

15. At this meeting of the 14th day of July W. R. Meredith, Esq., M.P.P., appeared as a member of the Assembly, and requested to be at liberty to cross-examine the witnesses. The Commissioners

DECLINED TO PERMIT HIM TO DO SO in that capacity, but expressed their readiness to hear him if he chose to appear for any of the parties interested, or to formulate a charge against any one for more thoroughly probing the matter to the bottom.

16. The Commissioners proceeded with the enquiry on the 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th days of July, on the 1st and 2nd days of September, and on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 11th, and 13th days of October.

17. The witnesses examined during the enquiry and the date of their examination were as follows:—

- 14th July.—Charles Clark.
Charles T. Gillmor, begun.
Robert McKim.
Nicholas Awrey.
Frederick Fenton.
George T. Denison.
- 15th July.—William Ward.
Charles T. Gillmor, continued.
H. D. Balfour.
Peter Graham.
James H. Welch.
G. H. C. Dunston.
Robert McKim, re-called.
John Cascaden.
Thomas Goldie.
- 16th July.—W. P. Hudson.
H. P. Dwight.
Alex. P. Ross.
Andrew Broder.
P. Baskerville.
G. H. Monk.
D. H. Munaker.
L. McCallum.
J. M. Gibson.
E. G. Sills.
W. C. Caldwell.
- 17th July.—J. F. Dowling.
A. Bishop.
J. M. Ferris.
Hon. J. H. Pope.
Hon. J. Carling.
H. Merrick.
J. Hague.
R. A. Lyon, begun.
- 18th July.—R. A. Lyon, continued.
Thos. Marks.
- 1st Sept.—G. W. Badgerow.
Jas. McMahon.
Jas. Bam.
T. Trudeau.
C. O. Ermating.
- 2nd Sept.—A. M. Burgess.
J. L. McDougall.
S. D. L. Macpherson.
J. Carnegie.
D. Creighton.
C. H. McIntosh.
W. R. Meredith.
Hon. A. Morris.
- 2nd Oct.—Hon. O. Mowat.
- 3rd Oct.—Hon. A. S. Hardy.
W. Lees.
W. C. Caldwell, re-called.
Hon. T. B. Pardee.
T. Fenton, re-called.
Hon. C. F. Fraser.
- 4th Oct.—E. J. S. Vicars.
R. McKim, re-called.
Hon. A. S. Hardy, re-called.
Hon. C. F. Fraser, re-called.
- 6th Oct.—E. Meek.
D. Sinclair.
W. Bell.
S. Price.
- 7th Oct.—S. C. Boyle.
T. McManus.
Gavin Burns.
Joel Boyle.
Anthony Griffin.
- 11th Oct.—R. Travers.
J. McLaughlin, M.D.
Caleb Lowes.
Wm. Beckwell.
James Burns.
R. Boyle.
J. Allen.
P. McEachren.
T. Whale.
S. Pester.
J. Burns.
G. Cavanagh.
A. Ballantine.
A. McRae.
W. Lodge.
W. C. Van Buskirk, M.D.
David King.
Thos. Hunter.
F. H. A. Sharon.
R. M. Stafford.
J. M. Penwarden, M.D.
D. McAlpine.
J. Hamilton.
N. McIntyre.
D. G. Ruthven, M.D.
D. McPhail.
R. F. Rudd.
J. Wallace, M.D.
W. Whitfield.

18. The evidence given by these witnesses is transmitted herewith.

The stenographers have also in addition to the evidence kept and reported with the evidence the proceedings from day to day, and also the argu-

ments of the Counsel for the parties who appeared before us.

19. On the 4th of October, while Mr. McKim was being re-examined, Mr. Bunting was in Court and was informed that he could cross-examine him. This, after consultation with his counsel,

HE DECLINED,

on the 6th of October, to do, for reasons that appear in the report of the evidence.

20. On the 2nd day of September W. R. Meredith, Esq., preferred a charge against certain members of the Government in the following terms:—

"That members of the Government, Messrs. Fraser, Pardee, Hardy, and Mowat, knowing that attempts were being made to corrupt members of the House, induced members of the House to approach the persons who are said to have been engaged in the work for the purpose of inducing them to make corrupt offers, and to endeavour to entrap others not engaged in the matters into the same criminal acts."

21. When the Commissioners met on the 2nd day of October, upon the application of the Hon. Mr. Fraser, the Commissioners ordered the names of the persons to be given with whom the members of the Government were said to have colluded or endeavoured to entrap others.

22. Upon the 3rd day of October the particulars were given as follows:—

The following are the particulars, so far as known, of the persons referred to in Mr. Meredith's charge as persons approached by members of the House, at the instance of members of the Government, referred to in the charge:—J. A. Wilkinson, Edward Meek, Christopher W. Bunting, and F. A. Kirkland.

23. The Commissioners closed their sittings for taking evidence and hearing the arguments of Counsel on the 13th day of October. These sittings were public and open; and accommodation was provided for reporters of the public press.

24. The Commissioners, pursuant to the direction of the Commission, transmit herewith the evidence taken by them, and make

THE FOLLOWING REPORT.

25. An endeavour was made by Mr. Meek to impeach the credibility of two of the witnesses—Robert McKim, and John Cascaden, and many witnesses were examined against them and for them. The Commissioners consider that the credibility of Messrs. McKim and Cascaden was

NOT SUCCESSFULLY ATTACKED.

26. The Commissioners also have to report that telegraphic messages to Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Bunting were

DESTROYED IN APRIL LAST,

a week or two after the proceedings in the Police Court, by Mr. Dwight, the General Manager of the Great North-Western Telegraph Company.

27. The Commissioners find that during the debate on the Address at the last session of the House of Assembly, a debate that lasted from the opening of the House on the 23rd day of January, till the 6th day of February, an endeavour was made by

JOHN A. WILKINSON, EDWARD MEEK, AND CHRISTOPHER W. BUNTING,

acting in concert to form a coalition government, and for that purpose, to induce members of the House, supporters of the Government, to vote against them on the Address.

28. In pursuance of this scheme negotiations were entered into by Wilkinson, Meek, and Bunting with Robert McKim and by Meek with John Cascaden, and

OFFERS WERE MADE TO THEM

of money and of offices in the North-West Territory to induce them to vote against the Government.

29. The Commissioners only mention those to whom corrupt offers were made. Other members were addressed, and attempts made to induce them to vote against the Government by argument. F. A. Kirkland was also endeavouring at this time

TO INFLUENCE THE VOTES

of the members for his own purposes, but not apparently in conjunction with the others.

30. After the vote on the Address had sustained the Government these efforts ceased until towards the end of the session, when they were renewed, not only as to Mr. McKim but also as to Messrs. Dowling, Balfour, and Lyon.

31. These renewed attempts were made by Kirkland in conjunction with

WILKINSON, MEEK, AND BUNTING,

and by a person who passed by the name of Lynch, but whose true name was Stimson.

32. Kirkland made advances to Balfour representing that Wilkinson and Bunting were desirous of knowing what he would take and vote against the Government. Wilkinson offered Balfour anything he might state in the way of a

SHREWDALTY OR REGISTRATION

in the North-West or advertising for his paper from the Department and represented Bunting as working with him in the matter. Wilkinson said he could pay him \$1,000 or \$1,200 down as a guarantee of the office, and after the vote he would give, say, \$1,000 that Balfour would get

ANY OFFICE HE WOULD DECIDE UPON.