

1876

Report of the Evidence and Conclusions of the Committee to Investigate the Sale of the Agricultural College Scrip

Maine Legislature, Committee to Investigate the Sale of the Agricultural College Scrip

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REPORT

OF THE

EVIDENCE AND CONCLUSIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE

THE

Sale of the Agricultural College Scrip.

MADE TO THE FIFTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE.

AUGUSTA:

SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1876.

2072
QV

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,)
February 23, 1876. }

Ordered, That there be printed two thousand copies of the Evidence and Conclusions of the Committee appointed to investigate the sale of the Agricultural College Scrip.

Read and passed.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk*.

IN SENATE, February 23, 1876.

Read and passed in concurrence.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary*.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
January 28, 1876. }

WHEREAS, The lands heretofore granted by Congress to this State have been sold by our State authorities at prices far below the market rates for such property.

WHEREAS, The attention of the people of the State is constantly being called to the fact, in consequence of applications for aid on the part of the Agricultural College, and grave suspicions have been expressed in different parts thereof, as to the fairness or expediency of such sales, therefore be it

Ordered, That a committee of seven be appointed for the purpose of investigating said sales, and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers, and administer oaths.

AMENDMENT "A."

Strike out the preamble and insert the following :

WHEREAS, The lands or scrip granted by Congress to this State for a College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, are reported to have been sold at prices far below those obtained by some other States for similar land or scrip—

AMENDMENT "B."

Be it ordered, That a committee of seven on the part of this House, with such as the Senate may join, be appointed for the purpose of investigating said sales, and that said committee have full power to send for persons and papers and administer oaths, and report to this Legislature.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
 January 29, 1876. }

Read, amended as per sheets "A" and "B" and passed, and Messrs. Bass of Bangor, Shepherd of Skowhegan, Powers of Houlton, Haynes of Augusta, Pike of Calais, Anderson of Portland and Kimball of Waterford, appointed on part of the House.

Sent up for concurrence.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*

IN SENATE, January 31, 1876.

Read and concurred.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*

IN SENATE, February 1, 1876.

The President appointed Messrs. Swazey of Oxford, Wheelwright of Penobscot, and Donworth of Aroostook, on the part of Senate.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*

REPORT
OF
TESTIMONY,
BY
FRANK A. SMALL of Augusta,
STENOGRAPHER.

EVIDENCE.

AUGUSTA, February 10, 1876.

The Joint Special Committee of the Legislature to investigate the sale of Land Scrip, met at the Augusta House, Thursday evening, February 10th.

On motion of Mr. Pike, it was voted that the Committee summons any person as a witness before it whom any member of the committee might request.

In accordance with the above vote, Mr. Anderson named Abner Coburn and Daniel Cony. Mr. Pike named Hiram Ruggles and Charles P. Brown. Mr. Shepherd named C. A. Jordan. Mr. Swasey named Z. K. Harmon and Joshua L. Chamberlain. Mr. Powers named Wm. K. Lancey, and Mr. Bass, Nathaniel Wilson.

The following acts and documents were placed in evidence :

An Act donating lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be granted to the several States, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, an amount of public land, to be apportioned to each State a quantity equal to thirty thousand acres for each senator and representative in Congress, to which the States are respectively entitled by the apportionment under the census of eighteen hundred and sixty: *Provided,* That no mineral lands shall be selected or purchased under the provisions of this act.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the land aforesaid, after being surveyed, shall be apportioned to the several States in sections or subdivisions of sections, not less than one quarter of a section; and whenever there are public lands in a State subject to sale at private entry at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, the quantity to which said State shall be entitled shall be selected from such lands within the limits of such State, and the Secretary of the Interior is hereby directed to issue to each of the States in which there is not the quantity of public lands subject to sale at private entry at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, to which said State may be entitled under the provisions of this act,

land scrip to the amount in acres for the deficiency of its distributive share; said scrip to be sold by said States and the proceeds thereof applied to the uses and purposes prescribed in this act, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever: *Provided*, That in no case shall any State to which land scrip may thus be issued be allowed to locate the same within the limits of any other State, or of any territory of the United States, but their assignees may thus locate said land scrip upon any of the unappropriated lands of the United States subject to sale at private entry at one dollar and twenty-five cents or less per acre: *And provided further*, That not more than one million acres shall be located by such assignees in any one of the States: *And provided further*, That no such location shall be made before one year from the passage of this act.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That all the expenses of management, superintendence, and taxes from date of selection of said lands, previous to their sales, and all expenses incurred in the management and disbursement of the moneys which may be received therefrom, shall be paid by the States to which they may belong, out of the treasury of said States, so that the entire proceeds of the sale of said lands shall be applied without any diminution whatever to the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That all moneys derived from the sale of the lands aforesaid by the State to which the lands are apportioned, and from the sales of land scrip hereinbefore provided for, shall be invested in stocks of the United States, or of the States, or some other safe stocks, yielding not less than five per centum upon the par value of said stocks; and that the moneys so invested shall constitute a perpetual fund, the capital of which shall remain forever undiminished, (except so far as may be provided in section fifth of this act), and the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated, by each State which may take and claim the benefit of this act, to the endowment, support, and maintenance of at least one college, where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the legislatures of the States may respectively prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions in life.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That the grant of land and land scrip hereby authorized shall be made on the following con-

ditions, to which, as well as to the provisions hereinbefore contained, the previous assent of the several States shall be signified by legislative acts :

First. If any portion of the fund invested, as provided by the foregoing section, or any portion of the interest thereon, shall, by any action or contingency, be diminished or lost, it shall be replaced by the State to which it belongs, so that the capital of the fund shall remain forever undiminished ; and the annual interest shall be regularly applied without diminution to the purposes mentioned in the fourth section of this act, except that a sum not exceeding ten per centum upon the amount received by any State under the provisions of this act, may be expended for the purchase of lands for sites or experimental farms, whenever authorized by the respective legislatures of said States.

Second. No portion of said fund, nor the interest thereon, shall be applied, directly or indirectly, under any pretence whatever, to the purchase, erection, preservation, or repair of any building or buildings.

Third. Any State which may take and claim the benefit of the provisions of this act, shall provide, within five years, at least not less than one college, as described in the fourth section of this act, or the grant to such State shall cease ; and said State shall be bound to pay the United States the amount received of any lands previously sold, and that the title to purchase under the State shall be valid.

Fourth. An annual report shall be made regarding the progress of each college, recording any improvements and experiments made, with their cost and results, and such other matters, including State industrial and economical statistics, as may be supposed useful ; one copy of which shall be transmitted by mail, free, by each, to all the other colleges which may be endowed under the provisions of this act, and also one copy to the Secretary of the Interior.

Fifth. When lands shall be selected from those which have been raised to double the minimum price, in consequence of railroad grants, they shall be computed to the States at the maximum price, and the number of acres proportionally diminished.

Sixth. No State, while in a condition of rebellion or insurrection against the government of the United States, shall be entitled to the benefit of this act.

Seventh. No State shall be entitled to the benefits of this act, unless it shall express its acceptance thereof by its legislature within two years from the date of its approval by the President.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That land scrip issued under the provisions of this act shall not be subject to location until after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the land officers shall receive the same fees for locating land scrip issued under the provisions of this act, as are now allowed for the location of military bounty land warrants under existing laws; *Provided*, their maximum compensation shall not be thereby increased.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the governors of the several States to which scrip shall be issued under this act, shall be required to report annually to Congress all sales made of such scrip, until the whole shall be disposed of, the amount received for the same, and what appropriation has been made of the proceeds.

[Approved July 2, 1862]

[CHAPTER 275 OF THE RESOLVES OF MAINE FOR 1863.]

Resolve relating to a college for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts.

Resolved, That full assent is hereby given to the provisions and conditions of the act passed at the second session of the thirty-seventh Congress, and approved July two, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, entitled "an act donating public lands to the several states and territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts," and the same is hereby accepted, and the governor is hereby authorized and directed to notify the President of the United States of said acceptance by the State of Maine, and to receive from the Secretary of the Interior the scrip for Maine's proportion of the two hundred and ten thousand acres of land donated by said act, and to hold the same, subject to the order of the legislature.

[Approved March 25, 1863.]

[Section 6 of chapter 532 of the private and special laws of 1865, approved February 25, 1865.]

SEC. 6. The governor and council shall take measures, as soon as may be advantageously done after the passage of this act, to

sell the land scrip received by this state under the act of Congress, and to invest the same as required by the fourth section of said act. The securities shall be kept by the state treasurer, and he shall report annually to the legislature the amount and condition of the investments, and of the income of the same. He shall from time to time, as the income shall accrue, pay over the same to the treasurer of the college.

To His Excellency Samuel Cony, Governor of Maine:

The undersigned, members of the Board of Trustees of the College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, take this method to indicate their views regarding the disposition of the land scrip for said college, viz: That it seems desirable to sell the same at an early day at the best rates which it may command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants.

C. A. EVERETT,
ROBERT MARTIN,
A. S. PERKINS,
SAMUEL F. PERLEY,
DENNIS MOORE,
SEWARD DILL,
JOSEPH DAY,
JOSEPH FARWELL,
N. T. HILL.

November 22, 1865.

STATE OF MAINE.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,)
Augusta, Dec. 31, 1865.)

SALE OF UNITED STATES LAND SCRIP.

Proposals will be received till the first day of March, 1866, by his Excellency Samuel Cony, Governor of the State of Maine, for the purchase of Land Scrip issued to said State, for the endowment of a College for the benefit of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, in quantities not less than five thousand acres. Terms cash, payable in lawful money, at the office of Treasurer of State of Maine at Augusta, or at the Suffolk National Bank, Boston, in twenty days after notice issued of acceptance of offer. The Scrip to be delivered at Augusta. Right to reject proposals reserved.

All offers will be directed to the address of the Secretary of State, Augusta, Maine, and indorsed on the outside, Proposals for "Agricultural College Scrip."

EPHRAIM FLINT, *Secretary of State.*

PROPOSALS.

U. S. LAND SCRIP.

The undersigned proposes to take five thousand acres at fifty cents the acre.

F. LOUSADA, B. Consul,
7 Doane St., Boston.

To the Secretary of State, Augusta, Maine.

Albion, Jan. 7th, 1866.

I offer one thousand three hundred (1,300) dollars for five thousand (5,000) acres of United States land scrip, according to the terms of the within advertisement.

ALMERON TRIPP,
Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y.

El Paso, Illinois, Jan. 22, 1866.

Ephraim Flint, Secretary of State of Maine :

Sir—I will take ten thousand acres of the Land Scrip of your State, at twenty-five cents an acre.

Please answer on receipt whether accepted or not.

Respectfully, A. WAIT.

Wheeling, West Virginia. Feb. 5, 1866.

Sir—I herewith make you an offer of 10 cents per acre for 5,000 acres of your land scrip. If our offer is accepted, you will find us responsible persons. Without any delay.

Yours, very resp't, JAS. FRAZIER.
Yates, Frazier & Co.

Address Jas. Frazier, Valley Grove, Ohio Co., West Va.

Lexington, Lafayette Co., Mo., Feb. 5, 1866.

Hon. Ephraim Flint :

Dear Sir—I will give you twenty-five hundred dollars for 5000 acres of "Agricultural College Scrip."

Very respectfully yours,

LYMAN WARNER.

Lexington, Lafayette Co., Mo., Feb. 16, 1866.

Hon. Ephraim Flint :

Dear Sir—I sent you some time since a proposal for Agricultural Scrip, viz: I proposed to give \$2,500 for 5000 acres. I wish to make this proposal a duplicate, or, in other words, I will give you \$5,000 for 10,000 acres of "College Scrip" altogether. My design is to locate the lands in Southern Kansas, with a view of making a home of it and improving the same. I hope you will regard me with as much favor as those who buy solely for speculation.

Very respectfully yours,

LYMAN WARNER.

St. Cloud, Minn., Feb. 15, 1866.

To Samuel Cony, Governor of the State of Maine :

Dear Sir—I propose to purchase 5,120 acres of the Agricultural College Scrip issued to the State of Maine, at 60 cents per acre, and the further amounts of 5,120 acres at $57\frac{1}{2}$ cents per acre, and the further amounts of 5,120 acres at 55 cents per acre, to be paid for in accordance with the circular issued by Ephraim Flint, Secretary of State, under date of December 21st, 1865.

THOS. C. McCLURE.

Saint Louis, Feb. 21, 1866.

Hon. Ephraim Flint, Sec'y of State, Augusta :

Sir—I will give two thousand seven hundred and fifty (\$2,750) dollars for 5000 acres of "Agricultural College Scrip."

Respectfully, CHARLES DAVIS,
S. E. Cor. 6th and St. Charles street,
Saint Louis, Mo.

Augusta, March 1, 1866.

To Hon. Ephraim Flint, Sec'y of State :

Sir—We propose to take of the Agricultural Scrip ten thousand acres monthly for six months, at fifty-two and one-half cents per acre, payable monthly as delivered, and should be pleased to take whatever we may need monthly in addition at the same rate, which may double the amount. If this is not accepted, we bid for one hundred pieces, 16,000 acres, at fifty-five cents.

Yours, respectfully,

C. & G. WOODMAN, 60 Wall St., N. Y.

Detroit, Feb. 22, 1866.

Hon. Ephraim Flint, Sec'y of State, Augusta, Me. :

Dear Sir—In pursuance of your advertisement of Dec. 31, '65, we bid for Maine Agricultural College Scrip, as follows, so much for each piece of 160 acres : We will take thirty (30) pieces at \$94 each, or fifty (50) pieces at \$92 each, or one hundred (100) pieces at \$90 each, or 150 pieces at \$87 each, or 200 pieces at \$85 each. Will pay as proposed at Suffolk Bank, Boston, at which place please have the scrip delivered. If any one of our bids are accepted, please advise us by telegraph, stating the number of pieces. If you do not sell the scrip as advertised, we would entertain a proposition to buy the whole, or to sell it at certain figures as your agents.

Truly, DAVID PRESTON & Co.

Detroit, March 1, 1866.

Hon. Samuel Cony,

Governor of the State of Maine, Augusta.

Dear Sir—Your telegram of this date, "Your offer for two hundred pieces of 160 acres each accepted. Scrip shall be deposited at Suffolk National Bank, Boston." Two hundred pieces at \$85 each, will amount to \$17,000, which amount shall be at the Suffolk Bank within the time specified, 20 days from this date. If you publish a statement of your accepted bids, please send us a copy. Also, state if you have any more on hand to sell at private sale, and at what price.

Yours truly, DAVID PRESTON & Co.

[Telegram.]

Dated, Detroit, Michigan, March 15, 1866.

Received at Augusta.

To Hon. Samuel Cony, Governor :

We will duplicate our bid on terms named in our letter on the tenth inst.

Please telegraph if you accept.

DAVID PRESTON.

[Telegram.]

Dated, Detroit, Mich., March 22, 1866.

Received at Augusta.

To Hon. Samuel Cony :

We accept your proposition of the 15th, for two hundred pieces more.

DAVID PRESTON & Co.

Detroit, March 22, 1866.

Hon. Samuel Cony, Governor of the
State of Maine, Augusta, Maine:

Dear Sir—We to-day telegraphed you that we would take 200 pieces more of your Agricultural College Scrip, at \$85 each, as per the terms named in your's of the 15th inst. The substance of your proposition is as follows: that we can have 200 pieces of said scrip of 160 acres each, at \$85 apiece; we to make a deposit with the Suffolk, in cash or 7-30, to the amount of \$3,000, and to take the scrip any time we call for it, between this and Dec. 1st, 1866, in installments of fifty pieces or upwards at a time, and to pay you interest at the rate of 6 per cent. on the amount of our indebtedness, not including the \$3,000 left as a special deposit for the performance of the contract on our part. That is to say, when we take up 50 or 100 pieces, and pay \$4,250 or \$8,500, from that date we pay interest on the balance, and not on the whole. Please send us a copy of your proposal, as accepted by us, to the Suffolk Bank, and when the cashier writes us that the scrip is ready, and that he will hold and deliver them on the terms stated in your letter, we will then make the required deposit, and let the interest date from the date of the cashier's letter.

DAVID PRESTON & Co.

[A.]

Orono, April 10, 1866.

Dear Sir—I write to ask if any of the land scrip of Maine remains unsold, and that can now be had at 50 of 52 cents per acre, and if so what amount, and *what time*, if any can be given, within which to decide how much or how little we may take. Do me the personal favor of a reply at your earliest convenience.

Very respectfully and truly yours, &c.,

N. WILSON.

Hon. Samuel Cony, Augusta, Me.

State of Maine, Executive Department. }
Augusta, April 11, 1866. }

Sir—Yours of yesterday to his Excellency is received. Gov. Cony left this morning for Boston and will return on Saturday, when he will reply to your letter.

I think he has given the refusal of it all to different parties, but as I have been away a few days, and he manages the whole thing himself, I cannot say with certainty.

Very respectfully, your obedient serv't,

CHARLES H. TRUE, *Private Secretary.*

N. Wilson, Esq., Orono.

[B.]

State of Maine, Executive Department, }
Augusta, April 16, 1866. }

Nathaniel Wilson, Esq.

