

FULLY EXONERATED.

(Continued from second page.)

White—We must infer that some pressure was brought to bear upon Mr. Quinn, because we find him on the stand making a statement entirely at variance with his declaration. When the investigation was entered upon not one of these gentlemen was found bold enough to come forward and support the charge. Instead of that the very gentleman who made the charge said he had made no charge; that there was no charge; that if there was Mr. Blair had made it himself. Was it not absurd for Mr. Pitts to make that statement in view of his words in the house and the declaration which he had read in support of them? It was apparent to all that the charge was made rather with a view of injuring the attorney general's character—not with a desire of having the matter investigated in order that the truth might be ascertained. It was only the other day that Mr. Stockton and Mr. Phinney both of them repudiated all responsibility in connection with the making of these charges—a most remarkable statement in view of their conduct as revealed on the inquiry.

Mr. Stockton—You are misrepresenting me. I did not make the statement that I repudiated the responsibility for this proceeding.

White—I am not misrepresenting the hon. gentleman. I ask the house whether the hon. member did not give us to understand that he was sorry the charge was brought.

Stockton—I say that is false.

White—It is not false and the house knows it is not false. I have no doubt the honorable member feels keenly his present position, and that if he had this thing to do over again he would do it in a far different manner. I beg to move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Killam.

Whereas, Herman H. Pitts, a member for the County of York on the 29th day of March, from his place in the house, made statements injuriously reflecting on the character and conduct of the honorable attorney general, Mr. Blair, as a member of the government and of the legislature; and

Whereas, The attorney general at once, from his place in the house, gave a full and unqualified denial to all such charges, and the said Mr. Pitts, instead of moving to have the said charges referred to the proper tribunal for investigation of the same upon evidence under oath, subsequently on the second day of April, instant, reiterated the said charges, and read a declaration of the honorable H. Quinn, prepared and published with a view to give color to the same; and

Whereas, The said attorney general thereupon again denied the truth of the said charges, and requested the said Mr. Pitts to move to have the same inquired into upon evidence under oath, and which Mr. Pitts refused to do; and

Whereas, The said attorney general in consequence of such refusal, and in view of the fact that the said charges had been widely disseminated throughout the country felt called upon to move, and did move, for a committee of investigation into the said matter, which the house granted, and investigation into the said charges was thereupon had before a committee of this house, and the evidence of all parties in any way connected with the alleged matter and able to give any material testimony touching the same was taken upon oath before such committee, and the committee have reported such evidence in full, together with their finding thereon to the house, which evidence and report are now before this committee, and by the said report said Hon. Mr. Blair is found exonerated from all said charges; and

Whereas, The attorney general having denied the said charges and imputations, and having urged the said Mr. Pitts to move for a committee of inquiry, thereupon and challenged the fullest investigation of his conduct in connection therewith, and having denounced the making and procuring of the statutory declaration of the said Wm. H. Quinn and the publication of the same in order to give color to said charges and without any intention of calling for investigation thereof, Mr. Phinney a prominent member of the party opposed to the government in the house from his place indignantly repudiated having had any part in procuring such statutory declaration, and in promoting the said accusations against Mr. Blair, and Mr. Stockton, the leader of the opposition, also gave the house to understand that he was not a party to the making or preferring of the said charges; and

Whereas, Notwithstanding such denial of said Mr. Phinney, and statement of said Stockton, it subsequently appeared in evidence on said investigation, that said Messrs. Stockton and Phinney had, on divers occasions, visited the dwelling house of said William H. Quinn, and there induced and procured him to make and sign the said statutory declaration so that the same might be read in the house and published in the newspapers and press, and the said statutory declaration was read by Mr. Pitts from his place in the house;

Resolved, That while this committee of the whole house fully recognizes that whenever a member of the assembly believes any other member guilty of conduct unbecoming and improper to him as a representative of the people, and has fully satisfied himself by careful enquiry, and does honestly believe that he can secure a charge for such misconduct by credible testimony, it is not only his right but his duty to prefer such a charge to the house, but to do so only for the purpose of securing an investigation thereof, and as a necessary preliminary step to such an investigation. In order that the honor and character of the legislature and its members may be maintained and vindicated, this house desires in the most emphatic manner to mark its disapproval and censure of the course pursued by Mr. Pitts in making charges and imputations of an injurious character against the Hon. Mr. Blair, and, when he had directly and emphatically denied the truth thereof, refusing to withdraw such charges and imputations or to call for a committee of investigation thereupon before a committee of this house in the usual manner.

