

that I would not speak of Mr. Harcourt.

Q.—And yet you went and mentioned his name to the Ministers. Is that honourable? A.—I consider that I acted rightly. I do not think there is any honour connected with Mr. Wilkinson.

Mr. Murphy—There is an old adage that says "There is honour among thieves," but it seems there is not among members of Parliament.

Mr. Fenton—My learned friend knows more about the honour of thieves than of members of Parliament. (Laughter.)

Mr. Murphy objected to Mr. Fenton's interruption. He resumed.

THE GUARANTEE QUESTION.

Q.—Do you know what a guarantee is? A.—An assurance that an agreement will be carried out.

Q.—And is not the guarantee returned when the agreement is carried out? A.—I believe so.

Q.—Then what do you mean when you say that it was not arranged that you should return your guarantee of office? A.—I said that nothing was said to me about returning it.

Q.—Do you remember saying that you required a guarantee because your party might back down on you? A.—No.

Q.—Was the guarantee given because Mr. Harcourt was going to change sides? A.—No; it was given as a guarantee of office for me.

Q.—Did Mr. Wilkinson say he would secure you the office or would use his influence in obtaining it for you? A.—He gave me to understand that he had authority to secure it for me.

Q.—He denies this, and says he merely told you he would use his influence. What registrarship was it he spoke of? A.—Regina.

Reading from his notes the witness said Wilkinson had assured him that he had authority to offer him the office, and that he could make arrangements so that the work of office could be carried on by deputy.

Cross-examined by Mr. Clark:—

Q.—Did you speak to any member of the House with a view to ceasing to support the Government? A.—I cannot say that I did.

Q.—In your former interviews with Kirkland did the matter assume a political character? A.—No; there was no mention of defeating the Government on his part.

Q.—Where did this interview take place? A.—In my room.

Q.—Did Kirkland go there by appointment? A.—No; he followed me from Wilkinson's room to my own room.

Q.—At that interview did matters take a different form from what they had before? A.—Yes, he began to speak about his connection with the other parties.

TURNING THE TABLES ON KIRKLAND.

Q.—Did you report your interview with Kirkland to the Government? A.—Yes, I reported the matter to Mr. Pardee. I told Mr. Pardee that there were a number of parties engaged in this business with Kirkland.

Q.—Had you any intention of trapping Kirkland? A.—I had no intention of trapping Kirkland if he had kept away from the other parties. At that time I thought there was something in his policy, and would have let him alone had he had no connection with the other parties.

Q.—At that interview you say your intention was not to entrap Kirkland? A.—I found that Kirkland had become involved with the other parties in the plot.

Q.—Did the interview of Saturday take a different turn? A.—Mr. Kirkland then told me that he was working with Wilkinson, and Bunting and Wilkinson and some others had had a meeting in regard to the policy of the Government. He said he was at this meeting.

Q.—What was the object of that meeting? A.—It was to get Kirkland to combine with them and to get him to get members of the Government to vote for the amendments that were going to be brought up.

Q.—Did any member of the Government tell you to go and see Mr. Bunting? A.—No, not at that time. I told some members of the Government of the interview that Mr. Wilkinson proposed to arrange with Mr. Bunting for me.

Q.—Did they ask you to go there? A.—They said it probably would be well to see Mr. Bunting. I told them I did not care to be running up to the *Maul* building about this matter.

Q.—When you were spoken to about going to see Mr. Bunting, was all that was spoken about with him the formation of a coalition Government? There was nothing up to that time about giving you any money, etc.? A.—There was some talk of giving me whatever I wanted to reward me.

Dr. McMichael—What about the meeting you spoke of at which Kirkland was present? A.—He told me who was present at the meeting and said that he was present at the meeting. I understood from what Kirkland said that they were to assist him in securing a change in the timber laws, and he was to assist them in their attempt to defeat the Government. He told me some amendments were to come up and they were to vote for his policy.

Mr. Irving—I understood you to say to Dr. McMichael that he first approached you in reference to paying you for advocating his timber policy, and that in his subsequent interview with you he dropped the question? A.—No, he never dropped his own matter, and he said at a subsequent interview that they (Bunting and Wilkinson) wanted to know what my price was.

Q.—Did Wilkinson charge you to see Mr.

Harcourt, and tell anything to Mr. Harcourt? A.—He said, "You go to Mr. Harcourt," and I said "Yes." He said, "He is going to take the same position as you will."

