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### DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, Jan. 28.—Mr. Pugsley resumed his speech on the address today. He went over the points he had made the previous day, and described the Mayes affidavit as a document containing false statements which no public man ought to have read out at a public meeting with out having consulted the man whom it attacked. It was impossible for the Conservative party, he said, to hark the responsibility for Mr. Hazen's action. It was to his eternal disgrace that after having read that false "affidavit" and having thus attempted to destroy his (Du Pugsley's) reputation he, Hazen, had never had the manhood to retract. Mr. Foster did himself no credit in fathering that false affidavit and reading it to the house. Mr. Hazen was the crown officer whose duty it was to have set the law in motion, in such a crime had been committed, as was charged by Mayes, yet he had never taken any action, and more than that, when asked to produce the affidavit he had declined to do so and had refused to answer all letters written to him on the subject. "I can tell the gentleman opposite that we are not only prepared to answer the conservative charges but that we are ready to carry on an aggressive campaign in regard to their actions in the campaign just past," said Mr. Pugsley. The Minister repeated his account of his transactions with Mayes. He stated upon his honor as a minister that there had never been any tampering with tenders, and that in every case contracts had been let to the lowest tenderer. Parliament was supposed to be composed of gentlemen, but could a party which resorted to such tactics as publishing a false affidavit in St. John and forging a telegram in Victoria be described as otherwise than bereft of all honor and decency?

Mr. Crockett (York) prefaced his speech by the assertion that if the conduct of the Liberals in the recent campaign were fully exposed the boasting of the minister of public works would give way to chagrin and dismay. "One of the first moves in that campaign," he said, "was the purchase of two daily papers in the city of St. John, The Daily Telegraph and The Evening Times, and the muzzling by that means of the entire press of the metropolis of New Brunswick. That consummation I understand, was accomplished by Mr. George McAvity and Mr. John E. Moore, two bosom friends of the minister of public works. Mr. Moore, I may say, is also now a contractor with the public works department and is, I understand, receiving under that contract fabulous prices for dredging in the province of New Brunswick."

"They are not fabulous," interrupted Dr. Pugsley, "they are reasonable."

"There is no doubt," Mr. Crockett added, "that these gentlemen acquired The St. John Telegraph on behalf of the minister of public works. Perhaps the minister will deny that he was associated with these gentlemen in the acquisition of that newspaper property."

"I will say that they are very excellent newspapers," was the minister's rejoinder.

Continuing, Mr. Crockett declared that New Brunswick had been influenced by most reckless promises made by Dr. Pugsley, one of which was the dredging out of practically the whole of Courtenay Bay at a cost of \$5,000,000. There was also the race and religious cry and the employment of a huge bribery fund. However, Dr. Daniel, Conservative, was elected for St. John.

"But with a reduced majority of 800," observed Dr. Pugsley.

Mr. Emmerson asked, "What about the Daily Standard?"

Mr. Crockett's reply was that it was only a little poster published by the Conservatives, printed in a job office, and distributed through the city, a paper, he added, "which of course could not get before the electors as effectively as the old established newspapers." He went on to say that it was the minister's duty to demand an investigation of the Mayes charges. The error in the date of the affidavit did not amount to much, and the minister should have instituted legal proceedings. "Surely," he said, "the minister of public works ought to know that if Mr. Mayes made a false statement in a solemn declaration he is liable to prosecution for perjury."

"Yes," replied Dr. Pugsley, "if you can get at his declaration, if you can find that which he has concealed and refuses to produce."

Mr. Crockett retorted that the affidavit was published in the St. John papers, that Dr. Pugsley had a letter from Mayes referring to it, and he also had recourse to action against Premier Hazen if the declaration were false. But the strongest allegation of Mayes was that after Dr. Pugsley became minister of public works he sought to, and did, hold up Mr. Mayes in the interests of Mr. McAvity and the payment of this graft.

"I desire to say to Mr. Crockett," said the minister, "and I say it in the strongest manner possible, and I am going to ask him now to accept my statement as a member of this house, that is absolutely untrue, never held up Mr. Mayes, but just as soon as the estimates of the engineer were put into the department in the ordinary course, and after the ordinary delays, the payments due to Mr. Mayes were made. The only exception was an amount of some \$4,000 to 5,000 held back because Mr. Mayes had not performed his contract with the city and for which my department has agreed to be responsible. With that exception, there was no holding back of Mr. Mayes' money. I will ask my hon. friend to accept my statement and not to read what I say is a false affidavit or persist in his statement."

Mr. Crockett accepted the statement of the minister. He went on to say, however, that he had in his possession a solemn declaration made by Mr. Mayes in which he reiterated the charges in detail.