Dear Sir—Your letter of the 10th reached here in due course of mail, but being absent from the State till Saturday evening, you will understand why you have not before received a reply in answer. I have to say that all the scrip has been bargained for except some 16,000 acres, which is retained for the present until I can confer with the Trustees of the Agricultural College. None of it has been sold quite as low as the highest price named by you.

Respectfully yours,

SAMUEL CONY, *Governor.*

Orono, April 27, 1866.

Hon. S. Cony—Dear Sir: Pardon me for again troubling you about the college land scrip. I am desirous of having a few thousand acres, and some of our friends also wish for some, and we are ready to pay the *highest price* at which it has been sold to *others*. Of course one has no more claims than another, but those of us who have *subscribed to aid* and have done so much for it, feel if there is a *preference*, we may be fairly entitled to it. I am prepared to take ten or thirty thousand acres, at the *highest price* I understood any had been sold.

Yours truly,

N. WILSON.

State of Maine, Executive Department, }
Augusta, April 28, 1866. }

N. Wilson—Dear Sir: Yours of the 27th inst., is received in regard to Agricultural College Scrip. In reply to a former letter I stated, if I do not misrecollect, that it had all been bargained except about 16,000 acres. I say about, because it may be one hundred and sixty acres more or less than that amount which was

held under the advice of the trustees of the Agricultural College, who have some idea of having it located. There are difficulties in this matter of location. The State cannot do it, for this is forbidden by the act making the grant. If located by the trustees, the expense of doing so cannot be paid out of the proceeds of the sales of the scrip, for this use of the principal or any other, except a small per cent. authorized to be applied to a special purpose, is also forbidden. So that the trustees would have to get authority from the Legislature to have it assigned to them, and likewise to assume the cost of locating, payment of taxes and expenses of management. Whether the Legislature would agree to sell this I know not. Should the trustees be of opinion that it is not expedient to retain this quantity under these circumstances, I am entirely willing to sell to you that portion of the scrip upon the terms you propose—fifty-seven cents and a half—the highest sum any has been sold for; other than this there is none; the rest is, and has been bargained a long time, and the greater part of the money paid. I stated substantially these facts in my former letter to you. As to preference, there is none to be exercised. The sale was open and largely advertised—those bids accepted deemed most favorable. If you wanted the scrip I am sorry you did not propose for what you wanted; as I should have been as glad for you and your friends to have had it as any other parties. I take it you are in communication with the trustees, and can learn their views about what has been retained. If they say sell, I repeat I had's lief you would have it as anybody else.

Having closed the bargains for the rest, I have no power nor wish, if I could, to retreat.

Respectfully yours,

SAMUEL CONY, *Governor.*

[C.]

[Extract of letter dated Augusta, Jan. 16th, 1867, from John H. Gilman to N. Wilson, Esq.]

Your's of the 14th is received. I handed your communication to Stevens, and asked his opinion. He read it through, and said it was good, first-rate, except the part relating to the sale. He said that was every word true; but he doubted the propriety of bringing it up at this time; that we had best say as little about that as possible, so we struck that part out, and the other will be published.

[D.]

Augusta, Feb. 27, 1866.

Hon. Ephraim Flint, Secretary of State :

I propose fifty-one cents per acre for five thousand acres of the lands advertised for the Agricultural College.

J. R. CLARK.

[E.]

Pittsfield, March 15th, 1866.

Hon. S. Cony, Governor :

I propose to take for myself, 15,000 acres of the college scrip at 53 cents ; also, for Gen. Smith, 10,000 acres at same price.

Yours, W. K. LANCEY.

[F.]

Augusta, March 13th, 1866.

I propose to take for myself and others, 5,000 acres of the college scrip at 53 cents.

JOHN KIMBALL.

[G.]

Augusta, March 1, 1866.

His Excellency, Samuel Cony,
Governor of Maine :

The Bangor Land Company will give forty-five (45) cents per acre for the Maine Agricultural College Lands granted by the U. S. Government, for any quantity not exceeding eighty thousand (80,000) acres.

Bangor Land Company, by

J. L. HODSDON, their attorney.

[H.]

Preston's Daily Financial Circular.

Detroit, November 30, 1866.

Note—These quotations are carefully revised by us at noon, daily.

David Preston & Co., Bankers.

Office hours from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.

BONDS—U. S., State, County and City. The accrued interest on 7-30 and one year Certificates goes to the seller—on all other Governments, to the buyer.

7-30.

Buying. Selling.

U. S. 7-30, large, 1st series, interest to seller..... 105 105 $\frac{3}{4}$ U. S. 7-30, large, 2d series, interest to seller..... 104 $\frac{1}{2}$ 105 $\frac{1}{4}$ U. S. 7-30, large, 3d series, interest to seller..... 104 $\frac{1}{2}$ 105 $\frac{1}{4}$ ~~Endorsed~~ Endorsed 7-30 1 per ct. below unendorsed.

Small bonds—50 and 100—a quarter to one-half less than large.

U. S. 7-30, Coupons all off, 10 per cent. discount per annum.

	5-20 and 10-40.	Buying.	Selling.
U. S. 5-20, old, large, interest to buyer.....		108	109
U. S. 5-20, old, small, " "		107	108
U. S. 5-20, new, large, " "		106½	107½
U. S. 5-20, new, small, " "		105½	107
U. S. 5-20, new, Jan. and July, "		107½	109½
U. S. Sixes, of 1881, large "		111½	113
U. S. 10-40, large, interest to buyer.....		99½	100½
U. S. 10-40, small " "		101½	103
Compounds—U. S. Comp'd Notes, June, 1864,.... 115			
U. S. " " July, 1864.....		114½	
U. S. " " Aug., 1864.....		113½	
U. S. " " Oct., 1864.....		112½	
U. S. " " Dec., 1864.....		111½	
U. S. " " May, 1865. ...		110	
U. S. " " Aug., 1865....		109	
U. S. " " Sept., 1865. ...		108½	
U. S. " " Oct., 1865.....		108	

U. S. Gold Bearing Coupons, one-half per cent. less than gold.

U. S. Revenue Stamps, 4 per ct. discount on \$100 and upwards.

Michigan 7s, 1890, interest to seller.....	99½	101
" " 1868, " "	99½	101
" " War Loan, "	99½	101
Detroit City 7s, 1886, int. to seller.....	96½	98½

County Bonds, interest to seller—

Wayne county 7s, 95, 97; Oakland 7s, 1868, 95, 99; Macomb 7s, 1868, 95, 99; Genesee 7s, 95, 98; Lapeer 7s, 80 to 85, 90 to 95; Saginaw 7s, 1869, 92, 97; 10s, 100, 101; Saint Clair 7s, 90, 95 to 98.

Gold, Silver, Canada, Demands—Canada Money, 139½, 141; Bank of Upper Canada, 75; American Gold, 140, 141½; Amer. Silver (½s & ¼s) 136, 139; American Silver, (5s & 10s) 132, 136.

Currency Quotations—Detroit City Banks, par; All U. S. Legal Tender, par; All National Banks, par; New Jersey, 2 per ct. discount; New York State, 1 to 2 per ct. disc.; New England, 1 to 2 pr. ct.; Ohio, 2 pr. ct.; Bank State of Indiana, 2 pr. ct.; Pennsylvania, 2 per cent.; Delaware and Maryland, 3 per cent.; Indiana Stock Banks and Kentucky, 5 per cent.; Illinois and Missouri, 5 per cent.; Iowa, 3 per cent.; Wisconsin, 5 and 25 per cent. Exchange on N. Y., par; selling, ½ prem.

7-30,—Interest on the Three Series for December.

Dec.	1st Series, \$100.	2d Series, \$100.	3d Series, \$100.
1.	2 16	3 38	2 78
2.	2 18	3 40	2 80
3.	2 20	3 42	2 82
4.	2 22	3 44	2 84
5.	2 24	3 46	2 86
6.	2 26	3 48	2 88
7.	2 28	3 50	2 90
8.	2 30	3 52	2 92
9.	2 32	3 54	2 94
10.	2 34	3 56	2 96
11.	2 36	3 58	2 98
12.	2 38	3 60	3 00
13.	2 40	3 62	3 02
14.	2 42	3 64	3 04
15.	2 44	3 65	3 06
16.	2 46	2	3 08
17.	2 48	4	3 10
18.	2 50	6	3 12
19.	2 52	8	3 14
20.	2 54	10	3 16
21.	2 56	12	2 18
22.	2 58	14	3 20
23.	2 60	16	3 22
24.	2 62	18	3 24
25.	2 64	20	3 26
26.	2 66	22	3 28
27.	2 68	24	3 30
28.	2 70	26	3 32
29.	2 72	28	3 34
30.	2 64	30	3 36
31.	2 76	32	3 38

Exchange $\frac{1}{8}$ Discount, par.—At present we are buying Exchange on New York at par; selling at par to $\frac{1}{8}$ prem.

Exchange—On New York, buying, par.	Selling, par, $\frac{1}{8}$ prem.
On Chicago " $\frac{1}{8}$ dis.	" $\frac{1}{8}$ prem.
On Cleaveland.....	" 1-5th pre.
On Pittsburg.....	" 1-5th pre.

DAVID PRESTON & CO., Bankers, 72 Woodward Avenue,
Detroit. (Established 1852.)


SCRIPPS, PRESTON & KEAN, Bankers, 47 Clark St., Chicago.

Land Warrants, Scrip, etc.—40s, War of 1812, buy. \$44, sell. \$47
80s, War of 1812, 92, 96; 120s, War of 1812, 130, 143; 120s
not War of 1812, 128, 140; 160s, War of 1812, 155, 170;
160s, not War of 1812, 150, 165; Agric'l. College Scrip—160,
87, 90-92; Mich. Swamp Land Scrip, 57 $\frac{1}{2}$, 67 $\frac{1}{2}$.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SCRIP,—160s.

[This Scrip is issued only in 160s, and can only be located on ten shilling lands, and these must lie in square form; or, in other words, one Warrant can be placed on but one description.]

We will now sell College Scrip as follows: For 100 pieces or upwards, \$89½ each; 50 pieces, \$90; 20 pieces, \$90.50; 10 pieces \$91 each; 5 to 10 pieces, \$92 each; 1 to 5 pieces, \$95 each.

 Collections, and all business appertaining to that of a Banker and Broker, will receive prompt and satisfactory attention.

DAVID PRESTON & Co., Bankers,

[Established 1852.]

Detroit, Mich.

Valuable Pine Lands for Sale.—

We offer for sale 1120 acres of No. 1 Pine Lands, in Sections 9, 18, 20, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32, range 20 north, 6 east; and 1150 acres in sections 13, 31, 5, in 24 and 25 north, 6 and 7 east, all well selected. Within easy reach of streams sufficiently large to float the logs, and guaranteed to be as recommended. Price \$2.50 per acre. One year's time given on half of the amount.

DAVID PRESTON & Co.

PROPOSALS FOR AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SCRIP, OPENED MARCH 1st, 1866.

Names of persons making proposals.	Residence.	Number of Acres.	Price offered.
A. Wait	El Paso, Illinois.....	Ten thousand (10,000).....	25 cents per acre.
David Preston & Co.....	Detroit, Michigan.....	Four thousand eight hundred (4,800).....	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
David Preston & Co.....	Detroit, Michigan.....	Eight thousand (8,000).....	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
David Preston & Co.....	Detroit, Michigan.....	Sixteen thousand (16,000).....	56 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
David Preston & Co.....	Detroit, Michigan.....	Twenty-four thousand (24,000).....	54 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
David Preston & Co.....	Detroit, Michigan.....	Thirty-two thousand (32,000).....	53 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
James Frazier & Co.....	Valley Grove, Ohio.....	Five thousand (5,000).....	10 " "
I. R. Clark.....	Bangor, Me.....	Five thousand (5,000).....	51 " "
Charles Davis.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	Five thousand (5,000).....	55 " "
F. Lousada.....	Boston, Mass.....	Five thousand (5,000).....	50 " "
Thomas C. McClure.....	St. Cloud, Minn.....	Five thousand one hundred and twenty (5,120)....	60 " "
Thomas C. McClure.....	St. Cloud, Minn.....	Same amount.....	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "
Thomas C. McClure.....	St. Cloud, Minn.....	Same amount.....	55 " "
Almeron Tripp.....	Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y.....	Five thousand (5,000).....	26 " "
Lyman Warren.....	Lexington, Mo., Lafayette Co.....	Five thousand (5,000).....	50 " "
Lyman Warren, 2nd proposal....	" " " " " ".....	Ten thousand (10,000), 2d proposal.....	50 " 2d proposal.
C. & G. Woodman.....	60 Wall St., New York.....	Ten thousand acres monthly for six months.....	52 $\frac{1}{2}$ " each.
C. & G. Woodman.....	60 Wall St., New York.....	Sixteen thousand acres.....	55 " "
Bangor Land Company.....	Bangor, Me.....	Not exceeding 80,000 acres.....	45 " "

STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, Dec. 29, 1866.

The Committee of the whole Council, to which was referred the subject matter hereof, report—

That, by chapter 352 of the laws of 1865, section 6, the Governor and Council were authorized to make sale of the Land Scrip assigned to the State of Maine for the endowment of the College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts—that early after the adjournment of the Legislature the Governor and Council informally communicated to the trustees of said college a desire that they should associate some persons, members of said board, to advise in relation to such sale. For some reason this was not complied with until December, 1865, when a communication was received signed by a majority of the trustees, advising the sale of the scrip “at an early day, at the best rate which it may command,” which communication is herewith submitted. Immediately upon the receipt of said communication the council passed an order approved by the Governor, directing the Secretary of State to advertise for proposals for the same, to be received up to the first day of March then next ensuing, in the State paper published at Augusta, in the Boston Daily Advertiser, in the New York Journal of Commerce, and the New York Daily and Weekly Tribune, in the Chicago Tribune, and the St. Louis Democrat; which was accordingly done. The following is a copy of the advertisement:

“State of Maine. Executive Department,
Augusta, Dec. 21, 1865.

“Sale of United States Land Scrip.—Proposals will be received till the first day of March, 1866, by His Excellency Samuel Cony, Governor of the State of Maine, for the purchase of the Land Scrip issued to said State for the endowment of a College for the benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, in quantities not less than five thousand acres. Terms cash, payable in lawful money, at the Office of Treasurer of State of Maine, at Augusta, or at the Suffolk National Bank, Boston, in twenty days after notice issued of acceptance of offer. The Scrip to be delivered at Augusta. Right to reject proposals reserved. All offers will be directed to the address of the Secretary of State, Augusta, Maine, and endorsed on the outside ‘Proposals for Agricultural College Scrip.’

“EPHRAIM FLINT, Secretary of State.”

On the first day of March, 1866, the Governor and Council proceeded to examine the bids made, which in the aggregate were for two hundred and twenty-seven thousand and three hundred and sixty acres, as will appear by the schedule accompanying this report. The bids varied in amount from ten cents to sixty cents per acre. The bids in several instances, as will be perceived, were in the alternative to take a small amount at a large price, or a larger lot at a smaller price. It was determined by the board, under the right reserved in the advertisement, to reject all bids below fifty-two and one-half cents, and to accept those at and above that sum; the successful bids being for one hundred and twelve thousand three hundred and sixty acres, and those rejected for one hundred and twenty-five thousand acres. Inasmuch as the bids allowed absorbed but little over one-half of the grant, it was deemed for the interest of the State to accept those of the same individuals for the largest quantity of land.

The successful bidders were duly notified by the Secretary of State that their offers were accepted, by communication sent through the mail. From Charles Davis of St. Louis no reply was received. Mr. McCloud of St. Cloud, in consequence of some delay in the mails, did not receive his notice (which was, that all his bids, being for fifteen thousand three hundred and sixty acres, were accepted) in due season, in consequence of which he declined to take the scrip, having purchased elsewhere, but made the same offer for forty-six pieces, being 7,360 acres, which was accepted. So that upon the bids as made, up to the first day of March, but ninety-nine thousand three hundred and sixty acres of the land were sold. On the 15th of March, D. Preston & Co. applied to duplicate their purchase, and on the 26th of the same month to triplicate on the same terms of their first purchase, which was agreed to, so that the sale to them amounted to ninety-six thousand acres.

On the 15th day of March, William K. Lancey proposed to take fifteen thousand acres, and Gen. Franklin Smith ten thousand acres, at fifty-three cents per acre; and on the same day John Kimball, for himself and others, proposed to take five thousand acres at fifty-three cents. These offers were severally accepted, and the extent of the foregoing sales, including the bids of March 1st, which were consummated, was one hundred ninety-three thousand six hundred acres, being as near the quantity bid for as the size of the scrip would permit.

It having been suggested that the trustees of the college were desirous of having a portion of scrip reserved for location, it was decided not to sell, but retain the balance, subject to the action of the Legislature; and there now remains one hundred and two pieces of scrip, of one hundred and sixty acres each, being sixteen thousand and three hundred and twenty acres in all.

