

THE BRIBERY PLOT.

Mr. Dwight Refuses to Produce the Implicating Telegrams.

TO BE REPORTED TO THE HOUSE.

Mr. Morris Identifies Senator Macpherson's Handwriting.

DR. CASCADEN TESTIFIES.

Mr. Bunting Directly Connected with the Conspiracy.

TRIAL AT THE POLICE COURT.

"Big Bush" Attempts to Hide Among the Crowd.

THE EVIDENCE OF MR. McKIM.

Kirkland Disowns the Other Conspirators.

"A CONSPIRACY ALREADY PROVED"

The Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections met again yesterday, Mr. Harcourt presiding. There was the usual large attendance. The Attorney-General was also present.

MR. DWIGHT REFUSES TO PRODUCE.

The first witness called was Mr. H. P. Dwight, Manager of the Great North-Western Telegraph Company.

Mr. FRASER—Has any search been made for the telegrams which you have been called upon to produce?

Mr. DWIGHT—There has been a search, but in the meantime I am advised, in regard to our right to produce, that this Committee has no authority to order their production, and I am directed in the meantime to decline to produce the messages.

Q.—Have any such messages as you are summoned to produce been found? A.—I decline to give any evidence.

Q.—You decline to give any evidence as to whether any such telegrams have been received or sent as stated in the summons? A.—Our object, of course, is to protect the secrecy of the business passing over the line as far as we can.

Q.—The ground you take is that under the law you are not bound to produce them before a Committee of this House? A.—So I am advised.

Q.—Will you say you have or have not any copies of the telegrams now in your possession? A.—I have not.

Mr. FRASER—I suppose as a Committee we cannot punish you for contempt, but we will have to report you to the House. I suppose you are not acting from anything personal in the matter, but it is simply because, as general manager, you think it is not your duty so to do? A.—Yes.

Mr. FRASER—You might be the first under Confederation to appear before the bar of the House. I shall not ask you any further questions then.

Mr. Dwight then withdrew.

Mr. FRASER moved that the fact of Mr. Dwight having been summoned, the fact of his appearance, and the fact of his refusal to produce any papers or documents mentioned in the summons be reported to the House. (Carried.)

MR. MACPHERSON'S LETTER.

Mr. FRASER—I propose to identify, as far as possible, the documents already in possession of the Committee. I propose to call Hon. Mr. Morris. (He handed Mr. Macpherson's letter to Mr. Morris.)

Mr. MORRIS—I am quite familiar with the handwriting of the Hon. Mr. Macpherson, and the letter in the first page of the paper is in the handwriting of the Hon. Mr. Macpherson, and I identify it. The handwriting on the back I do not know. (This handwriting refers to the blank appointment.) I cannot identify it at all. It is not Mr. Macpherson's writing. The superscrip-

tion on the envelope is in Mr. Macpherson's handwriting.

DOCUMENTS TO BE PRODUCED.

Mr. FRASER—Mr. Chairman, has Mr. Goldie, of Guelph, sent you the letter or telegram which he promised to send you yesterday?

The CHAIRMAN—No, he has not.

MR. CASCADEN'S EVIDENCE.

Mr. CASCADEN, sworn, said:—During the last week in January between the 29th and the 1st of February, Mr. Meek, an old acquaintance of mine, now a barrister of this city, came to me and asked for the privilege of a private interview, which I granted, never dreaming of the object of it. He asked me immediately if what he said or if our negotiations would be strictly private, to which I readily assented, not knowing the object. He at once intimated that he was aware how bad my health had been, and after a general conversation about it and old acquaintances suggested that there was too much party feeling in the country and too much partyism about. Knowing that attempts had been made upon members on this same specious plea I at once tumbled to the fact that he would be making an attempt to seduce me from my allegiance to the Mowat Administration. He very soon, without much circumlocution, arrived at the first proposal that I should give my support to one of five or six resolutions that would be proposed in the House against the policy of the Government with a view of defeating the Mowat Administration and supplanting it by a coalition to be formed of at least two Liberal members—he would not object to three—and the remaining ones Conservatives. I omitted to state that at a previous stage of the interview he asked me

TO GO AND SEE MR. BUNTING,

which I refused to do. He then assured me that he had full authority from the leaders of the Conservative party to speak to me as he was then speaking, and enter into negotiations with me in regard to my allegiance to the Government. I assured him that my support would be very little worth in the present state of my health, and that I was even then very much inclined to go home. I said this in order to parry the question, and did not want to commit myself. However he persisted in the matter and assured me that if I would give one vote and then remain at home it would answer all the purposes sought. I then began to lay my net for him a little to see what he prepared to do. He said that if I would only consent to resign and lend my influence in the county to return him. He asked me to manipulate what he called the Irish vote, and this, he said, would answer just as well as voting against the Government, for which service I was to have \$2,000 or \$3,000 at once. He was careful to state that this was not a bribe, but was intended to pay my way to Regina, where I was to have a position which would be guaranteed to produce \$1,800 a year. He spoke something about a house being purchased for me. I had a great conflict of emotion whether to consider this as an insult or not, but I thought it was worth knowing what the party would do, so I told him that the country was too cold for me. At this he said, "I am prepared to say that you can almost make your own terms; you can have a nice 'sit' in British Columbia." I had then exhausted my resources in drawing him out, and I said to him, "I beg to break up this interview," and assured him that nothing would come of it; that it was impossible for me to entertain his proposal. He said, "I wish you to think it over seriously, and I will see you again." I then learned that he had been about the office of the hotel for some hours inquiring of the clerk of the Rossin House when I went home, when I would come back, and all about me. The next morning I came down about 11:40, and afterwards I found that he had been pacing up and down the passage waiting for me. He saw me as soon as I stepped out of the elevator. He at once came up and drew me to one side, but I proceeded to take a chair in the most public place in the main hall on York-street, about the entrance or near the entrance to the reading-room, thus seeking to bring myself within ear-shot of some person who could thereby learn the nature of the conversation. He then gave me to know that he had

SECURED SIX MEMBERS,

who were willing to do as he wished me to do, and a great deal of general conversation occurred with regard to the management of the affair. I then said to him, "You had better quit this; nothing can come of it." He said, "This is an entirely personal matter," and thus receded from the position he had assumed in the former interview that he had authority to speak for the leaders of the party. About the last he said was, "I wish you to understand that this is a matter entirely of my own motion between ourselves." I thought the matter over, and though I remembered that I was pledged to secrecy, I felt that I should be equally criminal with the man if I did not make the approaches known, so I consequently came and told some members of the Government the whole of the interviews.

THE CLOVEN FOOT APPEARS.

Another little incident which strengthens my opinion that he was authorized at least by some