

gone through the various phases that he had gone through, and considering his doing away with evidence, could expect a court to come to any other conclusion in the premises? That being the case, were they to blame the Judges because they gave credence to the testimony of respectable people, even though they were civil servants? Hon. gentlemen opposite went a long way in sneering at the credibility of respectable people. Dr. Chamberlain, for instance, had been an honorable member of the House, and hon. gentlemen plainly inferred in their speeches that he had perjured himself. Colonel Gibson repudiated that, and deplored the unfair treatment of Dr. Chamberlain and other civil servants.

#### Only Political Prejudice.

It would be time enough to asperse the character of civil servants when they had re-established the character of the chief actor in this inquiry. Were they to take the evidence of such a man as reliable and to say that the conclusions of the commissioners were unreliable? Was political prejudice—that was at the bottom of it all—to weigh against the disinterested, carefully considered and carefully conducted inquiry of the two eminent Judges? He did not know where the money came from. Certainly there was money.

#### Patronage Charge Absurd.

Patronage was sometimes dwelt upon as if hon. gentlemen thought there was any serious importance to be attached to the matter. He knew something about the effort that was made to have certain appointments made in his own department. He knew of his own knowledge how much he had been influenced by the peculiar position of the member for Manitoulin. So far as one of the appointments was concerned, it was not made with any reference to the relation of the member for Manitoulin to the Government. The man proposed for Justice of the Peace at this particular place was a custom house officer, and that he had considered sufficient to guarantee the standard of respectability and responsibility of the man, and it was on that ground alone that he had recommended the appointment. The hon. gentleman secured no patronage on account of any altered relations to the Government. The appointment of the Sheriff as returning officer was according to usual practice. The application for the appointment of a Provincial constable had not been entertained. Similar appointments were repeatedly asked for by the member for Manitoulin, and were not made.

He thought there was a good deal of force in the conclusion which the commissioners had reached that the member for Manitoulin had become tired of the want of fruition in the matter of patronage. He had expected that the mere protestation of his friendship for the Government would be enough to bring the patronage. Certainly as regards corrupt bargains for patronage the case had miserably failed. He believed that the country had long ago reached the conclusion that both as to the protest and the patronage there was not a tittle or a particle of ground for the assertion that there had been a corrupt bargain.

#### Not Simply Commissioners.

It was idle and wrong to say that the Judges were only commissioners. He would like to know how they could discharge the Judges from their judicial positions simply because they were

sitting as commissioners. They were conducting an inquiry with all the elements, all the characteristics and responsibilities which any court of law could have in this country. There was not a single phase in connection with the conduct of the inquiry wherein there could be pointed out any distinction between these two eminent Judges' conducting this inquiry and the same Judges if they had been sitting as a criminal court. He did not know whether the hon. gentleman opposite actually said this or not.

Mr. Whitney said that what he did say was that what the commissioners said had no judicial sanction.

Colonel Gibson—The hon. gentleman was perhaps technically right. There was no judicial sanction, technically speaking. Virtually speaking, there was no difference.

It was his principal object in speaking not so much to discuss the evidence in the case as to repudiate the animus which hon. gentlemen had shown, the statements they had made and the unfounded abuse that they had showered upon the Judges. It was being said that the Government was responsible, as they had appointed the Judges. Hon. gentlemen opposite, however, and their press were responsible for the abuse of the Judges. He denied that the judiciary were being lowered. Their character stood too well, they stood on too firm a foundation in this country, for puerile and miserable attacks such as had been made to injure them, and if the Judges had arrived at conclusions unsatisfactory to hon. gentlemen opposite, political prejudice should not carry them to the extent that they had gone in a system of vilification and abuse.

Colonel Gibson resumed his seat at 5:35 o'clock.