In conformity with the law of the State and the United States, there has been purchased bonds of the State of Maine bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, amounting to one hundred and four thousand five hundred dollars, leaving of the principal of the fund uninvested one hundred ninety-four dollars and seventy cents (\$194.70). The bonds and balance of the funds aforesaid, have been deposited by the Governor with the Treasurer of State, as also the sum of sixteen hundred and five dollars and fifty-five cents, being balance of interest, which last sum is subject to the order of the treasurer of the Trustees of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.

Which is respectfully submitted.

HIRAM RUGGLES, Chairman.

IN COUNCIL, Dec. 29th, 1866.

Read and accepted by the Council and by the Governor approved.

EPHRAIM FLINT, Sec'y of State.

Ithaca, Dec. 15, 1869.

Sir—Your State, in common with several of the Southern States, will very soon receive your College Land Scrip, in aid of agricultural and mechanical education. The interest I feel in the subject leads me to suggest, that the two millions of acres that will thus be thrown upon the market will reduce the price in market below its real value. To avoid this depression, I would recommend the concentration of the scrip in the hands of a single agent or agency, by which it may be sold at seventy-five cents or more per acre, instead of fifty cents, as much of our northern scrip was sold for. At the time I took the New York scrip it was selling in small parcels at fifty-five cents per acre. I met Mr. G. F. Lewis of Cleveland, Ohio, who was the principal dealer in College Scrip, and who was selling at the time for fifty-five cents per acre. I suggested to him the policy of concentration, which he accepted, and in less than three months thereafter I sold New York scrip to him at ninety cents per acre. He fully complied with all his agreements,

and his dealings were honorable and satisfactory. His services may be found like useful in your case.

Yours, respectfully,

EZRA CORNELL.

Omaha, Neb., 9th April, 1870.

W. Deering, Esq., Portland, Me.:

Referring to your letter of 28th ult., we think we could sell your College Land Scrip for about \$145 a piece. If you desire it we will try and sell some for you on commission, or you may send us, say 5 at \$1,35⁰⁰ (you paying express chg's) by Express, C.O.D., and we will try the market, West, with a view of increasing our order.

Very respectfully,

CALDWELL HAMILTON & Co.

Milwaukee, April 2d, 1870.

Wm. Deering, Esq.:

Sir—Your favor of the 28th ult. received. There is very little demand for scrip in this market, not sufficient in fact to make a quotation.

Yours truly,

C. J. HATCH & Co.

St. Paul, Minn., April 5, 1870.

Wm. Deering, Esq., Portland:

Dear Sir—Your favor of the 28th ult. is received without enclosure as stated. Contents noted.

At present there is not much demand for Agricultural College Scrip, and it is worth about \$140. There yet remains about 5,000 acres to be entered by it in this State.

Yours, respectfully,

DAWSON & Co. MOORE.

Superior City, Wis., April 7, 1870.

W. Deering, Esq., Portland, Me.:

Dear Sir—In reply to your favor of 28th ult., enquiring whether there is any sale here for College Scrip, I have to say, there is but little or no inquiry for such. It cannot now be located in Northern Wisconsin. Twelve quarter sections to the township can be located at the Duluth, Minn., Land Office, just across the Bay of Superior from this place, but none nearer than 18 or 20 miles of Duluth. Might probably enter some pine or mineral lands along

and near the north shore of Lake Superior, and north of Duluth on the waters of the St. Louis and Cloquet rivers, and possibly some on line of Northern Pacific Railroad, west from this place. If disposed to have scrip located, I am well posted, and can have the best selections of pine and mineral lands made for you. Or, name your best figures for, say, 5,000 acres or more of scrip, and I will see what can be done as to effecting sales.

Yours, respectfully,

E. W. ANDERSON, JR.

Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 12, 1870.

Friend Harmon :

On returning home I find your's of October 27, including therein four (4) clean Military Warrants, at 177 as therein stated; total 708. In payment find my draft, No. 3,241, on National Currency Bank, New York, amount \$708.

Have just purchased the Scrip of South Carolina, 180,000 acres. Can you sell any? Will furnish you at \$140 each. Advertise—see if you can't make something.

Yours, G. B. LEWIS.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, April 22, 1870.

The Standing Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the matter of the disposal of the remaining Agricultural College Land Scrip, belonging to the State of Maine, beg to report:

That, through their chairman, the Committee have made inquiries of various dealers and bankers in several of the States, as to the value of the scrip. Several communications received, are herewith submitted. Your Committee are satisfied that the scrip can be sold for eighty-four to eighty-seven cents per acre, in one lot, probably at about eighty-five cents. The highest offer actually received for the whole, is that of Mr. Lewis of Cleveland, Ohio, of eighty-two and one-half ($82\frac{1}{2}$) cents. If in condition to treat unconditionally, your Committee could doubtless get more, probably, from same party or other parties.

It appears that the amount of this scrip that can be located in any one State is limited by law, and that the limit has been reached in the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Kansas, and nearly so in Minnesota. This will necessitate their use in the new

territories, and tend, they apprehend, to lessen the value, especially as scrip is likely to be issued to some of the newly reconstructed Southern States.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend that they or the State treasurer be empowered to sell whenever an offer shall be received that they and the Governor shall deem satisfactory.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. DEERING, Chairman.

IN COUNCIL,, June 14, 1870.

Read and accepted by the Council, and by the Governor approved.

Attest, FRANKLIN M. DREW, Sec'y of State.

State of Michigan, Executive Office,)
Detroit, Oct. 5, 1870. }

Samuel W. Hoskins, Esq., Oldtown, Me.:

Sir—I am in receipt of your's of September 30th, making inquiries relative to lands donated to this State by the Federal Government for Agricultural College purposes, &c.

Michigan has received, under the Act of Congress approved July 2, 1862, 240,000 acres of public lands. The Legislature of the State, in 1863, placed these lands under the management and control of a Board consisting of the Governor, Auditor General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General and Commissioner of State Land Office. The same legislature fixed the minimum price at \$2 50 per acre; one-fourth cash, balance at the option of the purchaser, with 7 per cent. interest payable annually.

The Legislature of 1869 increased the minimum price to \$3.00; and of such lands as were valuable principally on account of timber, minimum \$5.00 per acre. Timber lands cash at time of sale, others one-fourth cash, balance at the option of the purchaser, with annual interest at 7 per cent.

The lands are placed in charge of the Commissioner of State Land Office, and are sold at private sale on application at that office at the Capitol. Up to the present time not quite 17,000 acres have been sold, for the gross sum of \$53,700.

I believe I have answered your inquiries on the subject.

Very respectfully yours,

H. P. BALDWIN.

EXTRACTS FROM CONGRESSIONAL REPORT.

The Committee on Education and Labor, who were instructed by a Resolution of the House of Representatives, passed February 2, 1874, "to inquire into the condition and management of the agricultural and other colleges, which have received grants from the United States under the act of July 2, 1862," beg leave to submit the following report :

In table 11 of Appendix 'B,' will be found the average prices per acre for which most of the States sold the lands or land scrip granted them by Government. In examining this, one of the first things which arrests attention, is the diversity in the sums received; from $41\frac{1}{2}$ cents per acre, the exceptionally low price for which the State of Rhode Island sold its scrip, to \$5.62 per acre. the amount received for a portion of its lands by Minnesota. This remarkable inequality has been the occasion of much comment, and of some unfriendly criticism. It has been stated that such wide differences must have been due to mismanagement and dishonesty. We have been asked why, of two States in the country, both having public lands to sell, one should obtain only one-tenth or one-twelfth of the sum paid to the other? That mismanagement existed in some cases is not improbable. There may even have been cases of dishonesty—although evidence of this has not been laid before the committee. But, a little reflection will convince us that it is not necessary to have recourse to these in order to account in very large part, at least, for the difference which existed. There were other causes, unavoidable, no doubt, which placed some States at a great disadvantage as compared with others, in regard to the value of their endowment, and which should go far toward removing any scandal which may arise from their poor success in effecting sales.

The following are the States in the table which have received noticeably large prices for their lands: Minnesota, \$5.62 per acre; California, \$5.00; Michigan, \$3.25; Iowa, \$2.27; Missouri, \$1.84; Wisconsin, \$1.25. The explanation of this exceptionally good fortune is at hand. The law of July 2, 1862, in conformity to that Federal policy which precludes one State from being the owner of lands within the limits of another, provides that no State shall be allowed to locate the lands received under the grant in any other State or in any Territory, although its assignees may thus locate it. It also declares that where there are public lands in a State,

subject to sale at private entry at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, the quantity to which such State is entitled shall be selected from such lands within the limits of the State. It is hardly necessary to add, that the States which have been named all belong to the class that had suitable public lands within their own limits, and hence could locate the grant from the United States upon their own soil. This gave them a great advantage over States which had not this privilege. Being allowed to locate lands themselves, and in their own midst, they could select the most desirable tracts and hold them for a rise in value; could await opportunities, and watch the currents of immigration which set strongly into those States; could create and utilize a favorable public sentiment, and lease lands for a term of years or sell upon long time, with, perhaps, in some cases, exemption from taxation as an additional inducement to the purchaser. It should be added that still further privileges in locating lands were conferred upon some States of this class—especially upon California and Nevada. When we contrast the favorable position occupied by these States with that of those which, under the law, could only receive land-scrip from the Government, which could not locate their lands themselves, and must sell them to others on such terms as would allow a handsome profit to the middlemen who bought them, we have no difficulty in understanding why the States of which I have spoken received so much better prices for their lands than other States of the Union.

As regards the States which received only land-scrip, the price for which this was sold ranged from $41\frac{1}{2}$ cents per acre in the case of Rhode Island to 95 cents per acre in the case of Virginia. Between these extremes, two States sold for 50 cents; seven for prices between 50 cents and 60 cents; one for 60 cents; three for prices between 60 cents and 70 cents; two for prices between 70 cents and 80 cents; three for prices between 80 cents and 90 cents; four for 90 cents; and two for prices between 90 cents and \$1. Here the relative time of sale was the question of importance. It will be found, as a general rule, that the States which sold their scrip in the later period got better prices than those which sold earlier. Those States which first put their scrip upon the market not only felt the disadvantage of all the restrictions upon the location of lands imposed by the act of July 2, 1862, and that of July 27, 1868, but, as their scrip was placed in the hands of brokers who were competitors for the favor of the public, the result was

that the market was overstocked, and prices were kept unreasonably low. At a later period, and largely through the energetic management of one of the ablest men and truest friends of education which this generation has produced—the late Ezra Cornell, of Ithaca, N. Y.—the sale of scrip was brought under the control of a single system of agencies, characterized by unity, method, prudence, and sagacity. The value of the scrip was thus enhanced, and hundreds of thousands of dollars were saved for the education of the people. By the act of July 1, 1870, existing restrictions were greatly modified, and pre-emptors were allowed to use this scrip at its full nominal value in paying for their claims. At a later period, under a decision of the Secretary of the Interior, the same principle was applied to homesteads, and the holders of these were allowed to commute with land-scrip. All the States which have sold their scrip since 1870, have felt the benefit of these changes in the increased prices which they have obtained. We are thus enabled to answer the question which has sometimes been asked, why the Southern States generally got better prices for their scrip than the Northern? The Southern States did not receive their scrip until some time after the close of the war. The delay brought forward their negotiations for sale to a time when prices had advanced. With the single exception of Delaware, the States which received the largest sums for their scrip, were, in their order, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana. On the whole, while unjustifiable transactions, perhaps, occurred in a few cases in connection with the sale of land-scrip, the committee are of the opinion that the causes above set forth are sufficient to account for most of the unfortunate sales which took place. A paper relating to the subject here discussed has been informally furnished to the committee from the General Land Office, and will be found affixed to their report as Appendix C.

JAMES MONROE,
GEO. F. HOAR,
C. B. DARRALL,
MOSES W. FIELD,
PHILIP S. CROOKE,
A. S. McDILL,
JAMES T. RAPIER,
J. B. STORM,
THOMAS WHITEHEAD,
J. M. GLOVER,
L. CASS CARPENTER.

APPENDIX C.—Endowment—sale of land and land-scrip.

NAME OF INSTITUTION.	Total value of property of the institution.	Amount from sale of United States land-scrip.	State, county, or municipal grant—total since organization.	Private donations, legacies, &c.—total since organization.	Amount of invested funds.	Income of land-grant funds, 1872-'73.	Total income and receipts, 1873.	Value of grounds, buildings, apparatus, &c.	Whole number of acres	Number of acres sold.	Average rate at which lands were sold.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama.....	356,288	216,000	2,700	100,000	253,000	23,840	25,872	105,598	240,000	All.	\$0 90 ^a
Arkansas Industrial University.....	300,000	135,000	82,000	200	121,500	9,200	25,700	7,000	150,000	All.	90
University of California.....	.....	750,000	.....	.....	179,709	5,370	.....	.....	150,000	All.	5 00
Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College.....	.....	135,000	.....	.....	135,000	8,100	50,236	330,000	180,000	All.	75
Delaware College.....	.....	83,000	.....	.....	83,000	4,860	6,060	.....	90,000	All.	92 ^b
Florida.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Georgia State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.....	.....	243,000	25,000	3,400	152,000	10,234	.....	.....	270,000	All.	90 ^d
Illinois Industrial University.....	.....	319,494	685,300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	480,000	154,560	70
Purdue University.....	758,229	212,238	110,000	185,000	351,729	19,429	.....	140,500	390,000	All.	54 4-10
Iowa State Agricultural College and Farm.....	369,480	11,742	.....	*21,385	11,742	†791	41,159	256,400	204,309	5,647	2 27
Kansas.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky....	800,000	165,000	.....	210,012	165,000	9,900	9,900	275,000	330,000	All.	50 ^e
Louisiana State Agricultural and Mechanical College.	327,000	182,630	10,000	None.	327,000	.....	.....	None	209,920	All.	87 ^f
Maine State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.....	234,000	116,359	119,000	14,000	134,300	8,463	.....	106,100	210,000	All.	55 ^g
Maryland Agricultural College.....	275,000	112,500	45,000	.....	112,500	6,775	36,825	160,000	210,000	All.	53 57-100 ^g
Massachusetts Agricultural College.....	451,863	157,538	411,435	29,751	240,045	14,983	38,117	218,530	360,000	All.	65 6-10 ^h
Massachusetts Institute of Technology.....	832,536	78,769	.....	511,026	217,519	7,492	56,966	693,785	.....	.....	.....
Michigan State Agricultural College.....	209,038	214 875	461,390	.....	214,875	11,038	48,663	401,949	235,673	66,478	3 25
University of Minnesota.....	.....	168,681	135,500	None.	160,181	8,478	27,125	60,000	94,439	29,950	5 62
College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, University of Mississippi.....	95,000	75,600	.....	.....	95,000	5,036	5,036	None.	84,000	All.	90 ⁱ
Agricultural and Mechanical Department, Alcorn University.....	.....	113,400	105,000	.....	102,900	5,014	40,139	.....	126,000	All.	90
University of the State of Missouri : Agricultural and Mechanical College.....	910,000	3,983	90,000	1,250	331,000	.....	54,436	910,000	330,000	1,491	1 84
School of Mines and Metallurgy.....	.....	.....	170,545	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90,000	None.	.....
University of Nebraska.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90,000	None.	.....
Nevada.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.....	.....	80,000	27,000	87,000	118,000	4,800	7,185	145,000	150,000	All.	53 ^j
Rutgers Scientific School of Rutgers College, in New Jersey.....	701,795	116,000	None.	93,000	116,000	6,960	27,147	415,000	210,000	All.	55 ^k
Cornell University.....	.....	602,792	.....	*1114 909 1	1,102,500	33,000	200,463	2,100,000	989,920	All.	61
University of North Carolina.....	.....	135,000	.....	125,090	None	None.	.....	.....	270,000	All.	50
Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College.....	834,525	342,450	360,000	24,215	556,307	27,509	32,446	278,218	630,000	All.	54 36-100 ^l
Corvallis College.....	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	None	5,000	6,000	78,000	None.	.....
Pennsylvania State College.....	897,589	439,186	.....	*117,699	500,000	23,718	48,522	382,286	780,000	All.	56 3-10
Brown University.....	.....	50,000	.....	.....	50,000	3,000	.....	.....	120,000	All.	41 ^m
State Agricultural College and Mechanics' Institute..	.....	130,500	.....	.....	191,800	6,836	.....	.....	180,000	All.	72 ⁿ
Tennessee Agricultural College.....	527,200	271,875	.....	131,085	396,000	23,760	51,303	126,000	300,000	All.	90 ^o
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.....	274,000	156,000	100,000	.....	174,000	.....	12,180	100,000	180,000	All.	87
University of Vermont and State Agricultural College	.....	122,624	.....	49,359	135,500	8,130	.....	.....	149,920	All.	81 8-10
Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College.....	225,000	190,000	20,000	16,683	344,312	14,716	17,291	34,296	200,000	All.	95
Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute.....	.....	95,000	.....	250,376	124,300	7,480	53,657	114,000	100,000	All.	95
West Virginia University.....	.....	90,000	130,000	53,000	110,000	5,400	.....	.....	150,000	All.	60
University of Wisconsin.....	800,000	228,870	40,000	None.	225,309	12,524	12,524	40,000	240,000	183,676	1 25
Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science	581,000	.....	50,000	495,940	430,000	.....	.....	24,710	166,000	.....	.....
Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute.....	156,840	.....	None.	.....	None.	.....	60,000	156,840	None.	.....	.....

