ment the other day was correct, that I never promised Quinn, senior, or Quinn, junior, the office he alludes to. I did say that Quinn was anxious to get an office, and I am bound to say that I was ready, if any office became vacant which he was competent to fill, to use my influence to secure it for him, but he wanted offices for which he was not competent and I was always exceedingly careful not to promise him such offices. I state again that I did not under any circumstances give Quinn senior or junior or any person else to understand that upon payment of any sum of money he would be appointed to any office. I would ask the hon. member if he would allow me to look at the declaration.

Mr. Pitts—No, it is not the property of the house; it is private property.

Dr. Stockton—I think the attorney general has a right to see it.

[House of Assembly, Tuesday, 3rd April.]

Hon. Mr. Blair, seconded by Hon. Mr. White, moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the statutory declaration of W. H. Quinn, read in this place by Mr. Pitts, a member for the county of York, be laid upon the table of this house, to be dealt with as the house shall direct.

To which Dr. Stockton objected, as a two days' notice was necessary.

Mr. Speaker overruled the objection.

And on the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. Mr. Blair, seconded by Hon. Mr. White, moved the following resolution:

Whereas, Mr. Pitts, a member for the county of York, stated and charged in his place in the house on Thursday last, that money contributions had been exacted from persons seeking favors at the hands of the government, and in proof thereof he would show that the attorney general had received money from one Quinn in consideration of an office to which he was to be appointed, and when the said Mr. Pitts was asked by the attorney general if the paper which he had read proved his connection with the matter, Mr. Pitts replied "No; he would be too careful to figure in the matter directly," leaving the implication that while not figuring in the matter directly, he was cognizant of and a party to the transaction; and

Whereas, The attorney general, on the said charge or statement being made, absolutely denied the truth thereof in every particular so far as his knowledge of, or connection therewith, the matter occurred is concerned, and later, after Easter recess and on Wednesday last, made, or what purported to be, a full and complete statement of all knowledge possessed by him in respect to the matter, with letters and statements of others verifying his denial; and

Whereas, Under the pretense of clearing his skirts of the stigma of having slandered a member of the house, the said Mr. Pitts produced and read a statutory declaration by William H. Quinn, relating to matters aforesaid, but has not followed up the reading of such declaration or statement by any motion to refer the said matter to a committee for investigation; and

Whereas, It does not appear to be the purpose or intention of the said member to move for such committee, or to make any charge directly impeaching the conduct of the attorney general in any way in the alleged matter, but leaving it so that the said member and others desiring to do so, may hereafter contend that the said statutory delaration did involve matter reflecting upon the integrity of Mr. Blair; and

Whereas, The attorney general denies that all the facts in connection with the alleged matter, so far as he is directly or indirectly connected therewith, or affected thereby, shall be fully investigated before a committee of this house, such committee to be empowered to report their finding upon the evidence, and their opinion as to whether there is anything in the acts or conduct of the attorney general reflecting upon him in the slightest degree in the said matter; be it therefore

Resolved, That the said statutory declaration and all papers in anywise connected therewith, be referred to a select committee of five members of this house to investigate and determine whether there was or is anything in the conduct of the attorney general in the alleged matter reflecting unfavorably upon him or upon his integrity in office, and that the said committee be empowered to inquire into all matters connected with the facts alleged in the declaration so far as they relate to Mr. Blair, and that such committee be empowered to send for persons and papers and examine all witnesses upon oath in pursuance of the powers conferred by chapter 33 of 52nd Victoria, and to report the evidence so taken on such inquiry to this house, and the opinion and finding of such committee upon such evidence.

And the same being debated, and the debate being ended,

And the question being put, the house divided, and the names being called for, they were taken down as followeth:

Yeas.	
Hon. Mr. Blair,	Mr. Killam,
Hon. Mr. Mitchell,	Smith (Westmorland),
Hon. Mr. Emmerson,	Flewelling,
Hon. Mr. White,	Scovil,
Hon. Mr. Tweedie,	Baird,
Hon. Mr. LeBlois,	O'Brien (Northum'd),
Mr. Gegain,	Dibblee,
Dr. Lewis,	Dunn,
Harrison,	McLeod,
Blanchard,	Wells,
Theriault,	Farris,
Russell,	O'Brien (Charlotte),
Sivewright,	Hill,
Mott.	
Nays.	
Mr. Powell,	Dr. Alward,
Dr. Stockton,	Mr. Pitts,
Phinney,	Allen,
Shaw,	Howe,
Smith (St. John),	Pinder.

So it passed in the affirmative.