Q.—That is what is involved in what you said about Wilkinson telling you to go to see Harcourt? A.—Yes.

The Court adjourned at one o'clock for an hour.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION.

When the Court resumed at two o'clock the evidence of Mr. Thomas Goldie, of Guelph, was taken, he being anxious to return home by the evening train. Mr. Irving conducted the examination. The witness said:—I know Mr. Wilkinson. I met him at Guelph about four o'clock in the afternoon on the 2nd February.

Q.—Where did you meet him? A.—I met him on the street near Bell's organ factory.

Q.—Was it there you had the interview? A.—We went into Bell's office, where we had the interview.

Q.—How long did it last? A.—About ten or fifteen minutes.

Q.—Then at the end of that time what became of you and what became of him? A.—We parted, and he said he was going to Toronto, and I went to my business.

Q.—When did you next see him? A.—I met him on the street in Toronto.

Q.—When you were in Bell's office was there any person present besides you and Wilkinson? A.—No one whatever.

Q.—What did he say first outside? A.—He said who he was. He said he came from Toronto. We then went into the office of Bell's factory, where we commenced to speak of general matters, and then we commenced to talk politics. He got to talking of the chances of defeating the Mowat Government.

Q.—You are not a supporter of the Mowat Government? A.—No.

Q.—What else did he say? A.—He said there were feelings against the Government party and they were going to try to defeat it. He asked me to give him some pointers. Mr. McKim had told him that there was some dissatisfaction with the Mowat Government, which he could find out in Guelph. I gave him to understand that there was nothing in the matter about Mr. Laidlaw, as he was a very strong party man. He wished me to see Mr. Laidlaw on Sunday. I refused to do this because he lives six miles out in the country, and I could not go out to see him. He wished me to write him (Wilkinson) and let him know what Mr. Laidlaw's views were.

Q.—Well, what else did he say? A.—He was talking about strong hopes of defeating the Mowat Government, and informed me that Mr. McKim had turned against them (the Government) and was going to vote with the other side.

SOME TALK ABOUT MR. LAIDLAW.

Q.—After you had seen Mr. Laidlaw were not you to write to some other person? A.—No.

Q.—Do you mean to tell us now that you have no recollection of Wilkinson telling you to write anyone else? A.—No; not to the best of my recollection.

Q.—Do you mean to say that there was no other person mentioned in Toronto whom you were to write to? A.—Yes; Mr. Bunting.

Q.—What did he say in regard to Mr. Bunting? A.—I have forgotten, because it was of no importance.

Q.—Do you now say that you forgot everything he said about Mr. Bunting? A.—There was nothing particular said about Mr. Bunting so I forget what it was.

Q.—Did you write to Wilkinson? A.—Yes, on the Monday morning following.

Q.—Did you see Laidlaw? A.—Yes, on Monday morning, at the American Hotel.

Q.—Had you any conversation with Mr. Laidlaw? A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you report to Mr. Wilkinson? A.—No.

Q.—You did write to him? A.—I did.

Q.—Did you write this (producing the note written on a telegraph form)? A.—I did. My desire was, as I did not know anything about Wilkinson, to ask Mr. Bunting what sort of a man he was.

Q.—Did you say it was in connection at all with Mr. Bunting's name having been used in conversation between yourself and Mr. Wilkinson, on Saturday? A.—Yes; it was in relation to our conversation.

Q.—You came down to Toronto on Thursday, 5th February?

MR. GOLDIE TRIES TO "BLIND" WILKINSON.

Mr. Denison—When you wrote this letter had you seen Mr. Laidlaw? A.—No; the contents of this letter were a blind. I had made up my mind not to speak to Mr. Laidlaw about his political feelings. I had no conversation with Mr. Laidlaw about what I promised Wilkinson I would. I had made up my mind that I would not speak to Mr. Laidlaw about what he had asked me to, and as I had not I wrote that letter as a blind.

Q.—Did you call on Wilkinson when you came down? A.—I met him on the street and went with him to his room at the Walker House.

Q.—What did you tell him there? A.—I told him I had spoken to Mr. Laidlaw, and that I had no hopes of getting him to do anything at all.

Q.—How long did this interview last? A.—About fifteen minutes.

Q.—What else did you speak of? A.—He spoke about defeating the Mowat Government,