And this committee further desires to record its disapproval of the conduct of Messrs. Pitts, Stockton and Phinney in procuring the said statutory declaration and causing the same to be read in the house, and in thereby promoting the charges and imputations which had been previously made, as such action on their part was manifestly designed and intended to injure and asperse the character and reputation of Mr. Blair, in disregard of the honor of the house and not for the purpose of having the said charges investigated so that the honor and character of the house should be maintained.

After Mr. Phinney had spoken

Hon. Mr. Tweedie arose and made one of the best speeches ever heard in the legislature of New Brunswick. He said Mr. Phinney had made a very elaborate speech, but the force of his effort was largely lessened by the fact that he appeared, after all, as the paid advocate of Mr. Quinn.

Mr. Phinney—Who said I was paid by Mr. Quinn.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—You said before the

committee that you were there on the retainer of Mr. Quinn and you cannot take it back now. The hon. member had referred to the charges which had been brought by Mr. Blair against members of the old government, as if that was any justification for the cowardly underhanded efforts made by these gentlemen to destroy the character of the attorney general. One of these charges was brought against Mr. Adams, and he (Tweedie) was glad to know that he was exonerated, but he had never heard even Mr. Adams claim that Mr. Blair had no reasonable grounds on which to make or prefer a charge. In the Fraser government, although Mr. Fraser in the end was completely vindicated, yet Mr. Blair was entirely justified in having the matter investigated, for it was a matter of common knowledge at that time that the clerk of the peace, Mr. Bliss, was claiming to receive a salary greater than appeared in the public accounts. The hon. member for Kent had a mind of such a diagonal turn that it was impossible for him to

Argue any Political Question Fairly or without dragging in side issues. It was useless for these hon. members to attempt to bark the issue, or to try and escape the honorable position in which they had placed themselves. When Mr. Pitts had made his charges Mr. Phinney and Dr. Stockton disclaimed any knowledge of them; they claimed that they were desirous that the honor and integrity of the legislature should be maintained, while at the same time they were urging forward the hon. member for York and dodging around the Quinn mansion in pursuit of evidence upon which the honor and integrity of members of the legislature were impugned. The shrewdness of Mr. Phinney, in his expressed solicitude for the honor and integrity of the house, could be estimated by the fact that now he admitted that he had these documents in his pocket over a year ago. (Applause)

These gentlemen opposite were very fond of arraying themselves in the robes of honor, when at the same time they were urging forward the hon. member for York and dodging around the Quinn mansion in pursuit of evidence upon which the honor and integrity of members of the legislature were impugned. The shrewdness of Mr. Phinney, in his expressed solicitude for the honor and integrity of the house, could be estimated by the fact that now he admitted that he had these documents in his pocket over a year ago. (Applause)

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Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Then why didn't you act upon it?

Mr. Pitts—I acted upon it and you know I did.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie—Yes, you were with us in the committee room, but you went upstairs with Mr. Powell and came down with your name signed to a refined argument that was drawn up by that gentleman. I say I will submit that evidence to any fair-minded man on earth, unless he believes the attorney general swore falsely, he will be obliged to admit that there was not a

Syllable of Evidence Against Him. Indeed, if Mr. Blair's testimony was ignored altogether he could come to no other conclusion. Were the sins of others to be visited upon the attorney general? Was he his brother's keeper? Or was he responsible for what Mr. Wilson or others may have done behind his back?

But I take the ground, also, that there is nothing that can fairly be charged against William Wilson. I say that any jury would find without leaving their seats that he was guiltless. It does not follow that in order to believe Wilson you have got to discredit the evidence of Mr. Quinn and his daughter; but I say that, knowing Mr. Wilson as I have, I require a greater strength of imagination than I am capable of to believe that he would produce a receipt that was forged before that committee and which had no existence prior to the meeting of this committee, and that he

Would Perjure Himself before his country and his God. Mr. Phinney had bitterly complained of what had appeared in the Telegraph newspaper by way of criticism of himself and the leader of the opposition. Why did not the hon. member rise in his place and protest against the slanderous article that appeared in the opposition press? He (Tweedie) did not believe in newspapers in papers of either political side, and he felt free to say that in his opinion the newspapers of this province had to a great extent forgotten their high mission as educators of the public, and prostituted themselves to the ends of partisan warfare. He would ask the hon. member of Kent in all fairness what he thought of the treatment the attorney general had received.