In supporting his resolution Hon. Mr. Blair said: He had had an opportunity of going over Mr. Quinn's statutory declaration which he could hardly have been expected to deal with fully yesterday. It had been alleged in the press that he did not yesterday make any reference to his friend and former colleague, Mr. Wilson, and that he wished to drop him out of sight. He thought it only right to say that he had not made any observations with regard to Mr. Wilson's position yesterday, because he had had no chance to communicate with him or of knowing what statement he was prepared to make. He might have stated too much or too little, and therefore did not think it prudent to deal with it. I say at the outset, continued Mr. Blair, that Mr. Wilson will be prepared to make, in the most solemn manner, a statement of the facts, so far as he knows them, if he is given an opportunity of appearing before a committee of this house. I wish to say, as a matter of justice to him, that I have been his friend and colleague for many years, and I have yet to see the evidence that he is a dishonest man. I do not believe there is a dishonest hair in his head. He may not be the most careful business man in the world, and that is his misfortune. But he began his life struggling amid difficulties, and by the energy of his character he was able to obtain an education and a profession to which he does credit. There are men who do not hesitate to cast reflections upon him who are not worthy to unloose his shoes. If the house grants a committee he will confront the man who has sought to impeach his character. Oh, no; not to impeach his character, for he is not the man they want to get at. I am the individual they want to destroy, and in order to accomplish that destruction they are indifferent as to whose corpses they walk over. If they have to take off Mr. Wilson's head to get at mine they will shed a tear for Mr. Wilson, no doubt, like the French lady who had such a tender heart that she always drowned her kittens in warm water. (Laughter and applause.) I want to know the circumstances under which this plot was hatched, and the names of the men who did it. I wish to know the names of the gentlemen who have haunted the corner of Westmorland and Brunswick streets day after day, no, but in the dim hours of the night, when most honest men are asleep, to concoct this little scheme. That paper was read by Mr. Pitts ostensibly for the purpose of justifying himself and removing the stigma of being a slanderer. What was the charge he made? The other day he charged that money contributions had been exacted from persons asking favors at the hands of the government, and in proof thereof he would show that the attorney general had received money from one Quinn in consideration of the office to which he was appointed.

Dr. Stockton—That was not the charge.

Hon. Mr. Blair—That was the charge in substance if not in language, and that is the way it has been treated in the press without a word of protest from him.

Mr. Pitts—I said plainly that you did not get the money.

Hon. Mr. Blair—The hon. member said he could prove that I had received the money myself, and when I challenged him he said no, I would be too careful to figure in the matter directly. I met that charge with an instant and positive denial, and subsequently, when I had an opportunity of recalling the facts and securing evidence, I went fully into the matter and showed that these charges were unfounded; and now the hon. member produces this statutory declaration to show that I got the money indirectly, being too cautious to receive it directly. The hon. member has not the manliness to back up that charge. He wishes that statutory declaration to stand against me in the judgment of the country, now and for all time, without incurring any responsibility himself. I say the house should assert its own dignity and respectability, and that of its members, when such degradation is sought to be placed upon it. I do not advise the expulsion of the hon. member for York, though I say there might be crimes less serious than that which he has now committed that would deserve a more serious punishment. Now, how far does the statutory declaration tend to establish the charge which this gentleman is unwilling to make and yet unwilling to withdraw? It is said that a letter was written by me to Mr. Quinn on the 14th of October, 1889. I ask the leader of the opposition, who has that letter in his possession, to allow me to see it.

Dr. Stockton—I have not it in my possession now; it is in my room.