* Including all donations.

† \$32,000 derived annually from leases of land.

TIME WHEN SOLD.—The dates of the sales as far as the report contains them, are taken from the report of the Cornell Investigating Committee of the New York Legislature.

a June 23, 1871.

b At dates ranging from May 1, 1869 to Sept. 20, 1872.

c April 14, 1873

d January, 1872.

e July, 1866.

f April 6, 1871.

g Between March and June, 1867.

h 140,000 acres prior to 1866, and 220,000 acres in 1867.

i July 26, 1871.

j 1867.

k Between Dec. 8, '64, and Oct. 23, 1865.

l See next page, table marked (A.)

(A.)

SALES of Land Scrip by State of Ohio.

Date of sale.	No. of pieces.	No. of acres	Price paid. Cents.
August 5, 1865	4	640	80
August 5, "	1	160	80
August 25, "	4	640	80
September 2, 1865	4	640	80
September 2, "	1	160	80
September 9, "	4	640	80
September 16, "	4	640	80
October 11, "	8	1,280	80
October 11, "	6	960	80
October 23, "	4	640	80
October 24, "	2	320	80
November 3, "	1	160	80
November 3, "	2	320	80
November 3, "	2	320	80
November 13, "	2	320	82
November 15, "	2	320	80
December 9, "	16	2,560	80
February 8, 1866	1	160	80
February 13, "	2	320	80
April 21, "	7	1,120	75
May 1, "	13	2,080	75
June 7, "	28	4,480	75
June 8, "	8	1,280	75
June 12, "	1	160	75
June 20, "	12	1,920	75
July 11, "	9	1,440	75
July 20, "	4	640	80
July 26, "	2	320	80
August 9, "	8	1,280	75
September 30, "	430	68,800	53
September 25, "	200	32,000	53
September 25, "	2,500	400,000	53
September 25, "	313	50,080	53
October 12, "	156	24,960	53
October 17, "	18	2,880	55
November 2, "	37	5,920	55
November 8, "	55	8,800	55
November 8, "	30	4,800	55
November 8, "	2	320	56
November 8, "	25	4,000	55
November 18, "	5	800	55
	3,937	629,920	....

TESTIMONY.

CHARLES P. BROWN SWORN.

Questions by Mr. Pike.

Q. How long have you lived in Bangor?

A. Over twenty-eight years.

Q. Have you been dealing in Western lands to a considerable extent?

A. I have for over twenty years, last past.

Q. Have your operations been continuous?

A. Yes, sir, with short intervals.

Q. So as to operate every year?

A. Well, I have had more or less to do with Western bonds every year since.

Q. Have you been frequently in the West?

A. I have.

Q. What have been the nature of your operations, not specifically, but generally?

A. About 1852 or 1853 I commenced operating with bounty land warrants.

Q. How many acres to a warrant?

A. From 40 to 160; 40, 80, 120 and 160, mostly 160. But they were issued in those quantities—40 acre warrants, 80 acre warrants, 120 acre warrants, and 160 acre warrants. Soon after I commenced dealing in land warrants, I commenced locating them on Western lands, more or less. I did not locate all I bought; but I bought and sold and bought and located in various States and territories in the West, and generally gave more or less personal attention to the matter, by being out there.

Q. What States did you operate in?

A. Mostly in Wisconsin and Minnesota, some in other States, some in Iowa, and I think some in Kansas.

Q. Did you keep the run of these securities—scrip, I suppose you call it?

A. Bounty land warrants; I did.

Q. Pretty closely?

A. Closely; made a speciality of it. I ascertained at a pretty early day that there was money in it, and I made a speciality of it.

Q. Was you acquainted with what they call the "College Scrip?"

A. To some extent; not so familiar with it as with bounty land warrants. But I knew substantially about it. That was issued in 160 acre lots, substantially the same as 160 acre bounty land warrants. Each piece of scrip represented what called for 160 acres. Let me say one thing right here; perhaps it would be well enough—The minimum price of these government lands, that the land warrants and the college scrip could be located upon—the minimum price was \$1.25 per acre. That is, if you wished to locate a lot, or wished to take a lot, you could take a 160 acre lot by going to the land office and paying in \$200 in money. Or you could take the same lot with a 160 acre land warrant or 160 acre college scrip. That was the minimum price. That was what the government held it at. There was a class of lands called railroad lands, where it was alternate sections on the one side and the other of a railroad, where the government had alternate sections that was held at two dollars and fifty cents per acre. You could locate but one land warrant on that. You could not put on two land warrants and take the whole; but you must pay \$200 in money. To illustrate: Suppose I wished to make a location on what was called railroad land, on a lot of railroad land; I could take that with a 160 acre warrant which would cover one half of it, which would cover \$1.25 an acre; and then in order to complete my title I had to pay \$200 in money.

Q. That would make \$2.50 that the government held it at?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You were aware that the college land came to Maine as well as to the other States, at the time it came?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you keep some watch of the issuing of this college scrip, as affecting the land bounty warrants?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you make some calculation about buying this Maine land?

A. My attention and mind was attracted to it.

Q. Did you make some inquiries in the West in reference to it?

A. I did.

Q. And what prices you could place it at? A. I did.

Q. State what inquiries you made—what efforts you made?

A. In July and August, 1865, I spent some time in the West, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota, more particularly Minnesota, where I was operating more than in any other place. I had agents there that I transacted business with and through, and I was there in relation to my Western land matters. Land warrants were worth there then, in July and August, 1865, at the West, something over a dollar an acre; that is, I could use them for that price if I sold them. But there was apprehension in the minds of men connected with land matters, that the throwing of this ten millions, or nearly that, of land scrip upon the market all at once, in addition to the land warrants, would depress the price. It would not depress the value of the land any; or, in other words, there was an apprehension that it might be bought for less than we had been buying land warrants before. I took particular pains to inquire what it would be safe to pay for college scrip. It was a matter of trade from 1853 upward, that the price of land warrants here and about would average more than a dollar an acre, very often going up as high as \$180 or \$185 for a 160 acre warrant, so close up to \$200, which was the government price, that there was only a small margin between, say \$15. Sometimes I think they went up to ninety, so that a man by buying a land warrant could make a ten dollar bill. But they always ruled at a dollar an acre, or a little over, as an average, through the Union. The general impression was, that it was a safe investment enough at a dollar an acre.

Q. College Scrip?

A. Yes, sir; that the real value would be a dollar an acre, for the government price was a dollar and a quarter, and consequently the scrip at a dollar an acre was better than to pay a dollar and a quarter for government lands. I made up my mind when I was at the West, and after I came home, that it would be a very safe operation, as a matter of trade and speculation, a very safe operation, to take that land at 75 cents an acre; that that was reckoning small; that if you wished to, you could be sure to run it off. And I had the assurance of parties there that they could run off any amount of it at 75 cents or more.

Q. Responsible parties?

A. Responsible parties, yes; I did not deal with any but responsible parties. I could count on that with absolute certainty.

So I made up my mind that the putting of the whole of it into the market would not depreciate it so but that it would sell for 75 cents an acre fast enough. It was my judgment. I thought that the price might go lower than that; that is, that you could buy it lower. There was a disposition on the part of traffickers and speculators in that land to depress it, as you might say, a combination all along the line, and there were other elements that worked in with it, such as the homestead grant that Congress had made just before that. And then there was still another element, the giving of 160 acres of land to every discharged soldier who had an honorable discharge, who might go on it and reside five years, and then deduct the time he served in the army from the five years.

Q. This was talked for the purpose of depression, I suppose?

A. I think so.

Q. Now I want you to come to the facts?

A. After I came home, the latter part of August, 1865, the matter was thought of, and talked of considerably. I heard nor knew of any movement in the State of Maine to put her land into the market at that time. In October or November, I cannot fix the time definitely, but I am satisfied it was in October or November, 1865, I was here in Augusta. I did not come here at that time in reference to these lands. My business was more in the Adjutant General's office. I am satisfied it was in October or November, 1865, though not absolutely certain. It would not vary much from that, because I judge it by the time I came home from the West. I was in the Adjutant General's office at the State House. Governor Cony came in. I was well acquainted with him personally. He formerly lived in my section, a man I esteemed very highly. He greeted me very cordially, and said that I was the very man he had been wanting to see; he wished to see me in relation to the college scrip that was coming or had come to the State of Maine; wished me to buy; wished me to make an offer for it. I remarked to him, that it was a pretty big thing for one man to carry. He said, "never mind, he knew I could carry it." He named one other man that was as familiar with Western lands as I, and that was Gen. Hersey; he said we knew more about Western lands than any other men in the State. I thanked him for the compliment. He wished to know what I would give for that land. He sat there to my right, and another gentleman sat just beyond. He took me rather by surprise. I did not expect

to come right to the point of the thing quite so quick. In my mind, taking as a basis the lowest figure I had figured, that is, 75 cents an acre, and then taking into consideration a margin that I wished to make, and taking into consideration still another thing, that it might cost me several trips into the West—I ran it over in my mind, and thought it would be a handsome profit if I was compelled to sell at 75 cents an acre, to make 10 cents an acre. I did not say this, but this was in my mind. I would forelay for a margin of ten cents profit on an acre. It might cost me several trips to the West, and I fore-laid two cents on an acre for contingent expenses, if I could get but the 75 cents. I said to him this:—“Governor, I will take that land scrip at 63 cents an acre.” That is, the ten cents off, the ten cents margin for profit, and two cents an acre for contingent expenses, which I might be at in going into the West. I believed all the time that I could do better with it than the 75 cents, but I was not sure of it. I said, “I will take it in this way: I will put up \$25,000 as soon as you find it convenient to let me have that amount in land,”—which I figured in my mind to be some forty odd thousand acres, I think,—“I will put up \$25,000 and take that much in land at 63 cents an acre, and then once in three months I will renew it. I will put up another \$25,000 at the end of three months, and I will continue to do that, and give good security that I will do it until the amount is exhausted.” Said he, “that will be \$100,000 a year.” I said “it will be \$125,000 a year. By paying the \$25,000 down, it makes five payments in a year.”

Q. The first year?

A. The first year. He remarked to this gentleman that sat next to him, “that is a better offer than we have had made.” He then turned to me and said, “don’t you think you could do better than that?” I said to him, “I don’t think I should want to say that I would now.” He then asked me as a matter of my judgment, what I thought that land was worth? It was an off-hand talk; I said, “that land is worth a dollar an acre; it is worth a dollar an acre, and ought not to be sold for less than that.” And I judged from what warrants and scrip had been worth up to that time,—what it was worth, what it called for, and what it took. But I said to him that “you ought not to sell all that land; you ought to locate at least 100,000 acres, for if it was located, in a very few years it would be worth \$5 an acre at least. There are opportunities enough to locate it on timber lands in Wisconsin or

Minnesota, where it would be well worth \$5 an acre; that would be my judgment." He then made some remark that they had, or they contemplated, or it was proposed or to be proposed, to issue proposals; it would not be proper to close any trade or arrangement until that was done. He said to me, "I will confer further with you in relation to this matter." And I have no doubt that was his purpose and his intention. We parted. I never heard from him in relation to that matter from that day to this. I was very much absorbed in my personal matters and business, but I frequently thought of the matter. I do not recollect of any man that has talked about it except Gen. S. F. Hersey. He once named it to me, some month or two after that time. I never saw any notice of proposals issued or to be issued, or that proposals had been offered; I never read it until this very evening.

Q. You do not see the Kennebec Journal?

A. I do not know as I have seen a copy of the Weekly Kennebec Journal for five years. It is a paper that does not generally circulate in our section. It certainly was not in any of our papers. I could not have overlooked it. I never saw it, and my attention was not called to it. If it had been, I should have taken some steps to have moved in the matter. Along two or three months afterwards, Gen. Hersey spoke to me. He said to me, familiarly, "Are you going to get the Maine college scrip?" I told him I did not know; I had had some talk with the Governor. Said he, "What are you going to do with it?" Said I, "I am going to sell it, run it off." "Well," said he, "why cannot you and I take it together and locate from sixty to a hundred thousand acres." And then he went on and told me of a fine opportunity that he knew of on the Kansas Pacific Railroad, where he had had some experience. It was a very fine chance then to get hold of land that was valuable. I won't say it was the Kansas Pacific; it was one of those roads that run out towards Kansas. I told him I had about as much Western land then as I cared about carrying, and I did not think I should want to locate. I might have been disposed to locate in some other direction, but Kansas land I did not care for. Grasshoppers were there, and it suffered from drouths. I did not give him any encouragement that I would do it. When we separated, he said, in an off-hand way, "Charles, I guess you won't get them." I did not know what it meant, and don't know.

Q. Guess you won't get it?

A. Guess you won't get the lands.

Q. When did you first learn of the sale?

A. I never heard of the sale until a Mr. John Kimball of Hermon came into my office with some pieces of that college scrip, or said he had some.

Q. Was that the first you ever knew of the sale?

A. That was in the spring after. I should think that might have been in April, perhaps, 1866; perhaps as late as May. He had a few pieces of the scrip. And through him I learned that it had been disposed of. I did not learn at what rate.

Q. That is the first knowledge you had of the disposition of it?

A. The first knowledge I had of it.

Q. I suppose I need not ask you if you had the money to back up your offer?

A. I think I had. I don't think any many would doubt it that was acquainted with me.

Q. Is there any other fact you know about this?

A. I do not know of any other fact, at all.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Your recollection is that it was in July and August of 1865, that you were West, you say?

A. Yes, July and August.

Q. Were you locating land warrants then?

A. Some.

Q. What were you paying for your warrants in Maine in July and August?

A. I could not tell here.

Q. Have you any memorandum by which you can tell?

A. I have not any here. I was engaged in getting land warrants from the department.

Q. That is not the question. The question is, whether you have any memorandum at home by which you can tell what you paid for land warrants?

A. I cannot tell you whether I have, or not.

Q. Have you any recollection as to what you paid at any time during 1865 or 1866 for land warrants?

A. I hav'nt any positive recollection. But my judgment would be that the price would average about a dollar an acre.

Q. Did you pay it here?

A. Yes, sir, I think so.

Q. For warrants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your impression about this college scrip? You say you supposed that this college scrip was about equal in value to land warrants?

A. I do not know any reason why it was not the same. It was claimed that there was a little difference.

Q. Were you aware of the law in relation to the location of this land scrip?

A. I do not know any difference between that and locating land warrants. The government survey divides this 160 acre lot into four quarters of 40 acres each. A land warrant represents a square block, 40 acres in each. In locating the land warrant you could swing out that block into one adjoining.

Q. Four squares of 40 acres?

A. Yes; you could run it right along so that it all touched. But in this college scrip it was claimed you must take a square block.

Q. You do not know the fact?

A. That was the understanding. I understood land scrip could be located.

Q. Did you know the fact that you could take only alternate sections in locating college scrip?

A. No, I did not know that.

[Act of Congress passed to witness.]

Q. You look at that provision.

[Witness reads from the act.]

“When lands shall be selected from those which have been raised to double the minimum price, in consequence of railroad grants, they shall be computed to the States at the maximum price, and the number of acres proportionally diminished.”

Witness. That would give 80 acres for a 160 acre warrant.

Q. You infer from that, you take one hundred and sixty acres of scrip and take eighty acres of land with it?

A. You can, according to that act.

Mr. Swazey. That is a matter of law.

Mr. Pike. Mr. Brown is an expert in this matter.

Witness. I never located any college scrip.

Q. Do you recollect the price of land warrants from 1865 to 1867? During the year 1866 was there any depreciation?

A. I think not. I think in 1866 land warrants were worth well up to a dollar, and in 1867.

Q. Did you have, in fact, no depreciation?

A. Not in 1866 and 1867.

Q. Then this talk all along the line you had reference to did not have any effect on the price of land warrants?

A. It did in the States, but did not with dealers that had got it into their hands.

Q. Were land warrants during the years 1865 and 1866 selling at a dollar an acre, or within ten cents of that?

A. I had no difficulty in getting more than that. But I did not sell them here; I did not sell them in Boston or New York; but I sold them West.

Q. Went out there for the purpose of doing it?

A. I generally sent them.

Q. You went frequently there?

A. Yes, sir; I sent more than I carried.

Q. What was your object in locating, if you could sell them readily?

A. It was to get the advance on the rise of the lands, which was very much greater; the profit was very handsome over the price that the warrant cost. But I would not locate all I bought, for the reason that it called for more land than I was able to carry.

Q. Then your only object in locating was the prospective rise in the value of the land? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And did you ever want for purchasers of your land warrants? A. No, sir.

Q. To what extent did you deal in land warrants in 1865 and 1866? Have you any means of knowing?

A. No, I have not here; but not large. About 1861 and 1862 it was very large. Then there was a falling off of land warrants in the market, for the reason that the claims which soldiers and their widows and orphan children had under the laws, had become about exhausted; warrants had been about all issued. The laws were passed from 1853 to 1855 and 1856, and there was a good deal of activity among the claim agents to pick up the claims. And warrants had passed out of the hands of the original owners, except some scattering claims.

