

Mr. W. J. Hanna (West Lambton) said it would be impossible under the commission to summon the Sullivans, Jones, and the others mentioned in Mr. Gamey's statement.

Col. Gibson disagreed with the latter statement, and gave his opinion that, under the commission, whatever evidence could be given against a member of the Government could be given on the point of conspiracy.

Mr. Foy quoted the scrap-iron legislation as an instance where the Government's intention, as outlined in the preamble, was disregarded by the Judges, who confined their attention to the words of the statute.

#### Attorney-General's Proposal.

After further discussion, the Attorney-General submitted the following as a further amendment, to be known as clause 3 of the bill: "The statement made in the House on March 27, 1903, by the said Robert Roswell Gamey, shall be deemed to be a charge coming under the last clause of the said commission."

Mr. Carscallen thought that some such clause as that proposed by Mr. Gamey should be included in the bill. In the commission the statement of the member for Manitoulin was treated as a charge against the Provincial Secretary only. Therefore, Mr. Gamey had thought it necessary to make his further statement, so that there might be no misunderstanding as to the nature and extent of the charges, and who might be involved in them. The commission should be wide enough to examine the relations of all other persons in connection with the transactions.

#### What Indicates Guilt?

The Premier commended the Attorney-General's amendment as meeting the case, and proceeded to say that Mr. Whitney had stated his (Mr. Ross') guilt had been shown by his not having denied the receipt of a letter from Mr. Gamey.

Mr. Whitney said he had never said it.

Mr. Ross said he was surely old enough to form an opinion. The statement implied that he had a guilty knowledge. He proceeded to argue that under the terms of the commission the evidence of the Sullivans, Jones, and others, would be required. The commission was so broad and comprehensive, so dovetailed into details, he feared the commissioners would not get through in the time they expected to.

Mr. Whitney repeated that the Premier's receipt of a letter from Mr. Gamey showed he knew there was something going on.

At Mr. Gamey's request the amendment was re-read, after which Col. Gibson asked if the amendment was acceptable to him.

Mr. Gamey said he wanted to know that he would be able, before the Judges, if he ever went there, to put in all the evidence in regard to every person connected with his charge. He believed they had brains on the other side, and he was satisfied, if they desired to do so, they could meet during the dinner hour and frame some clause that would enable him to get in all the evidence that he wanted.

The Chairman then put Col. Gibson's last amendment, and the Opposition not calling for a vote, it was adopted.

#### No Finding by Commission.

Mr. H. Carscallen (Hamilton) presented the following amendment:—"That notwithstanding anything in the said commission contained or expressed, the said commissioners shall not make or report any finding or decision of fact, but shall report proceedings had or taken in connection with the inquiry and investigation directed by the said commission, together with all the evidence given or tendered before them."

The bill was reported with amendments, and it was decided to take up Mr. Carscallen's amendment when the third reading stage was reached, the bill being reprinted in the meantime.

Mr. Whitney said his side would not consent to the supply, but not much time would be required. They would

also object to the adjournment to April 21, but he thought the House could finish up on Tuesday, perhaps before 6.

The House adjourned at 6.10 p.m.

#### Questions About the Chancellor.

Mr. Macdiarmid will ask: Is any member of the family of Sir John A. Boyd in the employment of the Government of the Province of Ontario and in receipt of moneys, directly or indirectly, from the funds of the Province of Ontario? If so, what are their names, the date of their appointment, the salary of each? Also what sums of money have been received by Sir John A. Boyd, or been paid to him by or through the Province of Ontario, in respect of services rendered by him for the Province of Ontario as arbitrator, referee or commissioner, or otherwise, in any matter, since the first day of January, 1898?

#### Is the Rent Paid?

Mr. J. J. Preston (Durham) wants to know:—Is it the intention of the Government to pay for the polling booths used at the referendum vote on the fourth day of December last? If not, why not? If so, when?

Lieut.-Col. A. T. Thompson, M.P. for Haldimand, was a visitor on the floor of the House yesterday.

#### The Commission Signed.

It is understood that the commission appointing Chancellor Boyd and Chief Justice Falconbridge to investigate the Gamey charges has been signed by the Lieutenant-Governor and sent to the Judges. As soon as they have disposed of the immediate work before them a conference will be held with the counsel in the case and definite arrangements announced for summoning witnesses and hearing evidence. This will probably begin early next week, and the session will most likely be held at the City Hall, as furnishing the most suitable room for such a purpose. Nelson R. Butcher will make the official record. A transcript of the proceedings will be handed in daily.

#### Justice Will Not be Delayed.

Arrangements are under way by which it is hoped the legal business of the Province may not be delayed by the absence of Sir John Boyd and Chief Justice Falconbridge from their regular spheres while trying the Gamey charges. The Attorney-General, it is understood, has applied to the Minister of Justice to have other judicial officers, probably two County Court Judges, appointed to take the Superior Court work in the meantime. It is not known if the request has yet been formally granted.

#### Applications to Legislature.

Notice is given that application will be made to the Legislature this session for an act giving power to build a railway from Midland to Penetanguishene and Perkinsfield, and to build wharves, elevators, shops, rolling mills, etc., and carry on a general transportation business.

The Petrolia Rapid Railway Company will apply for ratification of by-laws of the Townships of Enniskillen and Moore, and amending the company act of incorporation to increase the capital stock to \$500,000. The company seeks to extend its line of railway from Sarnia to Wees Beach and to make connection with the Michigan Central.

Notice of application is given by the Town of Bracebridge for an act confirming a by-law exempting from municipal taxation for ten years lands, buildings, machinery, plant, stock, etc., of a proposed linen factory and guaranteeing interest on \$50,000 of debentures at 5 per cent.; also authorizing the sum of \$7,000 to be raised by way of debenture to pay certain floating debts of the town.

Application will be made for an act incorporating a company to carry on a brick manufacturing business at L'Original, in Prescott County, and to operate a steam railway from West Hawkesbury to L'Original and Caledonia Springs, and to construct wharves, docks, telegraph lines, etc.