Hon. Mr. Blair—Then I cannot vouch for the genuineness of that letter. I hope I will be allowed to see it at no distant day. But I don't think the letter affords the slightest justification for the charge which has been made, or rather insinuated against myself. You will find that there is not a statement which Mr. Quinn has made in his declaration that conflicts with to the width of a hair with the statement I have hitherto made, hastily made, though it was to this house. That statement was that I had not directly or indirectly had any understanding or agreement with Mr. Quinn, junior, or Quinn, senior, or any person on their behalf whereby I was to receive directly or indirectly a farthing of money for the office to which Mr. Quinn was to be appointed. I stated further that neither the treasurer of the election fund nor myself had ever received a dollar from Quinn. Mr. Quinn has not ventured to impeach that statement. Then I said that Mr. Quinn was not appointed and there had been no sale of office because there was no office given. That statement has not been impeached. Many may think that I would, therefore, be entitled to treat this declaration with supreme contempt. I am not content, however, to allow the atmosphere to be clouded when I can clear it. I am not content to rest under suspicion until a committee of this house has found not only that the charges have not been proved, but that they have been disproved. I have not consulted with any supporters. This course I have marked out for myself. There is only one statement put forward by Mr. Quinn that gives a color to my having had the slightest connexion with the transaction. After the paragraph in which Mr. Quinn says that William came to him and said that he must furnish $200, and after the letter of January 16th from Mr. Barry, Mr. Quinn says deliberately that between the date and election day I called upon him at his store and said that the appointment would be all right, and that William would get it as soon as the election was over. The inference to be drawn from that statement is that after William had come to me and made his insulting proposition, which I indignantly repelled, and after Mr. Barry's letter, which was on the 16th of January, and before election day (January 20th), I called upon him and told him the appointment would be all right. It was with the view of employing that I gave Mr. Quinn to understand that the money might be sent in, and the office was to be given that the astute composers of this document smuggled in that paragraph between sections 6 and 8. They wished to create the idea that indignant as I was at the insult of William, under the direction of his father, I had gone at once to Mr. Quinn after William's offer of the money and told him the office would be all right, from which he was to infer that he could send forward the money. That would be an important statement if it was true. I propose to say unhesitatingly that it is utterly untrue, and if afforded the opportunity I am prepared to swear that it is an atrocious falsehood. I propose also to show that when these gentlemen concocted this document they did not know what they were about and they overshot the mark. They have sought to prove too much and by their own statutory declaration they have absolutely destroyed the value of their allegations. Again in the 8th paragraph you find it stated that one of the reasons alleged for William not getting the office was that I was indignant because he wanted a written promise and that Mr. Wilson was advising him to write me a sort of letter of apology to remove my indignation. Wouldn't it strike any ordinary mind that when Mr. Wilson informed Quinn that I was indignant (and, mark you, this was long subsequent to the election) that Mr. Quinn would have said, Why, it is absurd to say that Blair is indignant; he actually came to my own store the day after the interview with William and said it was all right, and William would get the office? I scarcely think these gentlemen would have inserted that 8th paragraph if they had contemplated the effect of it. I venture to predict that when the committee sits Mr. Quinn will not care to go upon the stand and swear that he saw me between the time that William made me the offer and the day of election; and I do further predict that it will be proved, beyond all peradventure, that William H. Quinn did not have a syllable of conversation with me in which money was mentioned between the time that his letter to me was written and the day of election. I will show not only by my own evidence but by Mr. Barry that not a farthing of Mr. Quinn's money ever went into his hands or those of the election committee, and Mr. Wilson will say that whatever money transactions took place between himself and Quinn (of which he considers he can make a satisfactory explanation), that until this charge was made in the house I never knew from him, nor did he know of any means by which I could be made aware of the fact that there had been any money received from Quinn in connexion with this or any other matter. (Applause).

I regret not upon personal, but upon public grounds the time and expense that this investigation will involve, but I believe it is due to the members of this house who for all these years have supported me, that it should be shown to them that their confidence in the interity and honesty of the man whom they have followed is not misplaced. (Applause.) The dignity and respectability of the legislature is involved, as well as the character of the leader of the government. While I have not forgotten the value of retaining my own self-respect, I have not been unmindful of the men who for all these years have given me their hearty support and confidence. (Applause). I ask, therefore, that this resolution shall be acceded to, and that a committee be forwith appointed, so that, if there is any evidence produced which in the opinion of that committee or of this house fortifies the imputations involved in the statement of the hon. member for York, that fact may be brought to the knowledge of this country. (Loud applause).

Mr. Speaker appointed as such committee, Messrs. Killam, Tweedie, Sivewright, Pitts, and Powell.

COMMITTEE ROOM,
House of Assembly,
Fredericton, N. B., April 4th, 1894.

[Stenographic Report.]

Present: Hon. L. J. Tweedie, John Sivewright, A. E. Killam, H. A. Powell and H. H. Pitts, M. P. P's, a committee appointed to investigate matters in the statuory declaration of W. H. Quinn, made on the 31st day of March last, etc.

On motion of Mr. Pitts, seconded by Mr. Sivewright, Mr. Killam is appointed chairman

On motion of Hon. Mr. Tweedie, Frank H. Risteen is appointed secretary of the committe.

Committee adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

COMMITTEE ROOM,
House of Assemly,
April 5th, 1894.

The chairman reads the resolution under which the committee was appointed; also the statuary declaration of W. H. Quinn, hereto annexed "A" and "B" respectively.

The Chairman—How does the committee propose to proceed? Mr. Pitts having read this statutory declaration in the house, and the matter having been referred to this committee, the proper course would seem to be that Mr. Pitts should produce his witnesses to substantiate the charge.

Mr. Powell—The resolution just read recites that Mr. Pitts has not asked to have the matter investigated. It is Mr. Blair who has brought on the investigation.