Q. Can you call to mind any particular land warrant you bought in 1865, after July or August?

A. I cannot here.

Q. Can you call to mind any you bought during the latter part of 1865, and the year 1866—any particular instance where you purchased?

A. I would not attempt to here. But then, I know I was dealing in them right along, as I had opportunity, and have up to now.

Q. You say your speculations were not large; what do you mean by that? What do you call large?

A. I did not say anything about speculations.

Q. Well, you purchased land warrants; how many did you buy in the years 1865 and 1866?

A. Could not tell you.

Q. Approximately?

A. I probably have obtained and bought since 1853 more than 20,000 land warrants.

Q. Different land warrants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any means of knowing how many you purchased in 1865 and 1866?

A. I have not.

Q. Where were you after you returned from the West, up to April of the next year? Were you at Bangor?

A. Yes, sir. I was at home and about home nearly all of the time.

Q. Did you have occasion to go West after August, until the next spring?

A. I think I did not go there again that year. I would not be certain. I do not recollect of going there again.

Q. At the time you met Gov. Cony in the Adjutant General's office, you say you offered him sixty-three cents?

A. Yes, sir, I made that offer, as I said.

Q. The condition of the offer was that you should have \$25,000 worth every three months?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Until the whole was exhausted?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long would that be from the first deposit?

A. About one year—I have not figured it out.

Q. You offered him sixty-three cents unconditionally, outside of the condition you have stated, that you would take it; you made it as a *bona fide* offer?

A. Certainly, I did. I was not connected with any bank or any individual, or any ring. I did it on my own responsibility. I had no connection with any party. And I will say further, that never has been the time since, up to this day, but that I should have been glad to carry out that arrangement.

Q. Did you know, in your travels West, at any time during the years 1865 and 1866, the fact that any other States had sold their college scrip?

A. I did not.

Q. Have you ever had any means of knowing what other States received for theirs?

A. Not any; only what I have generally seen in the papers, and talk that I have never looked into.

Q. You had occasion in your travels West to associate with parties West who were locating college scrip?

A. No, sir.

Q. And all you know about it, in locating it or selling it, is what you have testified to?

A. That is all.

Q. General impression what it is worth?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did I understand you to say that Gov. Cony told you that he could not sell it in the way he proposed? That he should have to advertise?

A. No, he did not say that he could not. But he made some talk with the gentlemen that sat next to him, indicating that they would or they had got to, under some arrangement, either law or arrangement of the council; it was necessary to advertise it, go through the form.

Q. Did you make any inquiry after your conversation with him as to whether any advertisement had been made?

A. I never did.

Q. Ever meet him after that?

A. I do not recollect now that I ever met him after that, at all. I do not recollect now when he died.

Q. Ever make any inquiry of anybody whether it had been advertised?

A. No, sir, I never did. The whole thing, before my attention was next called to it, had passed, and the thing was ended.

Q. You regarded it a good speculation at the sixty-three cents?

A. I should.

Q. You quite anxious to take it at that figure?

A. I should have considered myself fortunate—I should have considered myself in luck.

Q. And he said to you in conversation that it was the best offer they had had?

A. He said to the other gentleman that it was a better offer than they had yet had.

Q. In the conversation there, with the governor, had you any reason to believe that you would eventually have it at the price?

A. I left him with the impression that there would be further communication between him and me; and I, probably, if I had been compelled to, should have advanced; I probably, if I could not have got it without, should have gone up to seventy cents an acre.

Q. Still, you never approached him on the subject?

A. I never did at all. I never passed a word with him by word of mouth or by letter, or anything. I laid nothing to his charge at all.

Q. Do you know a man by the name of A. Waitt, Elpazo, Ill.?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know David Preston & Co., Detroit, Mich.?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know James Fragoine, Valley Grove, Ohio?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know Isaac R. Clark, of Bangor?

A. I do.

Q. Do you know Charles Davis of St. Louis?

A. No, sir, I do not know him.

Q. Do you know F. Lonsdale, Boston, Mass.?

A. Never heard of him.

SP. Q. Thomas C. McLuer, of St. Cloud, Minn. P. 13

A. No, sir

Q. Do you know C. & G. Woodman, 60 Wall St., N. Y.?

A. I have not a very extended acquaintance with them. I have met them. They were dealers in land warrants.

Q. Doing a large business?

A. They have done quite a large business. Sharp men.

Q. Ever sold them any warrants?

A. I do not recollect that I ever sold them any warrants. I think I bought warrants of them.

Q. Firm in good standing so far as you know?

A. It was in 1859 and 1860, and 1861. I may have sold them land warrants, but I do not recollect. I recollect of buying of them.

Q. You do not know Thomas C. McLuer of St. Cloud, Minn.?

A. I do not. I have heard of him. I do not know him.

Q. Real estate broker? A. I think so.

Q. Mr. Isaac Clark a man of means during the year 1865?

A. I should think not.

Q. Do anything in real estate—public lands?

A. I should think not. I do not know but that he might have dealt some in State lands. I do not think he dealt an acre in Western lands. He set out to, but did not.

A. You have never known anything about David Preston of Detroit, Mich.? A. No, sir.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. You say you do know McCluer of St. Cloud?

A. I do not know of him; I have heard of him.

Q. Dealer in real estate, is he?

A. I do not know that.

Q. In what capacity did you hear of him?

A. I heard of him as a sort of broker.

Q. At that time would not he be very likely to understand the value of land there?

A. I cannot tell you.

Q. Didn't he live in the immediate vicinity of where they were locating these lands?

A. Not in the immediate vicinity.

Q. Did not the government keep a large land office at St. Cloud?

A. They did at a certain time. I think there is none there now.

Q. Didn't they in 1865 and 1866?

A. I cannot tell you.

Q. What is your best recollection about it?

A. I cannot remember. They have generally moved their land offices out farther every little while into land territory.

Q. Why should Mr. McCluer refuse to take these lands at sixty cents an acre?

A. I cannot tell you. He might not have had the money to pay.

Q. Being so valuable, wouldn't it have been an easy matter to sell to some of his neighbors immediately?

A. I cannot tell what motives have operated on his mind.

Q. Do you know Charles Davis of St. Louis?

A. I do not.

Q. Did you ever hear of one Ezra Cornell?

A. I have heard of him, but I have no personal acquaintance with him.

mc
Sp.? *Clure*
P. 13

Q. Do you think he understood anything about the market value of this college scrip at that time?

A. I cannot tell you, sir.

Q. What is your opinion about it?

A. I haven't any opinion about it. I do not know that he ever located an acre of land in the world.

Q. Did you ever hear that he took the New York scrip and located it all?

A. I have heard that he located some land, afterwards.

Q. You never wrote a line to the Governor after this conversation with him?

A. I never did.

Q. Never dropped him a line asking him whether any determination had been come to by the council?

A. No, sir.

Q. Or in any way called his attention to the conversation?

A. No, sir.

Q. To whom did you ever communicate this conversation?

A. I cannot tell you. I have spoken of it. I spoke of it soon after I ascertained it was gone. I spoke of it to persons, but I cannot recollect a single person.

Q. Can you give me the name of any person to whom you communicated this conversation in 1866?

A. I cannot state any particular person, because I did not impress it upon my mind.

Q. Is the purchase of 210,000 acres of land so small a matter that you would not be likely to ask about it?

A. If I had purchased it, I do not think I should have talked much about it.

Q. Having made an offer of that kind, was it so small a matter that you would not be likely to write and ascertain whether there was any probability of its acceptance, or not?

A. At the time the governor and I conferred, he made the remark that he would confer *with me*. I supposed that if I conferred with him about it, that it would be improper. He knew all about it, hence it was for him to confer with me. I did not tell him that I would confer with him.

Q. You were in the market, and buying land warrants?

A. Yes, sir, right along, as wanted.

Q. You knew here was this large quantity for sale?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you had made an offer for them? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you neither sent nor wrote to him to ascertain about it?

A. No, sir, I never wrote at all.

Q. And you cannot give me the name of any person to whom you communicated this conversation?

A. No; but I know I did. And I have no means of knowing how the matter got to the minds of any member of this committee by which I was summoned over here. I have no means of knowing how Mr. Pike knew anything about it. I might have mentioned it to Mr. Pike at some time years ago, but I have no recollection of it.

Q. Havn't you talked with men and told them this very thing within ten days?

A. I think I have; but I cannot recollect who now.

Q. I think I have seen letters in which you have stated.

A. Tell me who. I have been inquired of within ten days, and whenever I have made any statement about it I have made it precisely the same as I have here to-night. I think I could name one man that I mentioned it to very early, and that was my business partner, Mr. Simpson. I think I spoke to him of it there in the office. I do not think he was partner with me at that time.

Q. How many years after 1866 before he went into partnership with you?

A. I cannot recollect now.

Q. Was not it quite a number? did he go in for four years after?

A. I cannot recollect when we did go in; but we were very intimate indeed, and much together.

Q. Where was he in 1866?

A. In Bangor.

Q. In separate business from you at that time, was he?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many years ago was the firm of Brown & Simpson organized?

A. Some five or six years ago. But we were just about as intimate before as we are now.

Q. Did you ever have any conversation with Gov. Cony after this land was sold?

A. I never did. I have no recollection of meeting him or seeing him after this land was sold.

Q. When were you in the Legislature ?

A. 1872.

Q. From 1865 to 1870 were you not here in Augusta ?

A. O, Yes.

Q. Didn't you meet Governor Cony during those five years ?

A. I have no recollection of seeing him.

Mr. Powers. [To Mr. Daniel Cony.] When did your father die ?

Mr. Cony. He died in October, 1870.

Q. [To witness] You never called his attention to it by letter ?

A. I never did.

Q. Did you ever write him to know how much of this was sold, or how much was left unsold out of the sale ?

A. I never did.

Q. You did not know for what that sold for ?

A. Not until afterwards, until there was a public stir made about it, I should think within three or four years.

Q. When the second sale was made, did you make any effort to ascertain about that ?

A. I did not know about the second sale.

Q. And did not see it advertised ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Never inquired to know whether all had been sold the first time ?

A. No, sir.

Q. And yet you were buying lands ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did not have any desire to know whether it sold higher or lower ?

A. No, sir, I did not. I did not give any attention to it. They seemed to manage it in other hands than mine, and I did not mix in.

Q. If Mr. Cornell said in 1869 that at the time he took the New York scrip, they were selling it in small parcels at fifty-five cents, do you think he stated the truth, or not ?

A. I do not know anything about it.

Q. Do you believe he said New York was selling out in small parcels at fifty-five cents ?

Mr. Pike. He never did.

Q. [To witness] Do you believe that was true ? that other scrip was sold at that price, fifty-five cents ?

A. I do not know anything about it. If it was, it was sold for a good deal less than I believe it worth.

Q. Did you ever try to buy any, anywhere else?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever own a dollar of it in the world?

A. I think I had a few pieces of it. It is my impression that I gave \$105 for 160 acres.

Q. When did you buy?

A. I think it was in 1866.

Q. Of whom did you buy?

A. It strikes me, I won't be certain, that I had a piece or two of Mr. Kimball; but I won't be certain about it.

Q. Was it the Maine scrip?

A. I think it was.

Q. Didn't you ask how much he paid for it to get it?

A. No, I did not, for I should have considered that as a matter of impertinence.

Q. Did not have any idea what it was sold for, when you bought it at that price? A. No, sir.

Q. Can you swear it was just \$105?

A. That is my recollection.

Q. How many pieces did you get?

A. I cannot tell; I think I had a few pieces.

Q. He was parting with it at that price then?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. At sixty-five cents?

A. I won't be certain it was Kimball I had it of; but I had a few pieces of it of some one.

Mr Shepherd. To your certain knowledge, there was some of it sold for sixty-five cents at second hand?

A. I am satisfied.

Mr. Shepherd. Sold to you?

A. I think I bought a few pieces.

Mr. Powers. State the time when you bought it?

A. I should think it was 1866.

Q. What time?

A. In the spring, or June.

Q. It might be summer? A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Can you furnish the committee with the prices which you paid for land warrants in 1865 and 1866, and the person of whom you bought?

A. I do not know that I could. I never kept a cash book in my life; I have kept my business right along by myself, and have not kept so full a memorandum of those details. Generally, when I bought land warrants, I did not put the price down. And in order to get at the amount of sales of land warrants I generally had to look up the returns or drafts, or something of that kind.

Q. If you bought all those pieces of Kimball, what Kimball was it?

A. I did not say that I bought them of Kimball.

Q. But if you did?

A. It was John Kimball of Hermon.

Q. John II?

A. No, sir, no II about it. A very good man.

Q. Do you know how Kimball came by it?

A. I havn't the slightest idea.

By Mr. Shepherd.

Q. Was this conversation you had with Gen. Hersey some time in the spring of 1866, before the land scrip was actually sold?

A. I think that was not in the spring. I think it was in December, or January, I should think. I should think it was in the winter of 1865 and 1866.

Q. Whenever it was, do I understand you to say, that in your conversation with Gen. Hersey that you gave him the idea, rather, that you did not care about it?

A. No, sir, I did not say so. I did not care about locating it with him. I did not give him to understand that I did not care about the land.

Q. It was remarked that you did not care about locating?

A. Yes, sir; I did not care about locating it with him.

Mr. Anderson. With him?

A. Yes, sir.

DANIEL CONY SWORN.

By Mr. Anderson.

Q. You are a son of Governor Cony?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know anything about the location of these lands that were owned by the State?

A. No, sir. I never knew anything about it.

Q. Did you ever go out to make any examination preparatory to locating any of them?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know anything about a sale of the land?

A. No, sir, only what I saw in the paper.

Q. Did you ever have any correspondence with any parties in regard to these lands, or warrants?

A. No, sir.

Q. Knew anything about the scrip, or what became of it?

A. No, sir, I never knew anything about it.

Q. Or any locations that were made under that scrip?

A. No, sir.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. You saw the advertisement in the paper?

A. I saw what was in the paper last summer. I never took any notice of it at the time, for I was interested in other business.

Q. Did you ever own a cent in it?

A. I never owned a cent.

Mr. Swazey. Mr. Bass, you may be sworn now.

Mr. Bass. I am not going to be a witness. I know nothing about it.

Mr. Swazey. I understood that you were to be a witness.

CHAS. P. BROWN recalled, testified. I was going to make a little addition to some matters, an additional statement.

Mr. Swazey. You may proceed.

Witness. During the war but few land warrants were issued. Attention was directed from the public lands, that is, during that period. And the trade in warrants, I should say, nearly ceased during the war. I think there was a period for several years during the war when new locations of Western lands by me were nearly suspended, and I ceased buying warrants during that period. And I could not state during that time what the market value of warrants were. I think there was a time when the price ruled very low. I have an impression I bought two or three land warrants about that time very low, of persons who were anxious to sell. But my judgment is, that the price per acre of land warrants from 1855 to this time will average one dollar.

Mr. Swazey. How is that?

A. From 1855 to this time, 1876, during the whole period, it

will average one dollar an acre. I have examined the law in relation to locating college scrip on railroad lands.

Mr. Swazey. No matter about that.

Witness. It bears upon another point.

Mr. Swazey. What is the point?

A. It is this: If a person desired to take railroad lands, as he could, that college scrip is worth more than land warrants.

Mr. Pike. To locate on railroad lands?

A. Yes, sir.

Mr. Pike. Will you state why?

A. It appears that a 160 acre piece of college scrip will take and pay for 80 acres of railroad land; two pieces of college scrip will pay for 160 acres, whereas, with a land warrant you can put one land warrant on and pay half, and in order to make up the difference and pay the balance you must pay \$200 in cash. That is, if I rightly understand the law.

Mr. Swazey. What is the force of this testimony?

Witness. I was asked in my examination the value of it as compared with land warrants. That is all the explanation I care to make.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Do you know the Bangor Land Company?

A. I do not.

Q. Did you ever hear of such a company?

A. I never did to my knowledge, unless it was within a year, within six months, I should say. I took a postal card from my post office box, on which was a notice requesting me to meet the persons named in the act of incorporation for the purpose of organizing a company. It strikes me that it was not the "Bangor Land Company," but it was the "Eastern Land Improvement Company," something of that kind, I won't undertake to get at the name exactly, but it was of that character. To the notice was attached the name of I. R. Clark, Mr. Clark who is here. It was a new matter to me. I met Mr. Clark soon afterward and asked him what it meant; and he said it was proposed to have a meeting of the persons named in the act of incorporation. I asked him what I had to do with it, and he said he had got a company incorporated, I understood him. I understood him to say this last Legislature; but I won't be certain. And he took the liberty to use my name as one of the corporators.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. Upon reflection, and looking over, can you now tell us how high land warrants averaged in the years 1865 and 1866, in the market?

A. I cannot state it any differently from what I have in my testimony.

Q. Can you now tell us how high they ranged at that time?

A. No, I cannot.

Q. Will you swear they ranged over sixty cents an acre in those two years, here?

Mr. Pike. Anywheres?

A. I do not know. I could use them at the West for a dollar or more.

Q. I asked you if you would swear that they were worth, or the price paid for them here was over sixty cents an acre, through those two years?

