was finally preparing for making his statement, and planning to procure all possible corroboration from Sullivan, in the hearing of three hidden witnesses and though the $500 was then actually in his pocket (as he says), he does not make the slightest reference or allusion to it at the Crossin factory on the night before the House met.

From these omissions the inference is most persuasive that no bribe or money was received from the Provincial Secretary on the 29th January, but that the money was afterwards acquired, and, if that be so, then the local source of this money is not yet disclosed.

This much more be said about "Where the money came from," that Mr. Gamey declined to make any statement under oath to the commissioners about the "Deposit slips and those things," ostensibly on the ground that criminal action was being contemplated in that regard. But he said further that he "Cannot understand how it is relevant to his case."

THE MISSING PAGES.

Without pressing against him the maxim "omnia presumuntur contra spoliatorem," and though the despoiling was done pendente lite et sedente curia, it is very reasonable to believe that if the missing pages of the Crossin book could be seen they would disclose or give a clue whereby would be discovered the genesis of the $900, and of the $1,500, both coming, as Mr. Gamey now swears, from one and the same source.

His explanation of the particular source is not so worthy of credence as if the books had been left unmutilated.

PLAYED A DOUBLE PART.

It is difficult to frame any consistent account of Mr. Gamey's career as member, for it was throughout inconsistent, as he played a double part. But this much appears in the evidence. His politics was Manitoulin, with Gamey as member, on the side of any Government in power, to the end that he might serve his constituency, and also secure shares in the various deals supposed possible by not overscrupulous men. First was formed the Jones-Gamey combination, with a view of acquiring "franchises." But, as Mr. Gamey's friend, Frank Sullivan, by his braggard style and pretended access to the Minister (page 1,323), fostered the belief that he had more influence, the uncle was superseded, and the Sullivan-Gamey combination began. At the first move, support was assured to the Ross Government by the letter of the 10th September, and on the same day Mr. Gamey takes part in the Conservative caucus at Toronto.

THE NORTH PERTH AFFAIR.

Then rumors got abroad of his defection from party lines, and he modified his manner of support by the amended letter of 27th October, so that while acting as occasion required in the interests of the Conservatives, he engages to support the Government when the House meets, if Mr. Ross has a reasooable majority. Accordingly, in January, 1903, he takes part in the North Perth campaign for the Conservatives, but is embittered because he was belittled by the action of the Conservative leader.

He repairs to the Provincial Secretary and begins discussing appointments, but, being confronted with his conduct in North Perth, he declares his willingness to advertise publicly his real and true position. This was after the Government majority had increased to five. The Globe interview is published at the end of January, wherein his political affiliation is still further reduced below the standard of support promised in the letter of the 27th October, and only extends to support "in all matters he is satisfied with." Nevertheless, this publication brings trouble around his head from the Conservatives, and his resignation begins to be talked of.

But Mr. Gamey is just as unwilling to resign at this crisis as he was after the protest. Dr. Struthers then advised him, as a friend, knowing more of the man and his candidature than a stranger, to resign and run as an independent, but the answer then and always was the "expense," and the risks and chences involved in another contest. Yet, the member is growing in disfavor with both parties, he is getting to be regarded as a double-minded man, with all that that suggests.

A DISAPPOINTED MAN.

He surveys the situation. The glowing prospects pictured by Frank Sullivan have failed to become facts. The prestige of directing Governmental patronage appears to be meager and illusive. He learns that the Government, anticipating his resignation, are planning to put Mr. McMillan, the Socialist candidate, in the field.

And then, it may be, comes the patriotic plan of deliverance by letting it leak out that money was at the bottom of his apparent disloyalty. The people supposed he had got a timber concession, and Dr. Arthur and Dr. Struthers told him that people would say he had been bought. Let him accept and profit by the belief, or rather the assumption of his mercenary defection, but by a desperate effort turn it into success by depicting his career as set forth in the statement for the House.

SIZING GAMEY UP.

The temptation appears chiefly to be the expectation, if he could get corroboration of his story, that he would become Minister of Mines in a new Administration.