Mr. Sivewright—Does Mr. Pitts decline to accept the initiative in the matter? I would think he would try to substantiate the statutory declaration.

Mr. Powell—Not at all. It stands for itself.

Mr. Sivewright—Has he no names to suggest as witnesses?

Mr. Pitts—I have nothing to say about it at all. I am here as ajudge.

Mr. Tweedie—Do I understand Mr. Pitts to say that he declines to name any witnesses or to produce any evidence in support of the charges made by him in the House or in support of the declaration read by him?

Mr. Pitts—No, I do not say that at all. Do I understand you to say that it is necessary under this that I should do so?

Mr. Powell—As I understand Mr. Pitts he says this:—

Mr. Tweedie—I would think Mr. Pitts could answer for himself. We simply want to ascertain how we shall proceed. My own idea would be, Mr. Pitts having made these charges and read this statutory declarstion, that the proper way would be for him to name the witnesses he requires to have summoned in order to substantiate the charges he has made. The committee would not accept the statutory declaration of Mr. Quinn as evidence in the case and then call upon Mr. Blair to answer it.

Mr. Powell—As I understand it this investigation is at the instance of Mr. Blair and the position Mr. Pitts would take would be this: I will shape my course by what the attorney general does. Mr. Blair can call any witnesses he requires, and then Mr. Pitts can rebut.

Mr. Tweedie—In other words I understand your position to be that it is open to Mr. Pitts to make any charges in the House that he chooses and without attempting to prove them before a Committee, the onus is upon the scoused to disprove these charges?

Mr. Powell—I take no position on a general proposition at all, but on the specific case. The mover in the matter is the attorney general and he has to select his course.

Mr. Tweedie—The mover in the matter is not the attorney general. The charges have been made by Mr. Pitts.

Mr. Pitts—I have not made these charges.

Mr. Tweedie—I would like to have Mr. Pitts say whether he intends to produce any evidence or whether he declines.

Mr. Powell.—That would depend on the course taken by the other side in the investigation.

Mr. Pitts—Do I understand that after having asked for a committee in this matter to thoroughly investigate the alleged declaration, and the chairman having read it before the committee, Mr. Blair is not prepared to rebut that declaration?

Mr. Tweedie—As a member of the committee I say this: I claim that it is the duty of the chairman to call upon Mr. Pitts, the member for York, who has made these charges in the house against the attorney general to name the witnesses he wishes to have summoned before this committee to prove the truth of these charges. The onus is upon Mr. Pitts to substantiate the charges he has made. It is for you, Mr. Chairman, now to decide what course you will take, and I ask you to call upon Mr. Pitts to give us the names of the witnesses he requires to have summoned here to substantiate the charges he has made against the attorney general.

Mr. Pitts—My answer to that is that when the occasion arises, and it is necessary, I will name my witnesses.

The Chairman—My ruling is that we are here now to hear evidence in substantiation of the charges in that declaration, on which a resolution of the house was passed appointing this committee to investigate the matter. Therefore, I decide that Mr. Pitts should proceed to have his witnesses summoned and to prove the charges.

Mr. Pitts—Well, I want to place on record the following (reading paper):

"In answer to the demand made upon me by the chairman of the committee that I should appear as prosecutor, and promote the investigation called for by the resolution, I desire to say:

1. That the resolution was not moved by me but by the Attorney-General for the alleged purpose of vindicating himself against the allegations contained in the statutory declaration of Wm. H. Quinn, laid upon the table of the house under a resolution moved by the Attorney-General and now before the committee; and it therefore devolves upon the Attorney General to offer evidence to meet the said allegations.

2. That the said resolution contains in the preambles thereof statements concerning myself as to what I said in my place in the house which are absolutely untrue and which I am in no respect responsible for.

3. That while repudiating all responsibility for the said resolution or the conduct of the enquiry under the same, I claim to have reserved to myself the opportunity and privilege of offering at the close of any testimony offered by or on behalf of the Attorney General further evidence in corroboration of the said statutory declaration, and the allegations and statements therein contained and the facts and circumstances connected therewith; as well as evidence in rebuttal of any testimony that may be given by or on behalf of the Attorney General."

Mr. Tweedie — Notwithstanding the statement of the member for York, Mr. Chairman, I would ask you to decide the course of procedure, and to ask Mr. Pitts if he intends to prosecute in the matter.

Mr. Pitts—I have given an answer to that already.

Mr. Tweedie—Well, does Mr. Pitts decline to give the names of any witnesses he requires, or to prosecute?