A. My judgment is, that it was.

Q. You would swear?

A. That is my judgment.

Q. Over sixty cents?

A. Yes, sir, that is my judgment.

Q. How much over in 1865 and 1866?

A. I do not know as there was any standard market value; I do not know but that persons bought over that as they could light upon^d chaps, what few there were. I do not know as there were any sold. I always had a few by me.

Q. If you do not know that there were any sold in 1865 and 1866, how can you swear they ruled over sixty cents an acre?

A. I can swear that I disposed of land warrants at the West, Mr. Powers. I did not ask you about the West.

Witness. At more than one dollar an acre.

Q. When?

A. In 1865.

Q. What time?

A. August and September.

Q. To whom?

A. I would not say just to whom; but it was to parties in the West. I took a lot of land warrants with me out to St. Paul, and met parties there at the land office and at various other points, and I sold.

Q. Now we will come back to Maine. Can you give me the name of a single individual of whom you bought a land warrant or sold a land warrant, in the State of Maine, from August, 1865, to the August following, 1866?

A. I would not undertake to, ten years afterwards.

Q. Can you say you did buy one in that time?

A. I would not swear that I did.

Q. Or that you knew of one being bought?

A. I would not swear I did.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. You say you ceased buying land warrants during the war, if I understood you right?

A. I don't know as I did entirely; I did not deal in them as I did before.

Q. You said they were very low?

A. I think at one time they ruled very low.

Q. How do you fix your recollection of whether they were low or high, if you are not able to tell what they were worth?

A. It is a general impression that they ruled low during the war.

Q. Then you testify principally from general impressions?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you summoned before this committee?

A. I had no formal summons. I was called on by a member of the committee—came to my house in my absence. I had no talk with him just then; but he came again and told me that some of the members of the committee had been informed that I knew, or was supposed to know, something that the committee might think desirable to know. I was very persistent to him that I did not think it was necessary to come here before the committee, and begged him to excuse me. At that time he claimed, as I understood it, that he would, but said that if the committee thought it was best that he would see that I was summoned. Last Monday he called at my house again, and said that I was needed here, and asked if it was necessary that I should have a formal summons, and I told him if the gentlemen of the committee were persistent in having me here, that I would attend; but I did so very reluctantly, on account of leaving home, my family being sick, &c., and I have stayed until this time. Mr. Bass said he did not like

to have me leave until the matter got along, and I consented to stay.

Q. You said in your former examination, if I understood you right, that you bought two pieces of this scrip for sixty-five cents?

A. I said my impression was that I bought two or three pieces at \$105 each. I did not say sixty-five cents; some members of the committee figured it up as being about sixty-five cents.

Q. When was this?

A. I have stated, if I recollect right, that it was in April or May, and might have been June or the summer of 1866.

NATHANIEL WILSON SWORN.

Examined by Mr. Pike.

Q. How long have you lived in Orono?

A. Forty-two years last January. I think I went there in January, 1834.

Q. Were you interested in the establishment of the college at Orono?

A. I always felt a very deep interest in that college, and in its success.

Q. Did you take active measures to have it established there?

A. I did. I did all I could.

Q. Come to Augusta for the purpose? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you subsequently make some arrangement to buy the land scrip?

A. In April, 1866, I commenced a correspondence with Gov. Cony.

Q. Previously to that, did you make any arrangements with anybody about coming in with you?

A. I did.

Q. With whom?

A. Amos M. Roberts and George W. Pickering of Bangor.

Q. What were the arrangements you made with them?

A. I learned that the land scrip was being sold at what I regarded a very low figure, and I met Mr. Pickering and Mr. Roberts at Bangor. The correspondence began in April, 1866; I think it was in April, 1866. And I stated to them how low I understood the lands were being sold.

Q. Did you make an arrangement with those gentlemen?

A. I did.

Q. Did you fix with them upon a price to give for it?

A. After having stated the price I understood they were selling at, they authorized me to get the lands as low as I could, up to, I think, 75 cents on a dollar,—as much lower than that as I could.

Q. Seventy-five cents on an acre, I suppose you mean?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. After making that arrangement with them, what did you do?

A. I wrote to Governor Cony.

Q. Have you got his reply?

A. I have got a letter from his private secretary, the first answer, and then two letters from him subsequently, and after that I had a long conversation with Governor Cony in person at the Exchange in Bangor.

Q. Will you state whether you had any conversation with Mr. Hiram Ruggles—or, I will ask you, did you get any of this land scrip?

A. I did not.

Q. Did you have a conversation with Mr. Hiram Ruggles in relation to it?

A. I did.

Q. Mr. Hiram Ruggles was a member of the council at the time?

A. It was in 1866,—I think he was.

Q. What time did you have any conversation with him?

A. I cannot state the month. I have several letters to refresh my memory. I have the letters of Gov. Cony in my hand, and I refresh my memory from them.

Q. What year did you have a conversation with Mr. Ruggles?

A. The same season after my correspondence with Gov. Cony.

Q. What year would that be? A. 1866.

Q. Where was that conversation?

A. I think I had two or three different conversations, I think all at the Exchange. He boarded there, and I boarded at the Exchange, always, when I was in Bangor.

Q. Did he, in that conversation, say anything to you about being personally interested in those lands? If so, what?

A. It is ten years ago,—the substance as near as I can recollect is, that I was telling him about my attempts to get some of the lands, and regretted that I could not get some. I had conversation in relation to it, and my best recollection now is, that he

told me that he was interested in, or controlled, or owned 10,000 acres; and I tried to induce him to let me have some of that, but did not succeed. I saved no copies of the letters I wrote Gov. Cony, so I do not remember what I wrote him, only through the replies.

Q. Did you have any conversation in 1866 or 1867 with Mr. Chas. P. Brown?

A. I recollect distinctly of having conversation with Mr. Brown in relation to this very question, about this effort, what I attempted to do. Mr. Brown at that time gave me the substance of his efforts to obtain this land. He told me what he offered.

Q. Were you one of the trustees of that college?

A. Subsequently, not at that time.

Q. What years were you?

A. I think I was appointed in April, 1867, and served two years, I think; not at all when this negotiation was going on, no connection whatever.

Q. Did you see or know anything of the advertisement for proposals of these lands?

A. I never saw it, and never heard of any until Gov. Cony told me himself that it was advertised.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. When did you first approach the governor on your proposition to purchase this scrip?

A. My impression, immediately prior to the first answer that I have there.

Q. When was that?

A. I think it was April, 1864.

[Letter dated Orono, April 10, marked "A," shown witness.]

Q. Is that your hand writing?

A. Yes, that is my hand writing.

Q. What was your proposition to the governor at that time?

A. I do not know without seeing what the letter says.

Q. Read the letter.

[Witness reads the letter which is marked "A" and annexed to this report. Letter marked "B" was identified, and is also annexed.]

Q. Was this proposition (in the letter) to purchase, the proposition you testified to a few minutes ago, where you were willing to pay 75 cents?

A. I have stated that it was limited; I could not go beyond a certain sum; but I wanted to get it as much less as possible. That is what I said. I did not say that I offered him 75 cents. I wanted to get it at the lowest figure that it had been sold at. If I could get it at fifty, fifty-one, two, or three, I wanted to get it. But I was authorized to go as high as seventy-five cents on an acre if I could not get it for less.

Q. Did you make this fifty or fifty-two cents offer by virtue of the arrangement which you made with the parties in Bangor, to unite with them in the purchase?

A. All I did was through my arrangement with Messrs. Roberts and Pickering, and communicated to them all my proceedings and showed them the letters from Gov. Cony.

Q. Did you purchase any lands?

A. Not an acre.

Q. Did you ever own any of this land scrip? A. Never.

Q. Did you communicate any further with the governor in reference to the purchase of it?

A. I saw him after these letters and had a long conversation with him in relation to the matter; and that was the first information I had that there was any advertisement.

Q. Will you state that conversation?

A. I cannot state any more than in substance, I was authorized to go considerably above what he told me any had been sold at. I do not remember that I told him how much.

Q. This conversation subsequent to your letter of April, 1866?

A. Yes, sir. It was in the summer season, at the Bangor Exchange.

Q. What was his reply to your proposition to purchase?

A. That the lands were all disposed of; that there were none in the market; and he regretted very much that his Penobscot friends could not have had some of them. He did not know that people in Bangor and that vicinity cared to purchase. If he had known they wanted to purchase, he certainly should have been very glad to let them have some of the lands.

Q. What time was this conversation?

A. I cannot fix the date.

Q. As near as you can recollect?

A. My impression is that it was in the summer season; it might have been in May or June, or a little later; I cannot fix the time, but it was subsequent to the letter.

Q. Did he tell you at that time what the scrip brought?

A. I think he told me that none had been sold as low as the sum I named in my letter, and I think he said none then had been sold less than 52 or 53.

Q. Did he tell you the minimum that any of it had brought?

A. I do not remember that he did. It was all sold, and it did not seem to be necessary to go into the minutia, or justify what had been done.

Q. Did you consider your 50 and 52 cents in April, 1866, a fair price for the scrip?

A. I did not.

Q. What did you consider to be a fair price for it at that time?

A. I knew what land warrants were worth. The government price was \$1.25. And I thought if these lands were selling from 50 to 54 and 55 cents an acre, it was extremely low, and a great sacrifice. I thought college ought not to be sold so low.

Q. Why didn't you, if you were such a friend of the institution, offer what you thought the lands were worth?

A. I suppose it is usual for people to make the best negotiations they can. I was acting under instructions to get the best trade I could.

Q. Buy as low as you can, is an object of you land men, always?

A. Yes, sir. I did not want to give any more if I could get them for that.

Q. In April, 1866, how high should you have gone in your price? Should you have exceeded 75 cents?

A. I cannot say now that I should; I do not know how that is.

Q. According to your recollection, from the recollection you have in your own memory about it, was not 75 cents a good price for this land in April, 1866?

A. I supposed it was low, a mere judgment I had about it.

Q. Still, you offered only 50 or 52?

A. I did not make any offer at all; I merely wrote, inquiring. I believe my letter don't show any offer.

Q. You inquired, "How much can be had at 50 or 52?"

A. Yes, sir; it is negotiation; it is not an offer.

Q. Not a very tempting bid for land worth 75 cents?

A. It might, or not. My object was to get it as low as I could. I had owned some land warrants, and knew they were worth \$1.25.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. Did you write the governor again the 27th of April?

A. My impression is that I wrote him three letters and got three replies.

Q. How high did you offer in any of those letters?

A. I don't remember that I offered him any price, or not.

Q. Did you in any of them name a price above 50 or 52?

A. I don't recollect anything except what I wrote in that letter [marked "A"]. I know my object was (for I had instructions from both Mr. Roberts and Mr. Pickering in relation to the matter) and my views were to get it as low as I could.

Q. I wanted to ascertain how high an offer you communicated to Gov. Cony in any of these three letters you wrote him?

A. I do not remember of communicating to him any sum, other than to know what could be done.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Did you have some correspondence about this with the public newspapers at the time—did you make any publications?

A. I wrote a publication in 1867, to be published in the Kennebec Journal in connection with this land scrip, and sent it to our representative, John H. Gilman, to have it published, and he wrote me a letter which I have here. I have Mr. Gilman's answer to one of my letters.

Q. It was not published, was it?

A. It was not published.

Q. Do you understand what the reason was why it was not published?

A. Mr. Gilman advised at the time not to have it published; it would prevent our getting an appropriation, he was afraid. And I wrote him, if there was any danger of that at all, by no means to have it published; for I was desirous of getting as large an appropriation as we could for the college. That was the next year, after my attempts to purchase the land had all gone by. [Letter marked "C" is identified by witness, and it is annexed.]

Witness. I had another letter from him (Gilman) which I could not find. I wrote Mr. Gilman to withdraw the article and not have it published if it would injure the appropriation in any way.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Were you dealing in land at that time?

A. I have occasionally bought land warrants.

Q. Were you at that time dealing in land?

A. I think I had one or two land warrants at that time.

Q. Recollect what you paid for them?

A. No, I do not remember. I dealt very sparingly indeed; occasionally had a warrant.

ABNER COBURN SWORN.

By Mr. Anderson.

Q. Was you interested in the Agricultural College from its commencement, and in the success of the institution?

A. What do you call "interested?"

Q. I mean, did you take, not a pecuniary interest, but did you take an interest in the institution from its inception?

A. I felt somewhat interested in it; but not particularly as a patron or as an advocate.

Q. But as a citizen of Maine, I mean?

A. Yes, that is all.

Q. You knew of lands that were donated for the purpose of endowing the college by the General Government—land scrip?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You were acquainted with the value of lands at that time?

A. Somewhat.

Q. Did you at any time think of making any purchases of those lands, or take any interest in the sale, or the price received from the sale of that land scrip?

A. You mean the first sale, or the last?

Q. Any of it.

A. I did not the first; the last 17,000 acres I thought something of it.

Q. Did you make any effort, or purpose to yourself to make any effort to purchase any of that scrip?

A. No, sir, I think not. I certainly did not the first 186,000 acres.

Q. You did the second?

A. Not much, I did not. I made no proposal for the second, even.

Q. Did you think of making any?

A. I do not know hardly what answer to give to that. Perhaps in one sense of the word I might have thought of it.

Q. Will you please explain now what you mean by "perhaps that you might have thought of it"—in other words, will you give what you know in regard to the history of those lands, the value of those lands, whether or not you knew of their being offered for sale, whether you did at any time think of purchasing, whether you made any efforts towards purchasing, whether you believe they were sold, from your knowledge of the value of land at that time, at their true value, whether you would have given more than they were sold for, and any other facts connected with the lands and the sale of the lands?

A. In the first place, there was a donation from the general government of 210,000 acres of land. It came into the Legislature in 1863. It was donated in 1862. I was authorized to notify the President of that acceptance, and a willingness to carry out the terms of it, or something in that form, and also to draw the scrip from the Secretary of the Treasury, I think it was, and put it in the vaults. That you will see in the acts of 1863, page 267. All of that I did. I notified the President and got the scrip, put it in the vault, and left it there when I left the office. I never bought any of the land, never had any interest in any, not an acre, and never thought of buying any of the first large lot of 186,000 acres perhaps, 196,000 about—left 17,000 unsold, I think. Although it was in the market, and notwithstanding I was somewhat booked up in the value of lands, Western lands, even, still, I made no effort to buy. It laid along without my giving it any thought, until pretty late in the fall my attention was called to it by other parties. But then I gave no thought, as applicable to buying, myself. I had got up no speculative disposition on that. While it was advertised I do not suppose there was ever a word passed between Gov. Cony and myself on the subject; I am very sure there never was. But still, I knew that it was advertised, and supposed that it was going to be sold. And the first that I learned about it in detail, I think, I met a gentleman from Fairfield who had been down to buy, and he reported that all they wanted to sell was promised to Gen. Smith and Mr. Lancey, and that they had the inside track, or something like that. But, even then I gave it no thought or attention; that is, none of any magnitude. That part that was not sold at that time, but retained, if I remember right, was from 16,000 to 18,000 acres. That was after I

became a member in the board of trustees. If I remember right, soon after, perhaps, the board delegated me to advise in relation to it, as I was one of the members of the board. And I had considerable talk with Gov. Chamberlain on the subject, from time to time, of the interest I then felt in the institution, that the sale should be a good one. I think I made no proposition to him, although, if it had gone low I should have made a proposition and taken it. That is about the amount of what I know about that land scrip.

Q. You saw the advertisement and knew of the first sale?

A. I have no doubt I saw the advertisement repeatedly; I suppose I did, but I really gave no attention, no thought.

Q. Do you remember of seeing the advertisement?

A. As to remembering definitely about it, unless it was pretty well along in the fall, I do not. I am quite sure I saw the advertisement some time, but when, I do not know.

Q. Before the sale?

A. I think, before the sale. But exactly when the sale was, I do not know.

Mr. Pike. The sale was the first day of March, 1866; the advertisement was made in December.

A. Well, I could not say definitely about that.

Q. You do not remember whether you saw, or not, the advertisement previously to the sale?

A. I could not say, definitely.

Q. Do you think if you had seen the advertisement, you would not have made any proposal?

A. No, I had no disposition to make a proposal. I was not in a speculative mood at all.

Q. Do you think the land in that first sale sold for all the land was worth at that time?

A. I cannot say as to that. I did not consider it worth what land warrants were.

Q. How much were land warrants?

A. Land warrants were worth all the way from eighty to one hundred dollars, a warrant of 160 acres, and sometimes crowded up to one hundred and ten. I bought indirectly, through other parties, a deal many land warrants; that is, a good deal for me.

Q. At what average price?

A. I think they averaged a little less than sixty cents an acre.

That would be about \$100 a warrant; or, \$96 would be just sixty cents, I think.

Mr. Pike. What did you do with them, locate or sell them?

A. Located them. I cannot say exactly how many warrants I had; but I think I figured up with other parties that were interested with me, and I think I had somewhere from thirteen, to perhaps fifteen and twenty thousand acres; thirteen to eighteen thousand acres, somewhere along there. I cannot remember definitely, but over thirteen I have no doubt, and perhaps less than eighteen.

Q. Land warrants?

A. Yes; that is, I mean thousand acres. But that covered a term of years. We began to buy cheaper, and then I think perhaps the highest was \$110.