Whether or not this is a correct appraisal of the member's erratic course will depend upon the estimate that may be made of this report, with its appendices of exhibits and evidence.

Mr. Gamey had no personal intercourse with any member of the Ministry except the Provincial Secretary. With two or three of the others he had some official correspondence, but with the rest not even that.

With regard to the added charge of conspiracy, the Commissioners are of the opinion, that as a matter of law, there is no evidence whatever to sustain it, as against the members of the Government and the other persons charged.

And, according to the methods of an ordinary trial, they would be discharged from the said accusation by the presiding judicial officer.

CHARGES DISPROVED.

This being so, the matter of the original charge alone remains, and as to the Provincial Secretary, there is the testimony that has been commented upon. In our opinion the corrupt charges stand disproved by a great body of evidence, which appears to be more accurate and credible than that adduced in support thereof.

The $1,200 mentioned hereinbefore has not been paid into the hands of the Commissioners by Mr. Gamey. The Commissioners have impounded two sums of money, $500 in cash produced by Mr. Gamey in the House and $1,500 represented by his marked check of the 3rd April, 1903.

These sums have been lodged in the hands of the accountant of the Supreme Court, and the Commissioners advise that the amounts be carried in to a separate account, to be paid out upon the joint order of the Chancellor of Ontario and the Chief Justice of the King's Bench for the time being, upon its being made satisfactorily to appear that any claimant has legitimate title thereto.

WHARF COLLAPSED.

Fifty People Fell Into Shallow Water.

A Toronto despatch says' An appalling excursion horror was what "might have happened" at Lorne Park on Saturday. Half a hundred people, men, women and children, by the collapse of the wharf, were precipitated into the water. Luckily it was only four feet deep, but even then the escape from death by drowning or serious injury from the crushing of at least a few of the imperilled excursionists almost borders on the marvelous.

The Chalmers Presbyterian Sunday School scholars, officials and friends had picnicked at the park during the day, having taken the early morning trip on the Niagara. About 5.30 p.m., 150 people had gathered on the approach to the wharf, the gate having been locked to prevent any crowding when the boat arrived. There was a sudden crashing sound, and then the stringers supporting the planking between two piers, about 16 feet apart, slowly collapsed, throwing fully fifty men, women and children into a V shaped aperture, in all conceivable disorder. The scene that followed was indescribable. Everything was still for a moment, and then began a low pitiable moaning, quickly succeeded by screetches from children, wails from their mothers and hoarse excited shouts from the men. Both the stringers and the planks are described as having been rotten clear through, the wood crumbling in the hand. There was no rush such as would cause the beams to snap, but the walk simply sank under the weight, as it had reached the limit of its existence.

Planks were soon laid across the open space and the captain of the Niagara told the excited crowd that he would return and carry them to Toronto, but there were none that cared to venture on the wharf, and when the boat returned, there were no passengers and she came in light.

The number of murders per million population is 5.13 in England, 5.45 in Germany, 11.55 in France, 15.42 in Austria, 76.11 in Italy, and 44.70 in Spain.

In the last financial year 62,523 estates changed hands in Britain through death. Their average value was £4,232.

THE MARKETS

Prices of Grain, Cattle, etc in Trade Centres.

Toronto, June 9.—Wheat — The market is quiet, with the tone firm. No. 2 sold at 72¾ to 73c middle freights. No. 2 red winter and white quoted at 73c east, and No. 2 spring at 70½c middle ; No. 2 goose at 65½c on Midland. Manitoba wheat is firm. No. 1 hard quoted at 84c Goderich, and No. 1 Northern at 83c Goderich. No. 1 hard, 90c grinding in transit, lake and rail, and No. 1 Northern, 89c.

Oats—The market is steady ; No. 2 white quoted at 30½c high freight, and at 31c middle freight. No. 1 quoted at 32c east.

Barley—Trade is quiet, with No. 3 extra quoted at 44c middle freight, and No. 3 at 42½c.

Rye—The market is steady at 52c outside for No. 2.

Peas—Trade dull, with No. 2 white quoted at 64c high freight.