From the Daily Sun? The opposition were not sincere in their claim that their interests had suffered because no counsel had been allowed to appear for Mr. Quinn. Mr. Powell, one of their ablest members, had conducted the examination with great shrewdness and force. Mr. Quinn was an outsider altogether. He stood merely in the position of a witness, and had no more right to be represented by counsel than had Mr. Wilson, Mr. Barry, Mr. Wetmore or Mr. Anderson. The committee had decided in strict accordance with legal principles when they rejected that application. The opposition members themselves could not have been very strongly impressed with the force of their contention, for they also put forward with equal vehemence the equally absurd claim that they had a right to appear as counsel for the legislature. In conclusion Mr. Tweedie urged the opposition members to rise above the selfish motives of political warfare, and do justice to the attorney general in a matter that affected his personal character and reputation. If they did this they could not fail to find that not a title of evidence had been adduced in support of the charges made against that honorable gentleman.

After some discussion Mr. White's resolution was carried by the following vote:

Yes—Mitchell, Emmons, White, Tweedie, LaBillico, Lewis, Harrison, Theriault, Russell, Siverwright, Mott, Killam, Scott, Blair, O'Brien, (Northumberland), Dibble, Robinson, Dunn, McLeod, Ferris, O'Brien, (Charlotte)—23.

Nays—Powell, Smith, (St. John), Alward, Allen, Howe, Pinder—6.

Hon. Mr. Blair said he did not propose to make any lengthy remarks in connection with this matter. He thought he would be able to recall to the minds of the committee what had transpired in connection with this matter. In the course of the address which he had delivered to the house after the statutory declaration was read by Mr. Pitts, I said that I wanted to know the circumstances under which that statutory declaration had been procured. I said that I imagined I saw some men identified with the opposition party and who were anxious to injure myself, prowling around in the dead hours of the night to procure that declaration. I did not make any charge against any particular member of the house, because I did not have it in my mind that any gentleman in the house had been a party to it. But when I made that statement the hon. member for Kent indignantly called on me to say whether I meant to charge him with procuring that declaration at night, or having anything to do with that statutory declaration.

Phinney—That is not true. You are a base slanderer.

Blair—Every member of the house knows that is true, and yet the hon. member dares get up and deny it. When he called on me to say whether I meant that any member of the house had been a party to getting up that declaration, I said that I had no thought of making such a statement. It is in the press that you, the hon. member, say that he did not seek to entirely disconnect himself from the paper read by Mr. Pitts.

Stockton—Why, I said I had the letters in my room.

Blair—Yes, at the close of my speech I said I had seen it in the press, and the papers were in my possession, and I called on you to produce them, and you had no answer to any remark of yours that you were connected with the preparation of that declaration.

Mr. Wells said a large portion of the charges and insinuations of the opposition had been levelled at Mr. Wilson, a gentleman who was not in the house and not amenable to the authority of the house, and who had not the chance to defend himself. Mr. Wilson, though a most reputable man, had even been accused of being a perjurer and a forger. He would move seconded by Mr. Ferris—

Resolved, That there has been an attempt by certain members of this assembly to injure the reputation of a gentleman (Mr. Wilson) not now a member of the house, and such an attempt, in whose case an expression of opinion as to the merits of the matter is not within the competency of the house, is highly improper, is unjust to the person involved, and is incompatible with the dignity of the legislature.

Hon. Mr. Blair said that the house in making the reference to the committee of inquiry had recognized that Mr. Wilson was not a member—did not fill a representative capacity, and he (Blair) had felt that it would be grossly improper if the house should for an instant recognize that Mr. Wilson was within its authority. Yet the statement was made in the press that the government was limiting the area of the investigation, and it was put forward that when the committee met its tendency would be to rule out all matters touching a gentleman who was not amenable to the jurisdiction of this legislature. If that was a sound constitutional doctrine, surely there was an element of injustice in the action of these gentlemen opposite in probing the testimony as they did in

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order that they might implicate Mr. Wilson and injure his character and reputation in the community. They hoped, in case they failed in their aim upon myself, to