Mr. Pitts—Yes, at this stage I decline to give the names of any witnesses or to take any action.

Mr. Tweedie—I would move, then, that Mr. W. H. Quinn be subpœnaed.

Caraied.

Mr. Tweedie—I would move that Miss Mary Quinn be subpœnaed.

Carried.

Committee adjourned, to meet at 7.30 this evening.

COMMITTEE ROOM,
April 5th, 7.30 p. m.

Minutes of previous session of committee read and confirmed.

William H. Quinn sworn, examined by Hon. Mr. Blair:

Mr. Stockton—I would state that Mr. Phinney and myself appear here this evening to look after Mr. Quinn's interests. He is mixed up in the matter as having done something improper, and we are here as counsel for him, to look after his interests if necessary.

Mr. Blair—Perhaps it might not be amiss, if a minute is made of the fact that Mr. Stockton states that he appears here for Mr. Quinn, that the statement should be made by me that this committee cannot recognize Mr. Stockton or Mr. Phinney as representing Mr. Quinn. He is under no charge here. The mere fact of a person being brought here as a witness does not entitle him to be represented by counsel. He may have private counsel, with whom he can consult as the case proceeds, but the committee cannot hear these gentlemen; they have no status before this investigation at all.

Mr. Stockton—We are not asking to be heard, but only to be here, to watch the case in the interests of Mr. Quinn, and, if necessary, to put questions to Mr. Quinn after his direct examination is over.

Mr. Blair—Well, we will see about that later.

The Chairman—To have a witness represented by counsel is something new in investigations of this kind.

Mr. Stockton—There never has been an investigation here in which counsel did not appear.

Mr. Blair—And there never has been a case here in which the party making the charge has been unwilling to prosecute.

Q. You reside in Fredericton? A. Yes.

Q. Were you residing in Fredericton in the year 1889? A. Yes, I have been living here a number of years.

Q. And are doing business here? A. Yes

Q. You keep a shop? A. Yes.

Q. On the corner of Brunswick and Westmorland streets? A. Yes.

Q. Perhaps you would kindly tell me, Mr. Quinn, if this document bears your signature? (Declaration shown). A. Yes, it does.

Q. At whose request did you make this statement? A. At the request of Mr. Stockton.

Q. He called upon you at your place, did he? A. Yes.

Q. For that purpose? A. I should think so.

Q. Could you tell me when that was? A. I could not exactly from memory, I suppose it is in the paper.

Q. Was he alone, or did someone accompany him? A. Yes, there was a man with him the first night.

Q. Who was he? A. A printer—Mr. Crocket.

Q. That was at night, was it? A. Yes, in the evening.

Q. How late? A. About 6 or 7.

Mr. Sivewright—Q. After dark? A. Yes.

Mr. Blair—Q. Did any person call upon you before Mr. Stockton did on the same subject? A. No, I think not.

Q. You knew at the time that some statements had been made in the legislature of the transaction between you and Mr. Wilson? A. Yes, I had seen it in the press.

Q. Had any person called upon you and made any inquiries of you before that statement appeared that you saw it the press? A. I don't think it. I don't recollect of it. Mr. Wilson was there several times. I am not certain that Mr. Pitts was there before or after it.

Q. Don't you know that Mr. Pitts was there before that? A. He might have been. I am not positive.

Q. You think you couldn't say positively? A. No, I really could not say whether it was before or after.

Q. Was not Mr. Pitts there early in the session—almost immediately after the opening—before Easter? A. I could not say positively that he was or was not.

Q. Did not you tell Wilson, the first time he called to see you, that Pitts had been there? A. I might have done so.

Q. Don't you remember doing it. A. Yes.

Q. Didn't you tell him, the first time he called that Pitts had been there? A. Well, I don't know—he called so many times.

Q. Didn't you tell Wilson the first time he called that Pitts had been there trying to get you to tell him something? A. I might have done so; I am not positive.

Q. Didn't you tell him that Mr. John Black had been there too? A. No.

Q. Didn't you tell him that some time ago something came out in one of the papers here about it? A. Yes, last winter.

Q. And did not you tell him that upon seeing that, you had gone down to Mr. Gregory and charged Mr. Gregory with having—A. Yes, I told Mr. Wilson that.

Q. And that Mr. Gregory didn't give you any satisfaction? A. He told me he did not have any correspondence with the Gleaner, that he was not friendly with the Gleaner.