Dr. Pugsley wanted to know if this second affidavit referred to payments to him, as he had not seen it.

Mr. Crockett read Mr. Mayes' assertion that Dr. Pugsley had told him if he would settle up with Mr. McAvity he (the minister) would give him the balance due to him.

Dr. Pugsley declared the statement to be entirely untrue and protested against false affidavits being brought in despite the denial of the member to whom they referred.

This point Mr. Speaker upheld, Mr. Crockett replying that he had only read the statement at the minister's request. He would read other extracts if the minister wished.

"What I would say," declared the minister of public works, "is that I do not think it is right, I do not think it is conducive to the dignity of the house or good feeling in the house, that a member should read statements, the truth of which he knows nothing about, particularly when another member makes the statement that what he has read is not true, and I do unhesitatingly make the statement that what my honorable friend has read is absolutely untrue. It does seem to me my honorable friend should accept the statement."

Mr. Crockett accepted the minister's statement with the observation, however, that Dr. Pugsley should have taken proceedings against Mayes.

Mr. Emmerson raised the point of order that all this was entirely irrelevant to the resolution under discussion and Mr. Speaker ruled that the point was well taken.

Mr. Foster protested, whereupon Mr. Sutherland, the late speaker, declared that it was Mr. Foster who had introduced the irrelevant matter.

Mr. Foster's retort was that the ex-speaker was making a statement not in accordance with the facts.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared that every one knew the affidavit was introduced by Mr. Foster.

The member for North Toronto renewed his denial, protesting that it was unfair "the outside" should not be allowed to discuss its case.

Mr. Crockett having closed, W. O. Sealey of Wentworth, spoke in opposition to the resolution.

"Little did I expect that I should have to address the house so early in my first session," said Dr. D. H. McAlister, "and necessarily I am but little acquainted with the procedure of parliament, but as the representative of Kings-Albert, I must strongly recent the statements made here today by Mr. Crockett. I tell you, sir, I was ashamed of him."

At this there were cries of "Order" from the opposition benches and cheers from the government side.

"Yes," declared Mr. McAlister, "I was actually ashamed of him when he referred to the last campaign."

There were renewed cries of "Order" from the opposition side, whereupon Mr. Speaker Marcell quietly observed that some indulgence must be given to a new member.

Mr. Borden, however, insisted that the rule should be adhered to, that Mr. McAlister, as well as Mr. Crockett, must confine himself strictly to the motion before the house.

"I had intended calling the hon. member's attention to the rule of order," said Mr. Speaker, "but he had not exactly reached that stage when it was necessary for me to interfere; however, the hon. member must confine himself to the motion and amendment before the house."

"Then let me say," continued Mr. McAlister, "that if I heard that remark out of the house I would be ashamed of the hon. member from York."

Mr. McAlister contented himself with observing that he would have to postpone some remarks he had intended to make, "but," said he, "I shall never rest easy until I have that question discussed in the house." After expressing his disapproval of the resolution of Dr. Reid, Mr. McAlister was proceeding to refer to the Mayes affidavit when the opposition again interrupted with

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cries of "Order," so noisy that Dr. Pugsley was constrained to observe that it was a shame thus to interrupt a new member. Mr. McAlister proceeded to say that when the country had a man so worthy as Dr. Pugsley in the position of minister of public works there could be no better guarantee that the department would be well conducted. "I am sure," said Mr. McAlister, in conclusion, "that he will take the responsibility, and when he does so that is guarantee enough for any of us."

Mr. Loggie of Northumberland, argued that it was the duty of the minister as the responsible head of the department to be present and see that tenders were opened in the regular way. Did the Conservative premiers of the provinces ask that the representative heads of departments should not be present as one of a number to see the tenders opened? Did Mr. Hazen say that his commissioner of public works should not be present when tenders were opened? These were circumstances which Dr. Reid should have looked into before bringing in his resolution which was really one of want of confidence in the government. As to the admission of the public during the opening of tenders, it was open to the objection stated by Dr. Pugsley, namely, that collusion between contractors might result which would be detrimental to the public interest. Speaking for his own Co., Mr. Loggie declared that not only had the contracts for public works been let to the lowest tenderer, but it was the rule also with mail contracts. He had even been refused information by the government as to the tenders for a mail contract, because the contract had not actually been entered into. By insinuations and in other ways the opposition had endeavored to create a quiet in the public mind upon these questions, but they had failed both in the public accounts committee and in the country to make good their charges.

"It seems to me," said Mr. Loggie, "that the resolution is simply a motion of want of confidence in ministers who have just come from the people with an overwhelming majority."

Mr. Miller of South Grey was engaged in an argument against the motion when the house adjourned.



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