

AN EVANGELICAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER, FOR NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA

§ Editor and Proprietor

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out in full cry with a determination to crush him, and he thought they were aided by some who formerly called themselves Liberals. During the debate the last three weeks, some hon. members had intimated that there were other members of the government implicated in the violation of the regulations of the Crown Land Department, besides the Attorney General; and some parties had asserted that he (P. S.) was one of them. He challenged the committee before whom the evidence was given, to point out one act of his in relation to his purchase of Crown Lands, that was at variance with the rules, regulations and law,

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The Secretary then went into the statement showing as he did before the committee, that his lands were not only openly and properly purchased, in accordance with law, regulations and usage, and that these lands were applied for when he was out of the legislature and government, and that 400 acres were applied for in Feb. 1857, but that 800 acres were applied for in June, and sold on the first Tuesday. The Provincial Secretary then referred to what Mr. Tibbitts considered an apparent discrepancy between Mr. Tilley's and Mr. Gowan's evidence in relation to the 1280 acres transferred by Mr. Barker to Mr. Tilley, and these lands were purchased from Mr. Arnold. These lands were purchased by Mr. Arnold, who wrote him that he had bought 800 acres of land, and Mr. Tibbitts urged him to take the whole of it. Mr. Arnold had informed Arnold that 800 acres were all that he wanted for self and two friends, but upon the recommendation of Mr. Arnold he took the whole 1280 acres, and directed Mr. Barker to send him the money, which he did, and he thought at the same time suggested that the return should be made by the Deputy in Mr. Barker's name. Mr. Tibbitts then made to him a statement that he had made to him and two friends before the grant was made to a party for whom a part of this land was purchased, supposed that it could be had by instalments; this not being the case, as cash had to be paid down, the purchase exceeding 100, it was not convenient for him to raise the money at the time; the transfer for the whole was therefore made in his name and granted to him. Mr. Gowan's testimony was in direct discrepancy, he said between Mr. Tibbitts and Mr. Gowan, an erroneous impression had been attempted to be made by the publication of the dates of the grant issued more than a year after the purchase. In many cases the whole matter had been presented with a view to mislead the public, and misrepresent the facts. The Chairman of the committee had admitted that his applications had been made before he came into the Legislature, but that he had signed the same, and that he did not therefore escape from the responsibility. Responsibility—What responsibility he would ask, attached to him for that act. Would Mr. Tibbitts pretend to say, that if he, Mr. Tibbitts

was to purchase 1000 acres of the Crown Land of the Province, and 6 months from this date should be Provincial Secretary, that he could not sign the bill, as the Government would not take this responsibility referred to him. He said, no, how pure, how considerate. What he would ask him would he do—his money was paid, the bargain made, would he refuse to take the land, and leave his money in the Treasury. The thing is preposterous, and he knows it. He would next refer to a transaction in which Mr. Wilmot had been involved in 1858, in relation to an address moved in 1858, in relation to the purchase of land. He then repeated what took place as stated before Committee in connection with the matter, and repeated that he thought the object of Mr. Wilmot had in view at the time, was publication of the date of the grant, to make it appear to parties unacquainted with these matters, that he had stated what was not correct. He then stated that he had been asked to sign the bill. He had stated, that these lands had been applied for by him when out of the Legislature. While the grants issued a year afterwards would bear date that time when he was a member of the Government. There was nothing wrong in the Government or Legislature or Government buying lands at public sale and in accordance with the law, and he would be anxious to understand his position in connection with his purchase, and to say at the same time, that since he had been in the Government he had on all occasions offered them to parties and associations for actual settlement at the price to cost him, he had in no way retarded their settlement, and he was fully prepared to justify

The committee appeared to entertain the opinion that not only the Deputy Surveyor-General, but also the Hon. member for Victoria, in Crown Lands but that this restriction should extend to all parties connected with Department and Government. If this be the opinion, what would the Hon. member for K. (Mr. DesBrisay) do, when he was called upon to take a seat in the Government, he now had 200 square miles of Timber Land in this Province. How would the Hon. member for Carlisle, the aspirant for the Surveyor-General's office, manage with the 60 square miles he usually holds? Then the Hon. member for Victoria, (Mr. Tibbets) he is interested in how could he retain an interest in these establishments, and hold the office of Chief Commissioner of the Board of works, a position it is said he expects when the new Government is formed. Then the Hon. member for York, and others are willing no doubt to take office, would they do if this is to disqualify them in holding offices or seats at the Council board? This is the proposition of the committee, it would have important bearings on the future of the whole matter, it appears that Mr. Inches has retained through his official position and information over 20,000 acres of the best lands in the country, and that 9000 acres of this was procured in violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Department. The Attorney General's appointment were at variance with the same regulations. In taking the course the Government did were justified: They felt keenly the unpleasant duty they had to perform, and as the Attorney General resigned, the course, on which they were to place their transcendental restrictions in the hands of His Excellency, was informed His Excellency that had the Attorney General resigned, they would have been at liberty to carry on the business of the Session, and as His Excellency entrusted him with the arrangements, he could not decline. His duty to the supporters in the House, and the party they represented demanded of him and his colleagues that they should not shrink from the responsibility. When the House adjourned, at that time the country would be called upon to record their views upon the subject.

He could not suppose that the reporter for the press could have given any such information, and had no doubt whatever, that the paragraphs referred to were not telegraphed from Fredericton, but manufactured at St. John. He charged the proprietor of that paper with it and challenged him to produce the telegram. The Provincial Secretary said that he went before the Committee the next day after the statement referred to appeared in that paper, March the 15th, and called the attention of the Committee to the matter, as they would remember. He telegraphed to a friend at St. John, to contract for the telegram, which telegram he understood was shown in their reading room. Where upon Mr. McLeary reassented the statement and posted a notice to the effect that his statements would be established by the Evidence when published. He had not seen the Evidence but was to suppose, from a copy of the "Visitor" Extra that b-fore him dated March 20th that he was made to state in his evidence that he the Provincial Secretary had purchased land in the name of John A. Spar, and the agent of John S. Trites, and that he also had purchased land for the same purpose, by Israel Stevens, by omitting Inches' name at the head of evidence given by him. It appeared to him that this was done by design as the Visitor Extra published five days after he corrected the statement before the Committee, and in the presence of Mr. McLeary's reporters. Was this a fair and impartial transaction? Was it honorable? He would leave the House and the country to judge.

The evidence published in the Colonial Empire was interspersed with the Editor's remarks in Italics, and with notes of the Editor's remarks in parentheses, and he promised to do his partial purpose, and he however failed to know that the 3200 copies of the evidence given before the committee, one sided though it was, would go the country, and a more correct statement than had been given by the paper referred to, would be placed in the hands of the people. The member for Victoria, Mr. Tibbitts, had stated on Saturday, that the hounds had been set loose upon the Surveyor General. He had seen such demonstration. If the hounds had been set loose upon any person, it was upon the Provincial Secretary. All Torydom