Q. You could not get a statement from him as to whether he had or had not given publicity to it? A. No.

Q. Who brought this paper to you and when? A. Mr. Phinney.

Q. Who prepared it, do you know? A. I couldn't tell you.

Q. It was not prepared in your house? A. No.

Q. Who had come to you to get that statement from you before the paper was prepared and submitted? A. Mr. Stockton.

Q. Did he take down any statement from you at the time? A. Yes, certainly.

Q. The next call that was made upon you was made by Mr. Phinney was it? A. Yes.

Q. How long after Stockton came and got some particulars was it that Phinney called with this document? A. I could not say how long.

Q. Could you give us any idea? A. No.

Q. Whether it was a day or a week? A. Well, it was more than a day and it might have been a week.

Q. Who did Mr. Phinney bring with him? A. He brought a lawyer named McCready.

Q. Did Mr. Pitts call upon you before you signed this paper? A. Well, he had been in frequently.

Q. Did he make any request of you to make a statement? A. If I was brought up to tell the truth about it—what I knew.

Q. Did he request you to make a statement such as this? A. No.

Q. Did he make any request of any kind of you? A. Well, he requested me to tell what I knew.

Q. Did he give you any reasons why you should do so? A. No.

Q. Didn't he tell you that he was in a hole and wanted you to help him out? A. No.

Mr. Stockton—I object to that question. It is leading and besides you are cross-examining your own witness.

Mr. Blair—I claim the right to cross-examine this witness.

Mr. Tweedie—We might as well have it decided now whether Mr. Stockton and Mr. Phinney have a right to appear here.

Mr. Phinney—I want it known that I appear here for Quinn at his request, and upon his retainer.

Mr. Tweedie—I submit a witness cannot appear by counsel in any court. He may have counsel to confer with, but his counsel cannot stand up and object to what is said.

Mr. Powell—I think every member of the house would have a right to appear here independently of representing a witness to interrogate and take part in the proceedings.

Mr. Blair—I submit not, unquestionably.

Mr. Tweedie—I understand you to agree with my proposition that a witness cannot be represented by counsel.

Mr. Powell—Well, he is something more than a witness. He has made a declaration which identifies him with the case.

Mr. Tweedie—His declaration is not evidence before the committee and we have him to give evidence in the case.

Mr. Powell—It is the truth of Mr. Quinn's statement that we are trying. Mr. Quinn in a sense is on trial.

Mr. Blair—Not at all. You are trying me.

Mr. Phinney—In addition to what I have already claimed I claim that as a member of the legislature I have a right to appear.

Mr. Stockton—I submit the same.

Mr. Phinney—In addition to claiming that I appear here as a member of the legislature, I may say that I also appear for the reason that it has been stated that the honor and integrity of the legislature as a whole is involved, and so stated by the attorney general.

Mr. Blair—You are so much interested in the honor and integrity of the legislature that you want to establish that the imputation is well founded.

Mr. Powell—I think myself that it is better that one counsel on each side should appear.

Mr. Blair—But I understand that no man is prepared to prosecute the charge against me. There are no two sides to this business. I have been obliged to force this investigation on because no one else is willing to take it up.

Mr. Stockton—I say you are deliberately trying to gag the aquiry, but the country will judge of you.

The Chairman—I decide that Mr. Quinn having appeared as a witness cannot be represented by counsel. Mr. Quinn is not on trial at this time, and there is no charge against him.

Mr. Phinney—I submit the chairman has no right to decide it. We ought to have the judgment of the committee. I propose to appear here to protect Mr. Quinn, at his request and on his retainer.

The Chairman—Mr. Quinn will be fully protected.

Mr. Sivewright—Apparently Mr. Phinney appears as a member of the legislature and also as representing Mr. Quinn. Now, under which of these does he interrogate the witness?

Mr. Phinney—I submit under both. One is equally as strong as the other, and both together are irresistible.

Mr. Sivewright—I have no desire to stifle the inquiry, but it does seem a little strange that two lawyers, one the leader of the opposition and the other an eminent practitioner, should think it necessary to come here when no distinct charge is made.

Mr. Tweedie—My view is that it is absurd to say that a witness can come here and say he is represented by counsel. On that principle Miss Mary Quinn can come here with two other counsel. It is unheard of for a witness to appear in a court of law by counsel. Then the question comes up whether a member of the legislature can come in and examine or interrogate or object to questions. I think that is equally absurd.

Mr. Stockton—The attorney general appeared in the case of Nadeau and Theriault as counsel.

Mr. Tweedie—That was a committee on privileges, and I think the attorney general was a member of the committee.

Mr. Blair—Yes, I was chairman of the committee.

Mr. Tweedie—If the whole 41 members of the house can examine Mr. Quinn the inquiry will be illimitable.

Mr. Powell—I think one of the gentlemen would be sufficient. I do not care to assume the role of examiner. It is well to preserve judicial forms, and I do not think any member of the committee would wish to examine and cross-examine witnesses.