Q. What were land warrants worth the year that the college scrip was sold?

A. I could not say, but I think about one hundred dollars a land warrant. That would be sixty or sixty-one or two. Depend somewhat upon customers. In fact, a good many sold less than that. I think the marketable price was about that.

Q. Some sold for more?

A. Yes, sir. But as I said before, there was some advantages in land warrants, I think, that there was not in scrip. In scrip you had to locate your 160 acres to get your quarter of a section. Scrip came in quarters, I think, 160 acres apiece, and you had to locate it as a whole, while land warrants you could take an eighty and a forty and another forty round about, which would cover your choice lots.

Q. How was it with 160 acre land warrants?

A. I know there were cases where they could separate.

Q. Separate a single land warrant?

A. Yes, sir, especially where a quarter had been broken; you could then put your land warrant, I think, on to cover the balance and something else adjoining.

Q. It must be contiguous, I suppose?

A. I think so. It gave a little advantage in the land warrants over the scrip.

Mr. Pike. Do you know how it was located on railroad land?

A. Had no right to, I suppose.

Q. Did you look at the statute to see?

A. I know very well we never did do it.

Q. That you never did do it?

A. Yes, sir, and did not consider that we had any right to.

[Act of Congress shown witness.]

Q. Did you understand that they had a right to take them at double price, in accordance with the act?

A. I do not know whether my attention was called to that. I did not do it, at any rate.

Q. Whether others did it or not, I suppose you do not know?

A. No, I don't know. We had rather have more acres.

Q. Whether, in your opinion, at the time that first sale was made, that those lands brought all that you think was their market value at that time?

A. My impression is, that that was about all that the market would warrant at that time. I think there were other States that sold at that time, and sold as low as that.

Q. That was not the question as to other States; but whether those lands sold as well as they could have been sold for at that time?

A. I could not say as to that. It was as high as I wanted to pay, at any rate.

Q. Was as high as you would have paid?

A. I did not care particularly about buying.

Q. Was it as high as you would have paid—wouldn't you have paid more for that scrip than it brought, if you had had the opportunity to purchase?

A. I cannot say as I should.

Q. Can you say that you would not?

A. I suppose if I had wanted, I could have got an opportunity to purchase.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. If you had had the selling of them, would you have sold them at that price?

A. I should have got more if I could.

Q. Does that quite answer the question?

A. I should have been governed, then, by the resolve.

Q. If you had had full discretion about selling or keeping it?

A. I always had confidence to keep land. But the Legislature has not, you know.

Q. If the Legislature had given you full authority?

A. My impression is, I should rather have kept them for a rise. There were embarrassments about locating at that time, I think. I

think in States where they had lands, they were obliged to take it from their own State, and they must be first satisfied. Hence, all the best timber States, outsiders were kept out of, until they got their locations made. For instance, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Q. They are limited to a million acres in any State?

A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Kimball.

Q. What are the timber lands worth now on an average?

A. Depends upon the quality.

Q. An average, I mean?

A. Depends a good deal upon what rivers and in what States. It is all problematical entirely, as to what timber lands are worth, without knowing what the quality is, and the location. Just so here; good lands will fetch a good price, poor lands will fetch a low price.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Did I understand you to say you had any purpose to buy the last lot that was sold?

A. I had a pretty strong idea that that lot should go for what it was worth. Still, while I had a talk with Gov. Chamberlain upon it, I made no proposition. I barely acted for the institution, and as a committee of the institution.

Q. To request the sale of it?

A. No.

Q. Do you know what it did bring?

A. It brought 82 to 84, I think; 82, perhaps.

Q. Was that a fair price for it at that time?

A. I am inclined to think it was.

Q. All it was worth in the market?

A. Yes, I think that was the market price. After that, I think it would have brought a little more. But there was no time when single acres brought a dollar, I think, from the fact that it came in competition with land warrants. There was no doubt but that you could buy government lands at \$1.25, and locate them in fortys and eightys, which were preferable to whole sixtys.

Q. You knew at the time the last lot was proposed to be sold, when it was sold?

A. I knew when it was proposed to be sold, and conversed, as I said, with Gov. Chamberlain in regard to it.

By Mr. Wheelwright.

Q. You say the last lot that was sold, brought, you thought, what it was worth, about the market price; do you think that brought any nearer the market price at that time than the first sale did at the time the first lot was sold?

A. I believe I stated that I thought the first sale was about what the market was at the time, and the last one not above. But the market had risen.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. You regard the first sale as the market price?

A. I am inclined to think so; yes, sir.

Q. You were dealing considerably in land out there and knew about the value of Western lands?

A. I was locating more or less those years; that is, not buying myself, but through other parties, with partners.

Q. If it would not be improper, about how many acres of land were you interested in through yourself and your partners, out through the West, at that time?

A. I could tell by giving different localities.

Q. I would like to have you?

A. I have got in Wisconsin about 32 to 34,000 acres, of which I own the whole; in Michigan a third part of 41 or 42,000 acres, perhaps. Up the St. Croix, in Wisconsin and Minnesota, 10,000 or 11,000; that may embrace all, and it may not; I am not certain.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Do you recollect whether you bought or sold any land warrants in the spring of 1866?

A. I could not say about that definitely. What land warrants I had were sent out as I bought, as they came into my hands. I sent them out West and had them located. What years I could not say.

Q. Could not say you bought any in the spring of 1866?

A. I do not know as I could. I might have sold single lots. I bought for the purpose of locating, and not to sell.

Q. Will you say whether in the spring of 1866 you knew anything about the price of college scrip in any way?—you never had any of it, I suppose?

A. No, I never had any of it.

Q. In the spring of '66 did you know of any sales?

A. I heard of sales.

Q. At that time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where?

A. I heard of two or three States that sold.

Q. In the spring of 1866?

A. I think about that time.

Q. What States were they?

A. It is off my mind now.

Q. Do you recollect definitely about the date?

A. No, I do not, nor the States, even.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Have you any recollection as to what the price was?

A. No. I have a pretty distinct recollection; so far as my knowledge extends, single locations of it never went above ninety cents, or thereabouts. I have reference to what came within my knowledge. I know I gave it in buying land warrants by the Detroit market prices of the scrip, and it ranged all the way from 80 cents and upwards. Single pieces have been bought as high as \$103, but generally it ranged from eighty cents to a dollar, in Detroit quotations, and governed my price of land warrants accordingly.

Mr. Kimball. You mean 80 cents and upwards per acre?

A. Yes, sir; that is, in single locations, peddled out by the brokers of Detroit and Chicago—the markets.

Mr. Powers. Single pieces?

A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. What would be the difference in value, in your judgment, between the land warrants per acre and college scrip?

A. Could not say as to dollars and cents. But I know this, that I always felt that the warrants were worth a little the most.

Q. When your land warrant was worth sixty cents per acre, what was your scrip worth?

A. Could not say; it would be worth a fraction less.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Was not there an advantage in the college scrip from this fact, that you could locate the college scrip two acres for one on

the railroad reservation, and you could not locate the land warrant at all unless you paid one-half?

A. If there was that advantage I never knew of it.

Q. Did you know the fact that you could not take alternate sections on railroad reservation unless you paid money for one half?

A. I know that I considered that we were locked up from taking scrip.

Q. I speak of the land warrants; did you know that you were obliged to put your money along side of the land warrant in order to locate on the railroad reservation?

A. I do not know that I did. As I said before, I don't think I ever located on railroad land with land warrants or scrip.

Q. Did you locate personally, or by agents?

A. Partly by both.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. Did you consider it as desirable to locate on railroad locations, taking one acre for two, as in other places?

A. I never did; but I suppose if there had been speculation in it I might have been more interested in it.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Isn't it a fact, that railroad reservations are selling out there from six to seven dollars an acre?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Are not all those railroad grants, including the Arkansas grants and the Union Pacific grants, selling for from six to seven dollars an acre on the average?

A. My impression, so far as I have any knowledge, is, that they will peddle out about \$5 and some odd cents. That is the case with those I have any interest in.

Q. Iowa land sell higher than that?

A. No; that is about the price I think.

Q. You have not looked at the last returns, have you?

A. I have not got them. The idea I have, is, that they have run from about \$5.06 to a fraction over.

Z. K. HARMON SWORN.

Examined by Mr. Swazey.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. Portland.

Q. Have you dealt in land warrants in years past?

A. I have dealt in land warrants ever since 1850.

Q. What were your warrants worth in 1865 and 1866?

A. That is a question that I cannot answer to a certainty. The great fire of 1866 destroyed my sales-book. They were less than a dollar.

Q. State approximately what they were worth during the war?

A. As soon as I came into the hall, I took a pencil and made a scale of what I considered land warrants worth from 1856 to 1870, and the manner that they went down and came up again. The most of it I am positive about. In 1856, '57, '58 and '59 warrants were worth a dollar. In 1860, 90 cents. In 1861, 80 cents. In 1862, 70 cents. In 1863 and 1864 they touched bottom, and were worth 50 cents an acre. In 1865 they were worth 75 cents, in 1866, 85 cents. In 1867, '68 and '69, worth a dollar again. And in 1870, \$1.10 an acre. The lowest price of 1863 and '64 I know positively, because I sold to Gen. Hersey for 50 cents an acre by the \$2,000 worth at the count.

By Mr. Anderson.

Q. Do you know anything about college scrip in the years 1865 and 1866?

A. Those original sales of college scrip I had nothing to do with. The last lots, I negotiated the sales with President Chamberlain and Mr. Deering, in 1870.

Q. Do you know what college scrip was worth in 1865 and 1866?

A. I judge by the price of warrants. College scrip never approached anywhere near the price of land warrants until after 1870. From the time college scrip was issued until about 1870, they were not worth as much by about a quarter as land warrants. The drawback with college scrip at that time was, that there could not be but three sections located in a township. There was a law of Congress that there should not be but three sections located in a township.

Q. How large is a township?

A. Thirty-six sections. A section is 40 acres. About 1,900 acres could be located in a township.

Q. Why?

A. The law was such.

Q. When was that law passed ?

A. I think in 1868.

Q. Do you know what the first lot of scrip in this State sold for ?

A. All I know is by the papers ; what I have seen in the papers.

Q. Did you know when the original sale was to take place, before it was sold ?

A. No, sir, I did not, although I believe it was advertised in some of our State papers.

Q. Did you ever see the advertisement ?

A. No. It was advertised in this city, Augusta paper.

Q. You said that the college scrip did not approximate to the value of common, ordinary land warrants until 1870 ?

A. Yes, after July.

Q. What was the change that should then make it approximate ?

A. The first of July, 1870, Congress passed a law that pre-emptors should pay for their land with college scrip. As soon as that became generally known throughout the West, college scrip advanced. Pre-emptors had got to pay \$200 for their land.

Q. When was the second sale of the college scrip that you negotiated ?

A. The first negotiations began in February.

Q. Of what year ?

A. 1870. Mr. Deering wrote me in relation to it.

Q. When did you complete the sale ? A. In June.

Q. When was this pre-emption law passed ?

A. In July, 1870.

Q. Was this statement which you have made of the value of land warrants at \$1.10 in 1870, and the price which you negotiated the scrip for, a fair statement of the value ?

A. Yes, sir. We paid a fair price for the scrip of 1870, because I tried the Western market first. I could get 85 cents in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Q. For what ? A. For scrip.

Q. For the college scrip ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And at that time what do you say land warrants were worth, at the very time when you paid 85 ? A. \$1.10.

Q. At that time ?

A. Yes, sir. The gentleman I bought for was here. He came here and saw Mr. Deering and Gov. Chamberlain. He was a bold operator. He bought over seven millions of this college scrip. He virtually controlled the market.

Mr. Powers. Do you know what this man paid for college scrip elsewhere, besides in Maine?

A. I could not say positively. But I think he told me the lowest he paid was 42 cents. I telegraphed him yesterday to tell me, but I have not got any answer. He is away, probably, or he would have answered. The first offer he told me to make was 80 cents. That was the third day of March, 1870. He wrote me then that there would be two millions of scrip come into the market from the reconstructed States very soon, which he was negotiating for, and if he could get it he should keep the price up, and if he could not, he should put it down to 55 cents.

Q. Who is this man that you were negotiating for?

A. G. F. Lewis, of Cleaveland.

Q. When was this bought as low as this last price of 42 cents?

A. I do not know.

Q. You do not know what year?

A. No, sir. I was there at his house, and he told me about his prices. I was not interested, and have forgotten.

Mr. Pike. Did Lewis ever tell you of his buying over 200,000 acres of New York scrip at a dollar?

A. Not that I recollect of. I do not think he ever could have done that New York I think sold early.

Q. And low?

A. I do not know about that.

Q. How early and how low did New York sell?

A. I do not know. New York located their's, I think.

Q. You said just now that New York sold early?

A. I had an idea that they did. But I recollect now that they located the greater part of it, at least.

Q. Did they sell any?

A. I do not know as they did.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Do you know David Preston & Co., of Detroit, Michigan?

A. Yes, sir. There are two firms of Preston & Co., one in Detroit and one in Chicago.

Q. Dealers in real estate? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you ever had any occasion to deal with them?

A. Yes, I have dealt with them considerably. I have seen them both.

Q. Are they large and reliable firms?

A. I always considered them so.

Q. Do you know Thomas C. McClure of St. Cloud?

A. Yes, sir. I have seen him.

Q. Is he a reliable man?

A. Yes, sir. I have seen him, and have had dealings with him.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. What has been the extent of your dealings in Western land during the time covered by the scale you have there?

A. Could not tell you. I suppose I have dealt as largely in land warrants as any man in the State. Have located a great deal.

Q. Buying land warrants has been your business for years past? A. Yes, sir.

Mr. Pike. What is this scale of prices you have made; is it Western prices, or prices here?

A. The prices here.

Mr. Kimball. Was the amount located in a township limited, previous to the law of 1868?

A. I think not.

Mr. Swazey. Have you any knowledge of what those States sold their land scrip for in 1865 and 1866?

A. No, sir. I have no special knowledge that would enable me to answer that question.

Mr. Kimball. What are warrants worth now?

A. They are worth over a dollar.

Mr. Anderson. How much?

A. About a dollar and ten cents. I sold for that this week.

Mr. Kimball. Would a dollar be a fair average price from 1855 until the present time?

A. Not hardly. They went low in 1863 and 1864, during the war, when there was no immigration. No call for them.

Mr. Swazey. Do you remember during those years of having land warrants returned to you, that you could not dispose of West?

A. Yes; came back from California. I sent them in every direction for a market.

Q. And could not find a market?

A. No, sir.

Mr. Kimball. What price did you fix on those warrants that you sent to California for sale?

A. Ninety cents, I think.

Q. Was that gold?

A. No, sir. In November, 1870, I was offered 160 acre scrip for \$140; that is 90 cents per acre.

ISAAC R. CLARK SWORN.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. Bangor.

Q. How long have you lived in Bangor?

A. Since 1832, forty years.

Q. Have you dealt in public lands, land warrants?

A. I never have, except to a very limited extent.

Q. In 1866 did you have notice that there were public lands for sale, the college scrip of the State?

A. I would state to the committee, that I came to Augusta yesterday morning unprepared; I hadn't any idea of being summoned before this committee. I was notified to remain here by one of the committee, and I am without some data that I should have to testify, perhaps, intelligently. And I would state further to the committee, that this afternoon I sat down and penned so far as my memory would serve me. I can state what I have penned down, or answer the questions along.

Q. Did you have notice that this college scrip was to be sold, and if so, how did you get the notice?

A. I came in possession of the fact by being at the State House during the winter.

Mr. Pike. You were Land Agent, were you?

A. Yes, sir. Before or after the adjournment of the Legislature, or about that time; I do not now have any recollection further than about that time, that I had any knowledge of its being sold. I saw no advertisement.

Q. Have you any recollection of what land warrants were worth in 1865 and 1866?

A. I had no knowledge of the value, I believe.

[Letter dated Feb. 27th, 1866, marked "D," shown witness.]

Witness. That is my writing. There is another, I think. My memory is, that there are but two letters, and one is under some company. I do not know but that it is a land company.

Q. Bangor Land Company ?

A. I think it was ; but I can tell by the appearance. [Letter marked "G" shown witness.] This one, in my judgment, was written by Gen. J. L. Hodsdon ; it is in his hand writing. He put that in at a joint suggestion.

Q. How much did you propose to take under the Bangor Land Company ?

A. It is put down here 80,000.

Q. At what price ?

A. Forty-five cents, not exceeding 80,000.

Q. Was your proposal accepted ?

A. It was not.

Q. Who constituted the Bangor Land Company ?

A. That was to be organized if we got the land for 45 cents.

Q. What was your individual offer ?

A. Fifty-one cents, 5,000 acres.

Q. What is your recollection about the value of college scrip at that time ? Have you any recollection about it ?

A. We fixed no price, but from such information as we could get, we deemed it perfectly safe to offer these prices, without full knowledge really of the market value. That had not been gone into.

Q. Was 51 cents the outside limit of your proposal ?

A. That was the outside that we proposed. I think we had no other proposition.

Q. Did you get any at that ? A. Nothing.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Who was to furnish the money, you or Hodsdon ?

