

Q.—Have you had any communication with him? A.—No.

Q.—Either by letter or by message? A.—No; I went to see him; I told him I didn't want to have anything to do with the matter, and he advised me to keep away from it.

Q.—Did you tell him what Wilkinson told you about the offer in the North-West? A.—No.

Q.—Did he, Bunting, tell you anything about that? A.—No.

Q.—Then you came here to free Mr. Laidlaw from blame? A.—Yes; I never had one word with him about anything wrong; we are very good friends; I came down here voluntarily.

Q.—There is no doubt about your being a political opponent of theirs? A.—I was one of the worst workers against him.

Q.—Has Wilkinson communicated with you since you saw him at Guelph? A.—He telegraphed me once or twice.

Q.—Did he write you? A.—Once.

Q.—Have you got the letter here? A.—No.

Q.—Can it be produced? A.—Yes.

Q.—Will you produce it? A.—If I can find it.

Q.—Have you any doubt that it is in a shape to be produced? A.—I think I can find it.

Q.—Will you produce the telegrams? A.—Yes, there is only one.

Q.—Have you any letters but one? A.—No.

Q.—Did you telegraph him or answer by letter? A.—No.

Q.—How was the letter to Wilkinson forwarded from Guelph? A.—I wrote the letter in the telegraph office on one of the blanks, and hastened down to the station expecting to find an open mail, having put a three cent stamp on the letter; I found there was no open mail, and I sent it by the hands of a friend.

Mr. FRASER now stated that Mr. Laidlaw appeared and desired to make a statement.

Mr. Laidlaw said, "I desire to be sworn."

Mr. FRASER suggested they should take his statement without swearing.

Mr. MEREDITH—Certainly, take Mr. Laidlaw's statement.

Mr. MORRIS made a long argument, endeavouring to prove that British members of Parliament, before judicial enquiries before the House of Commons, were in the habit of being sworn.

Mr. FRASER did not agree with the argument at all. Members were at perfect liberty to make a statement either in the House or before a Committee without being sworn, and he disputed the position of Mr. Morris that members of the British House of Commons under similar circumstances to these were in the habit of being sworn.

Mr. Laidlaw persisted in being sworn, which was done.

#### MR. LAIDLAW'S STATEMENT.

Mr. LAIDLAW then made the following statement:—Mr. Goldie has come here entirely unsolicited by me. I was not aware that he was in the city till I met him late last night, when he told me he had come down for the purpose of doing away with this political stain which rested upon me, and I cordially thanked him for what he has done. Neither Mr. Goldie nor any other man ever approached me in any way whatever and advised me to vote for or against the Mowat Administration. That letter might convey the idea that I was to meet Mr. Goldie in Toronto, and interview Mr. Goldie by appointment. I never met Mr. Goldie by appointment. I had met Mr. Goldie again and again, and he never once interfered or spoke with me on this particular question during that time till last night. No one ever approached me directly or indirectly on this matter.

Mr. FRASER—We are all agreed on this matter that you never were approached.

Mr. MEREDITH—I quite concur in the matter.

#### MR. M'KIM'S STATEMENT.

Mr. M'KIM said—I had an acquaintance with Mr. Wilkinson before this session. I board at the Walker House, and he came there early in the session and sat at the same table with me. He told me he knew I was in business difficulties, and named three Registry Offices in the North-West—Calgary, Regina, and Edmonton—but he thought he would keep Calgary himself, and he thought I should take Edmonton. He told me he had them at his disposal. He said that if I would take the office and vote against the Government an allowance of \$500 could be got for expenses, and travelling expenses paid beyond Winnipeg. He said he had been at Ottawa, and had arranged these matters as to the disposal of the offices. I at once told a member of the Government all this, and after a consultation I determined to find how