Mr. Pitts—I agree with that. I think one will be sufficient.

Mr. Stockton—Then I agree that only one of us (Mr. Phinney) will speak.

Mr. Sivewright—Don't you think it would be better that no counsel should appear at all? Don't you think the members of this committee are quite competent to elicit all the facts?

Mr. Powell—I would not care, sitting in a somewhat judicial capacity to be obliged to assume the role of an employed lawyer with a brief. I would rather not be placed in that position.

Mr. Tweedie—If Pitts had preferred his charges in the ordinary way and said he would prove them, he might appear here by counsel, but to say that every witness who comes here can appear by one or two counsel is an absurdity.

Mr. Phinney—I do not claim that at all. But I say that Mr. Quinn stands in a different position from the ordinary witness. His veracity and the correctness of his declaration have been impeached.

Mr. Blair—That is the case with every witness.

Mr. Phinney—No, not necessarily. This inquiry is based upon the solemn declaration of Mr. Quinn, read and placed upon the table of the house, and upon that it must proceed. Now, Mr. Quinn has a right to counsel in order to protect himself and his position before the country. I do not desire to appear on behalf of any other witness except as I appear for Mr. Quinn.

Mr. Tweedie—I wish to place myself right as a member of this committee and not be thought to accede to any such proposition. Mr. Quinn is here simply as a witness. It is not correct to say that his veracity is impeached any more than that of any other witness who may be summoned. It is true a statutory declaration by Mr. Quinn was read in the house. We are not dealing with that statuory declaration. It was merely the foundation of the resolution upon which the committee was formed. Mr. Quinn was not summened here to be tried as to whether this declaration is correct or not, but to give evidence as to what he knows about the matter. It is the attorney general who is charged.

Mr. Blair—It is my conduct in office that is the subject of this inquiry. Mr. Quinn is a mere pawn on the board. The resolution provides that a committee be appointed "to investigate and determine whether there was or is anything in the conduct of the attorney general in the alleged matter reflecting unfavorably upon him or upon his integrity in office."

Mr. Stockton—Suppose you proceed to prove that Mr. Quinn's statement is false (and that was alleged on the floors of the legislature) is that not a matter as to which Mr. Quinn should seek to be protected here?

Mr. Blair—He has no more right to be protected here than any other witness. When counsel go into court to try a case each of them seeks to impeach the veracity of the witnesses on the other side, and it is absurd to say that because their veracity is so impeached they ought to appear by counsel. If anything appears on this investigation calculated to show that Mr. Quinn's statement is not correct we cannot try him for it here; it would have to be somewhere else, and there he could appear by counsel.

Mr. Powell—I would move, seconded by Mr. Pitts, that Mr. Phinney having stated that he appears as a member of the legislature and also as representing Mr. Quinn that he be allowed to take part as counsel in the proceeding and both to examine and cross-examine witnesses as the case may be.

Mr. Sivewright—I submit that Mr. Phinney's first contention is rather in conflict with the other—that if as a member of the legislature he is desirous to get all the facts, it is strange that he would take a retainer from Mr. Quinn. On those grounds I would vote against it.

Mr. Blair—I do not wish any restrictions to be placed upon this investigation, and I am willing as the person charged—if any gentleman will stand up and father that charge—to withdraw any objections to his appearing here by counsel.

Mr. Pitts—I am perfectly prepared, to father that charge as far as the declaration is concerned.

Mr. Phinney—I am prepared, as a member of the legislature, to say here that I took the declaration up to Mr. Quinn and read it over to him, and it was signed in my presence.

Mr. Tweedie.—I will oppose the motion. (Mr. Powell's motion is lost on the casting vote of the chairman.)

Mr. Pitts—As the attorney general has said that if anyone would father the charge he would allow him to be represented by counsel, I therefore will father the charge so far as it has relation to the declaration, and would ask that Mr. Phinney appear on my behalf.

Mr. Blair—The declaration contains no charge against me.

Mr. Pitts—Nobody has brought a charge against you. You brought the charge against yourself.

Mr. Powell—If you are going to follow strict legal forms, there is no prosecutor here and the complaint falls to the ground.

Mr. Blair—What you wish is that I should seem to object to having these witnesses examined, so that you could go before the country and say that I did not allow the evidence to be given.

Mr. Tweedie—I do not think you should say that to a member of the Committee.

Mr. Blair—Perhaps not. Under the circumstances I apologise to Mr. Powell.

Mr. Tweedie—If Mr. Pitts says he will take charge of the prosecution that is another thing, and Mr. Phinney can appear.