Buckwheat—Nothing doing, with prices nominal at 38 to 39c outside.

Corn—Market is very dull. Canadian feed corn quoted at 40c west, and at 45c here. No. 3 American yellow quoted at 54½ to 55c on track, Toronto ; and No. 3 mixed at 54c Toronto.

Flour—Ninety per cent. patents quoted to-day at $2.72 middle freights, in buyers' sacks for export. Straight rollers of special brands for domestic trade quoted at $3.25 to $3.40 in bbls. Manitoba flour steady ; No. 1 patents, $4.10 to $4.20 and strong bakers', $3.85 to $3.95 in bags, Toronto.

Millfeed—Bran is firm at $17 here. At outside points bran is quoted at $16 and shorts at $17. Manitoba bran in sacks, $19, and shorts at $21 here.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Beans—Trade is quiet, with offerings small. Prime white are worth $1.65 to $1.75 per bush.

Hay—The market is quiet, with car lots of No. 1 timothy at $9.50 to $10, and mixed at $8 to $8.50.

Straw—The market is quiet at $5.50 to $6 per ton for car lots on track.

Hops—Trade dull, with prices nominal at 18 to 20c.

Potatoes—Car lots are firm at $1.15 per bag, and small lots at $1.25 to $1.30.

Poultry—Spring chickens are quoted at 90c to $1 per pair, and old hens at 10c per lb.

THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—The receipts of butter are good, and the demand fair for choice qualities. Prices are unchanged. We quote :—Choice lb. rolls, 15 to 16c; fresh dairy tubs, uniform color, 15c; second grades, rolls and tubs, 12 to 13½c; creamery prints, 20 to 21c ; solids, 18 to 18½c.

Eggs—Market continues steady, selling single cases 13 to 13½c per dozen.

Cheese—The market is dull at 11½ to 11¾c per lb.

HOG PRODUCTS.

Dressed hogs unchanged. Cured meats are unchanged, with a good demand. We quote :—Bacon, clear, 10¼ to 10½c, in tons and case lots. Pork—Mess, $21 to $21.50; do., short cut, $22.50 to $23.

Smoked meats—Hams, 13 to 13½c; rolls, 11½c; shoulders, 10½c; backs, 14 to 14½c; breakfast bacon, 13½ to 14c.

Lard—The demand is unchanged. We quote :—Tierces, 10½c; tubs, 10¾c pails, 11c; compound, 8 to 9½c.

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

Minneapolis, June 9.—Wheat—Cash 79½c; July, 77¾ to 77⅞c; September, 71⅛c; on track, No. 1 hard, 80¾c; No. 1 Northern, 79½c; No. 2 Northern, 78½c; No. 3 Northern, 77 to 78c.

Milwaukee, June 9.—Wheat—Firm; No. 1 Northern, 83½ to 85c; July, 75⅛ to 75½c. Rye—Firm ; No. 1, 53 to 53½c. Barley—Dull; No. 2, 57c; sample, 40 to 53½c. Corn—July, 47⅜c.

Buffalo, June 9.—Flour — Steady. Wheat—Spring unsettled ; No. 1 hard, 85⅝c; No. 1 Northern, 83⅜c. Winter steady; No. 2 white, 84½c ; No. 2 red, 81½c. Corn—Strong; No. 3 yellow, 51½c; No. 2 corn, 50½ to 51c. Oats—Unsettled. No. 3 white, 39c; No. 2 mixed 36c. Canal freights—Steady.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, June 9.—Owing to the lightness of the offerings of good butchers' cattle, their prices advanced 5 to 10c per cwt. to-day. The situation in sheep was weak, there being a large supply here, and the market was about 25 per cent. lower.

Dulness was about the only new feature in exporters' to report. Sellers had difficulty in disposing of the stock on their hands, and buyers were indifferent, as the Chicago market was lower again, and they could and were obtaining the major portion of their export cattle therefrom. Owing to the scarcity and high price of butchers', a good many that would ordinarily have sold as shippers' were bought up for the local butcher trade.

