

**GAMEY DEPARTED WITH****HIS PAPERS AND MONEY**

Another Dramatic Play by the Member for Manitoulin — Mr. Stratton Announces That His Resignation is in Premier's Hands but Has Not Been Accepted—Speech by Mr. St. John.

The Legislature was again yesterday the scene of a number of interesting occurrences in connection with the Gamey charges. To begin with, Mr. Whitney, responding publicly to a private request, produced Mr. Gamey's documentary statement and money in a large envelope, and handed it ceremoniously to the member for Manitoulin. The latter at once put on his hat and left the chamber, carrying the parcel with him, and, notwithstanding a prompt motion by the Premier that the papers be impounded by the House, Mr. Gamey, who must have heard the request, went his way, and did not reappear during the session. The incident, which caused the same sort of surprise as that in which the member previously figured, was the subject of a debate, in which Mr. Ross and Col. Gibson maintained the right of the House to the possession of such important papers. Mr. Whitney, who represented his supporter in the latter's absence, explained that Mr. Gamey desired to at once confer with his solicitor.

The second incident was when Mr. Stratton, rising in response to a challenge by Mr. St. John, announced that he had placed his resignation in the hands of the Premier the day the charges had been made. Mr. Ross explained that the resignation had not been accepted, but was under consideration.

Mr. St. John, who occupied the entire afternoon, after Mr. Gamey's departure had dropped from notice, covered much old ground and made a couple of new points. He argued that the statute under which the proposed commission will be constituted gives no authority for the presentation of a finding, nor can a witness be compelled to answer questions which will incriminate him. He therefore said it was designed to whitewash the accused. He also recalled that the Liberal convention at Ottawa in 1893 had affirmed the principle that such investigations should in all cases be conducted by a committee of the House.

Mr. Pense of Kingston moved the adjournment of the debate, which will continue this afternoon and evening. It is doubtful if it will be concluded before to-morrow. The galleries were again yesterday, as on previous days, filled with an expectant crowd.

**POWERS OF A COMMISSION.**

The power to appoint a commission of Judges to hear the Gamey charges is conferred by Chapter 19, R.S.O., entitled "An act respecting inquiries concerning public matters," and is as follows:—

One. Whenever the Lieutenant-Governor in Council deems it expedient to cause inquiry to be made into and concerning any matter connected with the good government of this Province, or the conduct of any part of the public business thereof, or the administration of justice therein, and such inquiry is not regulated by any special law, the Lieutenant-Governor may, by the commission in the case, confer upon the commissioners, or persons by whom such inquiry is to be conducted, the power of summoning before them any party or witnesses, and of requiring them to give evidence on oath, orally or in writing (or on solemn affirmation if they are parties entitled to affirm in civil matters), and to produce such documents and things as the commissioners deem requisite to the full investigation of the matters into which they are appointed to examine.

Two. The commissioner, or commissioners, shall then have the same power to enforce the attendance of witnesses, and to compel them to give evidence and produce documents and things, as is vested in any court in civil cases; but no party or witnesses shall be compelled to answer any question, by his answer to which he might render himself liable to a criminal prosecution.

Three. (1) This act shall be deemed to include for inquiry as aforesaid matters connected with the elections to the Legislative Assembly, and the proceedings in any such election; but no commission shall issue, except where no petition has been presented complaining of the return within the time prescribed, or except where, if a petition has been presented, the proceedings thereon have terminated.

(2) This act shall be deemed to apply also to any attempts, or alleged attempts, to corrupt the successful candidate at such elections, or members of the Legislative Assembly, after their election, and notwithstanding that the persons charged with such attempts may be liable to criminal prosecution in respect thereof, and notwithstanding that criminal proceedings against them may have been commenced or concluded. The commission may be issued authorizing an inquiry into such attempts as aforesaid, and the commission need not minutely specify the particular matters of inquiry.

(3) The Legislative Assembly, upon the evidence taken under the commission being submitted to it, may take, under section 57 of the act respecting the Legislative Assembly, or under any other authority belonging to the Assembly, such action as the Legislative Assembly deems proper, as fully as if such evidence had been given at the Bar of the Assembly.

(4) No action shall be taken against any person so charged founded upon evidence given by any witness, unless it appears that he had an opportunity of appearing before the commissioner and cross-examining the witness, either at the time that he was examined in chief or subsequently, and that he had also an opportunity of calling witnesses on his own behalf.—R.S.O. 1887. C. 17, S. 3.