Break Their Vengeance Upon Mr. Wilson. They knew in fact that they could not attach a title of testimony to myself, a gentleman who is not here to answer for himself, but in bringing in this irrelevant testimony they might in some way reflect upon the character or conduct of Mr. Wilson. I feel that it is a matter of fair play and justice towards Mr. Wilson that the house should say by its resolution why it is that it does not pronounce any opinion upon all the testimony that was brought out touching Mr. Wilson's connection with the matter. It is only fair and in the interest of our own dignity and self-respect, and fair to the gentleman who is not here to answer for himself, that we should say to the country why it is we have not expressed our judgment upon that testimony. If there was any good reason wanting why this resolution should be placed upon the records of the house, it would be supplied by the speech of the hon. member for Kent who in one breath professed to be the friend of Mr. Wilson, and yet did not hesitate to pursue him through all the threads of this testimony and to malign and reflect most unfavorably upon that gentleman. He dwelt with the unctious upon the subject as though he loved to dig and delve and grovel and tear up the character of a professed friend.

Mr. Phinney said Mr. Blair had not given the benefit of his judgment as to the evidence. He had not dared to analyze the evidence.

Hon. Mr. Blair—Yes, I felt it was better to abstain from judging myself.

Mr. Phinney—I take the responsibility of my utterances in full. Mr. Wilson has been a friend of mine and I of his. I do not know that I have forfeited his friendship or his name. I care not in the exercise of a public duty what the result may be. He was a witness before the committee and I have a right to comment on his evidence and to malign and reflect upon the testimony in favor of Mr. Quinn and his daughter. Mr. Wilson was not on trial before the committee because the attorney general would not allow him to be. Then if he was not on trial why should we be asked to pass a resolution exonerating him.

Mr. Powell, seconded by Mr. Alward, "That all after the word resolved be struck out and in lieu thereof the following be inserted: That in the opinion of this house it is desirable that Mr. Pitts be hanged, Mr. Phinney drawn and Mr. Stockton quartered, and that the attorney general and Mr. Wilson be canonized."

The chairman ruled the amendment out of order.

Mr. Powell appealed to the speaker, who sustained the ruling of the chair.

Mr. Blair said it was an insult to Mr. Speaker to have such a document presented to him in his opinion thereon.

Dr. Stockton said he would suggest that the provincial secretary move a resolution that Mr. Quinn be hanged.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell—The leader of the opposition, like Judas, had better go and hang himself.

After some further discussion Mr. Wells' resolution was carried, and the discussion closed at 4 Tuesday morning, the house having been in continuous session all night.

Personal Mention. J. S. Gallison of Galveston, Texas, was here this week visiting his sister, Mrs. Herbert Peters, of Gilson. Some fifteen years have elapsed since Mr. Gallison left his home for Texas, where he has prospered well, and where he was engaged in the cotton business. He returned to Boston on Friday.

Harvey Station. APRIL.—The storm of Monday was among the severest we have had this winter. About eight inches of snow fell and was rapidly formed into huge wreaths by the high wind. In some places the roads were blocked, and much damage was done to fences and buildings by the high wind.

The shipment of potatoes still continues. Mrs. W. E. Smith has just finished loading a car for the Boston market; the price paid is very low from sixty to sixty-five cents.

The entertainment contest which has been going on in Harvey county, R. T. of T., came to a close at the last meeting of the quarter. It was found that the side led by Miss M. Robinson were the winners by over 300 points. Nearly forty new members have been initiated during the quarter. The defeated party treated the council to an oyster supper, which took place on Friday evening last. Nearly 100 members of Harvey county were present, and about forty members of Little Settlement council, who were all invited to attend. A limited number of invitations were also given to outside friends. Supper was served in Taylor's hall, while the program, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, readings, speeches, etc., was given in the Grange hall. S. A. Robinson acted as chairman and Miss Allie Smith, in her best form, presided at the organ. The affair was one of the most enjoyable events of the season.

Central Kingsdale. APRIL 16.—Rev. A. E. LaPere is holding special meetings here and much good is being done.

Herbert Cliff's youngest child, Monford, died on Tuesday night after much suffering, and his remains were taken to Keswick on Thursday. Rev. H. E. LaPere conducted the service.