Mr. Pitts—All the interest I have is in seeing that this declaration is properly protected. You can take your own course.

Mr. Blair—Q. Did Mr. Pitts tell you that he had got into a hole and you must help him out? A. No.

Q. Or anything to that effect? A. No.

Q. That he had a personal feeling in the matter and wanted to follow it up? A. No.

Q. Will you be good enough to produce the letter referred to in your statutory declaration of October 14th?

(Witness produces letter and envelope which are put in evidence and marked No. 1.

Q. Have you the letter to which this was a reply? Did you keep a copy of that letter? A. I don't know that I did. If there is it is among the papers Mr. Stockton has.

Mr. Stockton—No, it is not here.

Witness—I had one and I mislaid it.

Q. Have you searched for it? A. Yes.

Q. Do you say that you cannot find it? A. Yes, I would say on oath that I cannot find it. If I had it would be here.

Q. Have you got a copy of the letter which you wrote to me after receiving this one? A. Yes. (Producing copy of letter, which is put in evidence and marked No. 2).

Q. Whose writing is this? A. Mine.

Q. It is all yours, it is? A. Yes.

Q. It is not signed? A. No, and the writing is not all mine. Down to the word "due" is all mine.

Q. In whose writing is the rest of it? A. My son William's.

Q. You state in this letter that Mr. Wilson and Mr. Bellamy had told William that he should or ought to have the appointment? A. Yes.

Q. What appointment was that? A. The appointment in Mr. Allen's office—that was what he applied for, and the only one.

Q. Do you say that was the only office he applied for? A. At the time.

Q. He had made application for others before, had he not? A. I know he did afterwards.

Q. Didn't he apply for the refereeship in equity? A. I cannot tell you. I don't think I know what that is.

Q. Don't you know that he applied to be appointed stamp vendor? A. Yes, I know that you stated that Wilson and Bellamy had told you that William was to get it—ought to get it.

Q. You remember that, do you? A. Yes.

Q. Was this copy written from the letter you sent, or was this written first and the other written from it? A. This was written first and the other written from it.

Q. Did you copy the other? A. Yes.

Q. What did you do with the letter that you copied? A. Mailed it.

Q. To whom? A. I addressed it to you.

Q. Will you give me the letter which you state here you received from Mr. Barry.

(Witness produces letter of January 16, 1890—with envelope—which is put in evidence and marked No. 3.)

Mr. Powell—Q. What year was it that you received that letter from Barry? A. I could'nt tell you the year.

Mr. Blair—Q. Would it be just before or just after the election of 1890? A. I couldn't say which it was.

Q. How long a time elapsed from the time that you wrote me, to which letter you got that reply that you produced here, before you got this letter from Mr. Barry? A. I cannot say; I did not keep any record of it.

Q. Had you seen me from the time that you got my letter of October 14th, and the time you got Barry's letter? A. I couldn't say whether it was after or before I got the letter from Barry that I saw you.

Q. You saw me once? A. O yes, half a dozen times.

Q. But I am speaking of the occasion when we talked about William getting the office. You could not say whether that was before or after the time you got Mr. Barry's letter? A. No.

Q. Referring to that conversation with me, where did it occur? A. Well, in two or three different places.

Q. But you referred to one occasion on which you had a conversation with me about William getting the office. You have stated that that would be after you got this letter from me of 14th October. Now I ask you where did that conversation occur? A. In my store.

Q. Who was present? A. No person but myself.

Q. Were you at the door when I was going by and called me in? A. No, the door was not open; it was in the winter.

Q. Were you not outside or just at the door? A. No, I was inside and you opened the door and came in and shook hands with me.

Q. Can you tell me the conversation that occurred? A. Yes.

Q. What did I say? A. You said you were going to the country—you had a team at the door and a man in charge of it—and you said when the election was over and things settled down he would have the position.

Q. What position was that? A. Well that you had promised him.

Q. But what position was it? A. Well, in Mr. Allen's office. That was the position we wanted from you at that time.

Q. Was there nobody in the store but you and I at the time? A. No, it was in the afternoon.

Q. How late in the afternoon? A. It was after dinner. I know I could see the horses and man there.

Q. It was light enough to see the horses but it was along in the afternoon pretty well? A. Yes.

Q. Didn't I tell you that I felt very well disposed towards Billy and anything I could do for him I would do, but that I could not promise him that office? A. You did not say it that time. You didn't stay over two minutes. The team was there and you went off.

Q. Do you remember any other conversation that took place before the election at all after the date of this letter of the 14th of October but that one? A. I had conversations with you at different places, but I cannot say at what time exactly. I know the last conversation before you came to my store was on