The quality of cattle that came forward was not as good as before, there being a lot of rough and unfinished heifers, steers, and cows amongst them. Farmers surely are making a mistake to send in poorly finished cattle when good butchers are so much wanted, and it manifestly pays them thoroughly to fatten up their product before marketing it.

The following was the range of quotations :—

	Per 100 lbs.	
Exporters' cattle—		
Extra to choice...	$4.75	$5.00
Bulls.....	3.75	4.10
Medium to light...	4.70	4.75
Butchers'—		
Picked lots...	4.80	5.00
Good loads...	4.65	4.85
Medium...	4.50	4.65
Fair.....	4.25	4.50
Cows.....	3.25	4.25
Feeders, light...	4.00	4.50
Feeders, short-keeps	4.50	4.90
Stockers...	3.00	4.00
Sheep—		
Export ewes...	3.75	4.00
do, bucks...	3.00	3.50
Spring lambs, each... ...	2.50	4.50
Calves, per cwt...	4.50	6.00
Hogs—		
Sows...	4.00	4.50
Stags.....	2.00	3.00
Selects, 160 to 200 lbs	6.00	0.00
Thick fats...	5.75	0.00
Lights...	5.75	0.00

STEAMER CUT DOWN.

Terrible Shipping Disaster Near Marseilles.

A Marseilles, France, despatch says: Over one hundred persons were drowned here on Sunday, as the result of a terrible shipping disaster. The Insulaire and the Liban passenger steamers of the Fraissinet Steamship Company of Marseilles were in collision near this port. The Liban sank, carrying down with her more than 100 of her passengers, as well as her crew.

The Liban left Marseilles Sunday morning on her regular passenger trip to Bastia, Corsica, and was run down and sunk by the Insulaire off the Maire Islands. The collision was witnessed from the pilot boat Bleichamp, which was about two miles distant. The Bleichamp immediately went to the spot to give assistance.

CUT A RENT.

The force of the collision cut a wide rent in the Liban's side, and she was already taking in water rapidly. Her captain saw their only chance was to run the steamer aground before she sank in deep water, and the Liban was headed full speed for the shore, but within seventeen minutes of the collision and while still some distance from shallow water, the forepart of the steamer plunged beneath the waves and a few minutes later she had entirely disappeared.

In the meantime the Bleichamp the steamer Balkan, also belonging to the Fraissinet Company, and other vessels had drawn near the sinking ship and were making strenuous efforts to rescue those on board many of whom were at the point of exhaustion, and were only revived by the attentions they received on board.

The Balkan also rescued thirty seven passengers, and up to the present it is known that in addition to the passengers, seventeen of the crew were also saved.

CAUSE OF COLLISION.

It is stated that the collision was due to the following circumstances

The Liban was putting out to sea just as the Insulaire was making for the harbor. Maire Island, which lies of the entrance to the port, hid the vessels from each other until it was too late to avoid a collision.

The crew of the Balkan describe the scene just before the Liban disappeared as a fearful one, as the vessel was sinking, she was inclined to such an angle that her mast struck the water, causing an eddy which made the work of rescue most difficult. A mass of human beings were clinging to the foundered ship and uttered despairing cries as she went down. At the same time the boilers exploded.

For a few minutes the victims were seen struggling in the sea then the waves closed over them. Of about 200 passengers who were aboard, it is feared at least half were drowned.

The Balkan launched three boats and the other succoring vessels did all possible to save the victims in the short time that elapsed between the time of the collision and the sinking of the Liban.

BABY BURIED ALIVE.

Heartless Desertion of Few Days Old Infant.

A Toronto Junction despatch says: An infant, only three or four days old, was discovered by Mr. Johnson, sticking out of a sandbank, on his farm, near the Scarlett Road, about noon on Sunday. The child had apparently been there for a long time, as it was completely exhausted, and it is hardly likely to survive. The sandbank where the baby was found is in a spot where few people are apt to pass it, and it might have been there for several days without being discovered. It was buried up to its neck in sand, and could not move. The object of this desertion cannot be accounted for. Mrs. Johnson is taking care of the child until it is taken off her hands by the county authorities. High Constable Ramsden has been notified.