The ice moved on Sunday taking away A. E. Cliff's pier which he used for rafting purposes.

Squire Cliff had two pigs stolen from the pen one day last week, also hay, oats and a bag of shorts.

Mrs. Frank Kilburn has been sick for some time past, is not expected to live.

Isaac Kilburn has eight cows and they made nine hundred and fifty pounds of butter in the last five months. They look more like fattening cattle than milk cows.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. Money to Loan. \$25,000 TO LOAN on approved security, at lowest rates of interest. Apply to WESLEY VANWART, Barrister, Fredericton, April 21, 1904.

Estate Notice. L. EYERS Testamentary of the Estate of the late J. W. C. Turner, of the City of Fredericton, deceased, have this day been granted the under-mentioned Executive and Receiver named in the will. All persons having any legal claim against the said estate, are required to make payment at once to be understood, John W. Spurdren, at the Postoffice, Fredericton. Dated this 12th day of April, 1904.

ELIZABETH A. TURNER, Executrix. JOHN W. SPURDREN, Receiver. J. W. McCRADY, Sol. for Estate. April 14, 1894—4ms.

Arrived MARCH 28. To-day... ONE CARLOAD OF FURNITURE. Willard Kitchen & Co. See Our Corner Wardrobes. Creamers & Tinware. Just Received... 6 Crates Creamers, 4 Strainer Pails, 4 Cans Assorted Tinware. For Sale Low, Wholesale and Retail. JAMES S. NEILL. FIRE BRICK AND CLAY. JUST RECEIVED FROM GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, 8,000 Asbestos Fire Brick, 4 Tons Fire Clay. For Sale Low, by JAMES S. NEILL. Per S. S. MONGOLIAN. From Liverpool: 2 CASES and 1 bale of fine Shoe Thread, Trout and Salmon Twines, Col. Lines, Best Good and Gilling Threads for nets. And for sale by H. CHESTNUT & SONS.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. A cream of tartar baking powder. Highest of all in quality and strength.—Largest U. S. Government Food Inspector. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 108 Wall St., N. Y.

New Corsets AT EDGECOMBE'S. Popular Makes. The MAGNETIC The YATIST The NURSING The COROLINE The HEALTH The MAY The FERRIS The F. B. E. Hygeian Waists for Maids and Children. The Ladies Toast of To-day—"CORSETS." They stay around in Waist Places. Each fall and spring, new fashions bring; They serve to mould a perfect form, Which flourish and decay; They have their other use; The Corset is the only thing, And only ladies cry reform, That ever came to stay. And stay it will, "and may it stay." In olden time they called them stays, The ladies all exclaim; And laced them very tight; Of Corsets as plain as day, But in the light of modern days, Corsets they will retain. They do not think it right. Moral—Buy the Correct Kind; "The Survival of the Fittest," at F. B. EDGECOMBE'S.

GENTLEMEN, Will you get your Sunday Fixings at a Dry Goods Store? WHY NOT? We've Everything Except the High Prices. Handsome Neckwear. Puffs, Tecks, Four-in-hands, Windsor, Bows, Figue Four-in-hands, White Muslin Ties, Bows, etc. Neglige Shirts. Fine quality, a large assortment with two Attachable Collars. Fine Quality White Dress Shirts. Reinforced Fronts, 75, 1.00 and 1.25. Gloves... Walking Gloves, Driving Gloves, Evening Gloves. COLLARS, CUFFS, HOSIERY and UNDERWEAR. TENNANT, DAVIES & CO. 202 Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B.

WE Can Please You. Stylish Sleighs and Pungs At Lowest Prices. JOHN EDGECOMBE & SONS, Manufacturers of Fine Sleighs, Carriages and Horses, YORK ST., FREDERICTON, N. B. DON'T READ THIS IF YOU WANT TO MISS A BARGAIN. Over Three Carloads To arrive in A few days. Willard Kitchen & Co. See Our Corner Wardrobes. Creamers & Tinware. Just Received... 6 Crates Creamers, 4 Strainer Pails, 4 Cans Assorted Tinware. For Sale Low, Wholesale and Retail. JAMES S. NEILL. FIRE BRICK AND CLAY. JUST RECEIVED FROM GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, 8,000 Asbestos Fire Brick, 4 Tons Fire Clay. For Sale Low, by JAMES S. NEILL. Per S