#### Mr. Hanna's Criticisms.

Mr. W. J. Hanan (W. Lambton), who followed Col. Gibson, said that as the Attorney-General had taunted the leader of the Opposition with the quality of his statesmanship, he wondered what kind of statesmanship it was which prompted the Provincial Secretary to write a letter to *The Globe* upon a public question and to be afraid to put his name to it; signing instead "Taxpayer." Taking up Mr. Gamey's story at the beginning, Mr. Hanna asked if "Cap." Sullivan was sent to Gore Bay at midnight by the Conservative party. He dwelt upon the introduction of Mr. Gamey to the Provincial Secretary. He laid great stress, as a very suspicious circumstance, upon the interview of a minute or two between Frank Sullivan and the Provincial Secretary while Mr. Gamey waited outside. He quoted from the last clause of the letter prepared for Mr. Gamey to sign, stating that he had received "no other consideration," which Mr. Hanna declared to be a direct reference to \$3,000 paid by the Provincial Secretary. Of that money Frank Sullivan had got \$300, \$1,500 was deposited in the Traders' Bank, \$900 in the Ontario Bank and \$300 in Hearst & Bark's bank at Gore Bay.

If the money had been furnished by a Conservative one-tenth of the effort

put forth by the solicitor of the Ontario Bank to conceal the source of it would have revealed that source. Moreover, it was so unusual a thing for ten \$100 bills and twenty \$50 bills to be in one transaction that three or four of the clerks of the Ontario Bank must know about it, and some day the story would come out, and it would be shown that the money was not paid by a Conservative, but by someone in whose confidence Frank Sullivan and Cap. Sullivan were. Whatever may have been Mr. Gamey's intention up to the time he received the letter to sign at Gore Bay, the amendment he made to it showed that he was not as bad as the Provincial Secretary had taken him to be; that if he had been purchased by the Government he would not stay bought.

#### An Amateur and a Novice.

Mr. Hanna said he found no objection to the exclusion of evidence by the commission, because the moment the case was referred to a commission it was determined by the House that the legal rules of evidence applied. The evidence in favor of the Provincial Secretary had, however, been magnified, and that against him minimized. The member for Manitoulin as a witness relating facts had been considered absolutely sane and reasonable, and yet when he went wrong he was set down as a novice, an amateur. His whole conduct in regard to the deposit slip, the trip to Buffalo, and the interview with the reporters was taken as showing him to be nothing but a novice.

When the speaker had heard the member for East Lambton (H. J. Pettipiece) speak of the member for Manitoulin, he had wondered whether this was the same man who had been suspected to be the tool of the Provincial Secretary in baiting the Minister of Agriculture a few years ago.

#### Why He Went to Buffalo.

Mr. Hanna said he was not ashamed of the fact that he had gone to Buffalo. Up to that time he had never spoken half a dozen words to the member for Manitoulin outside of the House. He recalled the great strain that Mr. Gamey had been under during the investigation. He saw the accounts in the paper, and thought that the lawyers for the defence were using the occurrence in an attempt to stampede the case. He went to Buffalo then and found the member for Manitoulin ready to come back. He did not say one word to him as to what his course should be. The worst that could be said of the member for Manitoulin then was that the position in which he found himself had been the outcome of the machinations of Cap Sullivan and Frank Sullivan, and the worst that could be said of him now was that he was not as bad as the members of the Government had then said he was. Mr. Hanna concluded at 9:45 o'clock.

#### Mr. Conmee.

Mr. Conmee (Port Arthur) followed Mr. Hanna. He said that he thought no good purpose was served by the members bringing into the debate their

own election quarrels or troubles. He did not think it well for the gentlemen opposite to bring up these matters, when they were themselves the supporters of a party which had been hurled from power at Ottawa by an indignant people, who were disgusted by the scandals proved against them. He spoke thus because the leader of the Opposition had been a chief offender in this regard, seeking to obtain power not on his own merits, but upon the demerits of his opponents. At 10 o'clock Mr. Conmee moved the adjournment, and he will resume at 11 o'clock this morning.