

James and Mr. Hanna, as part of the piece of machinery to carry out the betrayal of the interests of the people of this Province. I determined that no person should ever find it possible to say that we did not go to the bottom of any malicious innuendo. Mr. Thorne emphatically said that not only was the award an honest award, that he had taken great care and pains with it, but that the award was unsatisfactory to Taylor; that Taylor had protested most vigorously against it, and that a lawyer had been counselled and advised by one of the leading Liberals, that he had not only been advised by him, but that it had been drawn up by him. What was the result of that? Again I desire to emphasize, Mr. Chairman, that, like the first charge, charge No. two, of a corrupt award, the betrayal in the last sequence of the interests of the Province, was absolutely destroyed.

Sees a Light.

"You know what followed. It is not for me to impute motives, but knowing what I do now, but did not then, a reflected light is cast upon all that went on during the greater part of the first day. More than once I asked my colleague here: 'What does this marking time mean? This pretended enquiry for books and papers?' I see now. They were perfectly aware of all that Thorne could say in the new brief in their hands, and all that spite and malice could put before the committee; they took advantage of it. They knew also that the very moment that witness closed—charge No. 1 had gone—No. 2 would go. There was not a leg to stand upon for any of the charges; their case was gone—it was over.

"And I suggest that the dramatic retreat which we were treated to yesterday morning was only part of a play for the continued intriguing by my friend, Mr. Dewart, to let the matter stand over to the next morning. It was a case of 'night or Blucher.' He wanted to get ready. There was not a tittle of evidence to support the charges. He wanted the opportunity to consult with his colleagues to see how best to stage the next performance so as to catch the public eye in this campaign of slander. And we had the spectacle which we had, and we had the stage getting ready for what you gentlemen will no doubt be treated to next week in the House, according to the suggestion made by Mr. Proudfoot.

Kept on "Bating the Baste."

"I determined, however, although the case had not a leg to stand upon, that every vestige of it should be destroyed and the public should not have it to say that all the evidence bearing upon the charges was not before them. I proceeded to call Mr. Montgomery. Who is he? He is the solicitor for Mr. Taylor, again a leading Liberal lawyer, and not only were the charges again killed—perhaps it was a work of supererogation—a good deal like the story of the two Irishmen: you know that when a snake is cut in two, the parts go on wiggling, and one man had cut the snake in two, but the other went on beating the tail. When asked by his companion 'why are you bating the poor baste?' he replied 'to make it sensible of its misfortune.' I wanted to make them sensible of their misfortune, so I continued to pour in evidence from the solicitor of Taylor upon the award. Not only did this show that it was not corrupt, but he said he was behaved niggardly to; that he was deprived of at least \$5,000 on one item and that the money was in the pockets of the Province,—if one may use that expression of a Province,—when it ought to be in the hands of Mr. Taylor. On that supposition a delay of three months in the granting of the fiat would have been a suspicious circumstance. The least enquiry, as Mr. Montgomery had written a letter to one of their own coadjutors, would have told Mr. Proudfoot that such a charge was wholly unfounded, the innuendo as part of the scheme, was utterly false. What would become of a solicitor, acting for a client, who puts charges of fraud falsely upon the record without making proper and due enquiry? Recently such a solicitor was reported to the Law Society in England. Judge, then, what should be the position of a gentleman holding the responsible position of a member of Parliament, who, without making all the enquiry

possible, puts this upon the records falsely, or else he is determined not to see?"

Why He Called Mr. Foy.

Mr. Nesbitt then told the committee his reasons for calling the Hon. J. J. Foy to the stand, saying that he was the last phase in the machinery of issuance of the fiat, with the exception of Sir John Gibson. He declared that Mr. Foy's statement, that the allegations that the said fiat had been falsely issued, were false in themselves, ought to satisfy those making the charges.

"The evidence adduced from Mr. McNaught's cross-examination that the selection of an arbitrator was not at the instigation of the Government," continued Mr. Nesbitt, but at his instigation as a business man, having had previous experience with lawsuits and because of Mr. Taylor's health which required a speedy dispatch of the whole business.

"Then we see Mr. Hanna telling Mr. Taylor that Thorne had been in the employ of the Government, just what you would expect from a man so noted for his scrupulous care.

"We find from Mr. McNaught that the man who betrayed the confidence of his superior officer was the man who acted the part of spy, who in all other countries is not even given a trial, but shot when captured. It is this creature who was kicked out of the department and was malicious because Mr. Hanna would not protect him. This creature had stolen the letter and was the man who inspired the charges and trucked the information about the \$500 contribution all over the country to find that the only man to take up his information was my friend, Mr. Proudfoot. Every other decent man he had approached had kicked him out of doors until it later fell into the hands of Mr. Proudfoot. No other man in this Province could be obtained who would accept the confidence of this slimy creature—Maisonville.

"Then I called Sir James Whitney. It is needless to sum up his evidence, because it is put in a few words and you remember it, and not only that, but there is not a single person who believes the charge, not even the man himself who instigated it. And the test was given this morning. I ask the people of this Province to view the conduct of that pale-faced creature who appeared here this morning and who refused to take the oath. I would have liked to ask him: 'Did you believe for one moment that Sir James Whitney was guilty of this conduct?' and I should like to have heard his answer."

Thinks Mr. Proudfoot Was Wise.

"Mr. Proudfoot was wise in refusing to take the oath. Had he done so I would have asked him 'Did he believe the charges?' but was not given an opportunity. That was a triumph for Sir James Whitney's evidence when he refused to take the oath but said that he would proclaim the matter in the House." Mr. Nesbitt reiterated his former claims that the charges were foundationless and said that no man with such rugged honesty and absolute regard for the interests of the Province had held the position held by Mr. Hanna since Confederation. "No man dare take the oath and say that he believed the charge," declared Mr. Nesbitt.

"Then Mr. Chairman, I called Mr. Hanna. I need scarcely say that I have known Mr. Hanna for a great many years. I was opposed to him in many important cases and his conduct was such as to keep up the ideals of the profession to which I am proud to belong. No man has done more than Mr. Hanna for the social uplift of humanity since the time of John Howard, and I am glad to represent him here. In a foolish moment he accepted the contribution for a party fund, and let there be no mistake about it, I have been active for thirty years and I challenge any leading Liberal and Conservative to say that party contributions are not absolutely necessary for the proper carrying on of the elections. There is no pretence that this miserable \$500 was for anything else. It was not suggested by this vile-minded Maisonville that the contribution was for anything else. Sir James Whitney has had charge of the administration of three campaigns and I have not even heard it suggested that there was anything corrupt in them, but rather he is noted all over the