A. I do not know as it would be material to the State or the college or the United States, if they had the money at that price.

Q. Was Hodsdon at that time Adjutant General ?

A. He was. I will say, the amount to be taken was not to exceed 80,000 acres ; it might not have more than 1,000 acres.

Q. You were land agent, and Hodsdon adjutant general ?

A. Yes, sir. I will say to the committee that it might look a little singular ; it might or might not. There might be but one thousand acres left unsold. It was not material as to the name given.

Q. I think you stated you never bought any land warrants or sold any. A. Not many.

Q. Did you sell Brown a couple pieces of scrip ?

A. That is a part of it.

Q. What did you get for that ?

A. About a dollar an acre, I think.

Q. Did you buy that at \$1.10 ?

A. I do not know ; about a dollar ; there was not much made on that.

Q. When was that ?

A. I think it was 1870 or 1871. I held it a couple of years, I think, first.

Q. Paid 10 per cent. on the money for it didn't you ?

A. Perhaps 20 or 25.

Mr. Bass. You never saw the advertisement advertising these lands for sale ?

A. I never saw it.

WILLIAM K. LANCEY SWORN.

Examined by Mr. Powers.

Q. I see (by the records) you were one of the buyers of this land ; how many acres did you buy ?

A. It is all from recollection now. Since I had the notice I have not had time to look a paper over ; I think 30,000 acres. I don't know but that there were 10,000 acres in there for Gen. Smith ; I bought the whole.

Q. You bought all you and Smith had ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were not you and Smith all the men in Maine that had any of this land ?

A. No, we were not, I think. I think Ruggles had 5,000 acres ; he told me he had.

Mr. Pike. Who is that ?

A. Hiram Ruggles.

Mr. Pike. He told you that he had 5,000 ?

A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Powers.

[Proposal marked "E" shown witness.]

Witness. I came here to the State House and found Gov. Cony, and agreed for a certain amount of land, and after I got home asked for more.

Q. Is that (paper) your proposition ?

A. Yes, sir, 15,000 for myself and 10,000 for Gen. Smith.

Q. That is what you had is it?

A. No, I think we had more. I paid 53 cents per acre.

Q. You gave that, did you?

A. I came down to find Gov. Cony, and told him I would take the balance of it he had to spare; and he promised it to me. But he said he was going out West, and after he got out there he telegraphed to me that he could not let me have what I proposed to take. I got a despatch from him saying that he could not let me have but 30,000 acres, I think it was. I got 30,000 acres at 53 cents.

Q. What is the date of your proposal?

A. March 15th, 1866. I never knew anything about advertisements for proposals, at all. I do not know how I came to find out that the land was for sale; but I happened here at the State House and after conversation with Gov. Cony, agreed with him for 15,000 acres.

Mr. Pike. Right off?

A. Yes, sir. He said a part of them had been sold for fifty-two, but they were asking fifty-three for them. When I was going up on the train that night, I saw Gen. Smith, and he said he would like to have 10,000 acres. I wrote right back that I would take 15,000 for myself and 10,000 for Smith. Then I came down afterward.

Mr. Anderson. What took place after you came down afterward?

A. He then gave me to understand that I could have the balance.

Mr. Powers. How much was the balance?

A. I think 18,000 acres.

Mr. Pike. This ran without any competition at all, then?

A. No competition.

Mr. Pike. A trade between you and the governor?

A. Yes, sir.

Mr. Anderson. How long was this before he sent to you, and said you could not have the balance?

A. I think I got 5,000 acres more, but I won't say certain. He telegraphed me from some point, at New York or Chicago, I think, somewhere out that way.

Mr. Anderson. How long after?

A. Perhaps eight or ten days.

Mr. Pike. I would like to know how definite your recollection is about buying any more than the 15,000?

A. I should say I had 30,000 acres, and Gen. Smith ten of that.

Mr. Pike. That would make you 20,000, then?

A. Yes, sir.

Mr. Powers. Who was interested in your 15,000 acres?

A. No one but myself.

Mr. Powers. Did any other man have any interest directly or indirectly in that bid?

A. Not directly or indirectly, in any manner whatever.

Mr. Powers. Strictly for yourself?

A. Yes, sir. And the offer I made for the balance I was going to take myself, too.

By Mr. Anderson.

Q. Why didn't you get the balance?

A. I supposed I had got it until I got the despatch to the contrary.

Q. How did you understand that?

A. I understood I was to have the balance, until I got the despatch that said I could not have it.

Q. Why, what interpretation did you put upon this? that you could not have the balance that was promised you?

A. I do not know.

Q. Did Gov. Cony go out West at that time?

A. He did.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Does the despatch state the reason why?

A. No, I think not. The governor showed me names of parties that were to have land.

Q. When you told him you would take the rest?

A. Yes; that is, when I came and took the 15,000 acres, he showed me the names then. When I went home, Smith went along with me, and I told him. He said he would like for me to engage 10,000 acres for him, and then I wrote right back.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Have you sold your land?

A. I have sold a part of it.

Q. Sell to anybody in the State?

A. A portion of it I sold in Chicago.

Q. Sell any in the State?

A. I sold no portion in the State, but to a party that lived West.

Q. Did not sell to anybody in the State, then?

A. No, sir. I sold to a man by the name of Merrill; his father lives up in Shirley. Paul S. Merrill's son, I think.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. What did you get an acre for that you sold?

A. I kept it some time, and sold it for a dollar an acre. I think I kept it two or three years.

Q. Can you tell what year you sold in?

A. My impression is, along about the year 1870; it might have been as late as 1871.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Have you any means of knowing what this scrip was worth when you bought in March?

A. I have not the least idea what it was worth. It was a matter to put into the market, and land was not selling very high then anywhere.

By Mr. Bass.

Q. Did you ever see this land advertisement in any newspaper in the State?

A. I never did. I happened round here by accident, and got it.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. And the governor let you have 25,000 acres?

A. I think it was 30,000.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Have you any means of knowing what the scrip sold for in other States?

A. Yes. I kept corresponding with land agents in Chicago. It was about sixty-three cents.

Q. When was that?

A. Perhaps a month or two after; perhaps along in July.

By Mr. Powers.

Q. What was the relative difference in value at that time, between land warrants and scrip, per acre?

A. Land warrants would be worth at that time about a dollar, perhaps 75 cents, when this scrip would be worth about 55 cents.

Q. Did you deal in land warrants?

A. I did more or less.

Mr. Pike. Do you speak of the prices in Maine?

A. I am speaking of the prices out West.

By Mr. Anderson.

Q. What was the occasion of the difference between the land warrant and the scrip?

A. It was because only so many acres could be located in one State, a million acres. I sent into Michigan 10,000 acres to locate there, but could not locate it.

Q. Couldn't you carry them over into another State?

A. You would not get so good timber land.

C. A. JORDAN SWORN.

Examined by Mr. Swazey.

Q. Where do you reside?

A. Bangor.

Q. How long have you lived there?

A. Since 1840; off and on some. I lived in Washington ten years during that time.

Q. What is your business?

A. I am a dentist by profession, surgeon dentist.

Q. Are you a contributor to the public journals?

A. I am.

Q. Over what signature?

A. "Dr. Faust," sometimes. Sometimes I sign my own name.

Q. Did you communicate with the editor of the "Maine Standard," in July of last year?

A. I think I did.

[Maine Standard dated July 9th, 1875, shown witness.]

Q. Will you please look at that communication?

A. I recognize the ear marks.

Q. As your writing?

A. As my writing, yes, sir.

[Maine Standard dated July 16th, 1875, shown witness.]

Q. Look at that?

A. Yes, sir, that is mine.

Q. Did you write the heading to that article ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you read it ?

A. Yes, sir. [Reads] "Astounding Disclosures. The People Swindled. How the Agricultural College has been robbed. Farmers read this." That is my heading, and I will verify it before I get through with it, I think.

[Maine Standard dated July 23, 1875, shown witness.]

Q. Did you write that heading ?

A. I do not know; sometimes they put the headings on.

Q. Will you read that ?

[Reads] "The Great Swindle. Maine robbed of Two Million Dollars. The Paper Credit Swindle. The College Grant Swindle."

[Maine Standard dated Aug. 13th, 1875, shown witness.]

Witness. [Reads] "The College Grant Lands." Yes, that is mine.

Q. Have you ever dealt any in college scrip ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Were you conversant with the fact, at the time the government issued college scrip to Maine ?

A. Yes, sir. It was in July, 1862, by act of Congress. Maine received 210,000 acres by that donation.

Q. Do you speak of that from your recollection of it at the time, or what you have since read ?

A. As a public man I kept myself posted on the current literature of the day, and upon the acts of Congress.

Q. Did you know that in 1865 and 1866 the State of Maine disposed of any portion of her college scrip ?

A. They did not dispose of any in 1865. They disposed of it in March, 1866.

Q. Were you conversant of the fact at the time they did sell it ?

A. I was conversant of the fact that it had been sold. I knew as much about it as anybody; but very few knew anything about it after they were sold, comparatively.

Q. Confine yourself to your own knowledge. Did you know the fact that the Legislature took action in the premises ?

A. I did. The Legislature took action, I wish to be understood, in this way: In 1864, I think, about the first action the Legislature took in relation to it, was to pass a resolve (it sounds ridiculous enough now)—but they passed a resolve authorizing Gov. Cony, who was then governor, to put this land scrip up into

a sort of "pool" with other governors of States, by which I mean that the idea was to make a united effort on the part of this State with the governors of some other States, to sell in conjunction; and the resolve authorized the governor to employ an agent in New York.

Mr. Pike. The resolve will speak for itself.

Witness. Yes, sir.

Mr. Swazey. What I wish to get at is, whether you knew the fact that this land, by virtue of the resolve of the Legislature, was advertised for sale?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know at the time it was advertised?

A. I never saw the advertisement.

Q. How do you know it was advertised?

A. I had occasion to look at this matter, commencing at a very early day, earlier than 1870.

Q. I simply ask you if you knew it at the time, and how you knew it, at the time it was advertised?

A. I did not know at the time that the land was advertised. I never saw any advertisement. I never saw anything of that sort.

Q. Had you any knowledge of it from any other source than by seeing it?

A. No, sir. I think, if I recollect right, the first knowledge I ever had of it was after the opening of the bids. I think that is the first knowledge I had of the sale of this scrip. That was published, I think.

Q. Had you any knowledge at the time these bids were opened what the price was, received for the land scrip then sold?

A. Here? Q. Yes.

A. Not until after it was communicated to the public. I was not present when the bids were opened. The bids were published afterwards, I believe; I think I saw them published.

Q. When was that?

A. A long time ago. I do not know. I cannot give you the date when I first saw the bids.

Q. Did you have your attention specially called to the sales, and the price per acre at the time, by the notice published?

A. I got at it in this way: there was a good deal of fault found when the bids were opened, among our people in the east who deal in lands in Bangor, that they had not had a fair show in relation to it; and I made inquiries in relation to certain bids, &c.

Q. Who found fault about it in Bangor?

A. I think one gentleman that has testified here. He has called my attention to it.

Q. Who is that?

A. Mr. Charles P. Brown. He called my attention to the fact that he had made a larger offer than the lands went for.

Q. When did he call your attention to that fact?

A. I should think it was some year or two ago. I don't recollect exactly the time. It was previous to the writing of these articles. I did not go blindly into that matter, sir.

Q. Was that the first that your attention was called to the price that the State received per acre for what was sold?

A. I presume that I knew the price—yes, I knew the price that the land was sold for previously to that; but I am speaking now of the information which I received from Mr. Brown, that he conferred with Gov. Cony, and offered something more.

Q. What other person in Bangor entered any complaint to you about it?

A. I think, as near as I can recollect now, Amos M. Roberts.

Q. When was that?

A. That was something like a year ago, I should say, when I had commenced to look up these matters.

Q. This Amos M. Roberts and Chas. P. Brown didn't find any fault about it until several years after it had been sold?

A. I do not know but that they might have found fault with a thousand other parties before I had occasion to look into it.

Q. To your knowledge?

A. I am speaking of myself; I do not know what they said to others.

Q. At the time you first learned, after the bids were opened, that this land was sold for 52½ cents per acre, as you say, to whom did you communicate the fact first, that it was undersold, if to anybody?

A. I do not know, I am sure. I could not name any person I communicated it to.

Q. Did you have any conversation with any party about it, to your recollection?

A. Yes; and correspondence was opened with the Western States as early as 1869, I think.

Q. Correspondence by whom?

A. By a friend of mine.

Q. I am talking about what you did, not what your friends did. Had you communicated with anybody about it personally, individually?

A. I have communicated in this way: through another person. And I have certainly one document in my pocket, received by him from a governor in a Western State, dated 1870. It was at the time we commenced investigating that matter. The corresponding was done through this gentleman, Capt. Samuel Hoskins of Oldtown.

Q. "At the time we commenced investigating." Who is *we*?

A. The time I say that I commenced to look into this matter.

Q. I thought you said *we*?

A. No, no. I had an object in view in investigating the sale. Perhaps I had no interest in it; but it was a matter of curiosity, and I used my information at the time I wanted to use it, to suit myself, and that was last year.

Q. Then you had been gathering up information from 1870 to 1875 for a particular purpose?

A. I was pretty well charged, sir, or else I should not have written those letters. Undoubtedly there is extravagant language there [in his communications to the Standard]. But it was a warm political campaign. Everybody was hurling dead cats and brick bats, and I thought I would take a hand.

Q. You hurled some?

A. I received some brick bats.

Q. And you paid them back in dead cats?

A. I paid them back in their own coin.

Q. I want you to confine your attention to the first transaction in this land scrip. You say you did know in '66 that these lands were sold at that time for 52½ cents per acre?

A. Yes, sir, after they were sold.

Q. What time in 1866 did you know it?

A. I cannot tell that, I am sure. It would be impossible for me to tell the exact date in relation to it. But it came to be a matter of conversation. I was not present. But I guess the matter was published. Came at it—as we come at information.

Q. When the fact was made know to you that this had been sold for "52½ per acre," as you say in your communication, did you enter any complaint publicly about it?

A. I did not know at the time it was sold at 52½ per acre, that it was worth any more at that moment. It was only after I inves-

tigated the fact and found other States had received five and six times as much, that I came to the conclusion there was something wrong in our lands.

Q. You were satisfied with the trade when it was made, as it came to your knowledge?

A. I knew nothing about it. I knew how much they received, but I did not know but that it was a fair value.

Q. You knew how much they did receive?

A. After it was published; after the bids were opened and the scrip bound to the parties, it was published properly, then. I never knew anything about it before that.

Q. Up to what time was it, you ever found any fault or made any public complaint about it?

A. I don't think I have ever written anything in relation to it until this series of articles that I wrote for the Standard. I think that is the first.

Q. 1875?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then from 1866 to 1875 you never made any public complaint of the fraud, as you call it, "robbery," in this transaction?

A. I will answer you so you will understand. I used this information to suit my own purpose and convenience, and at the time I wanted it, and that was last year. I never had any occasion to use it until last year.

Q. What particular thing gave rise or occasion for this kind of language then, more than any year previously?

A. If we are going into the political—

Q. Is there anything having connection with this transaction, or does it diverge into something else?

A. It is a positive certainty.

Q. Whether in what you had to do with it, you were treasuring up your information for the purpose of anything connected with this transaction alone, or for any other purpose outside and collateral to it?

A. My object was, to get the truth out—the facts before the people of Maine.

Q. For the purpose of informing them?

A. For the purpose of informing them of facts which they did not know, in my judgment.

Q. Of this particular transaction?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And for the purpose simply, of giving them information about this transaction?

A. I should not say *simply*; I might have had ulterior purposes. I am a Democrat, and I might want to fight that. I won't say it was my sole purpose.

Q. Your ulterior purpose was, you were a Democrat and you wanted to fight that?

A. My ulterior purpose was, that I wanted to convey to the people of Maine what they did not know, in my judgment, my belief that these lands were corruptly sold or grossly squandered. That is what I wished to convey.

Q. You wanted to do that, as I understand you, for ulterior purposes, simply because you were a Democrat?

A. You asked me if that was my sole purpose. I wanted to convey to the people of Maine that they had not had their dues in the disposition of these lands.

Q. That was your purpose?

A. That was my purpose.

Q. You say you take a great deal of interest in public matters; I understood you to say so. You took interest enough to inform yourself what this land brought?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you take a sufficient interest to inform yourself whether the land was sold for what it was worth at the time?

A. That, I answer you in this way: I informed myself fully that a very large number of the States of this Union sold their land at a much higher price than this.

Q. In 1866 did you find that fact out?

A. I found it out soon after that, as I told you. I think I commenced it in 1869.

Q. Then you did not know what land scrip was worth in 1866?

A. I do not know as land scrip had any particular market value at that time.

Q. I simply asked you if you knew what it was worth in 1866?

A. I say I did not at that moment, until after I investigated the matter.

Q. Then you did not know up to 1869 but that everything in this transaction had been carried on honestly and straightforward?

A. I do not say that I did not know. I had reasons to believe—I answer you in that way—I had reasons to believe after those bids were published, and I had compared the price of the lands

with the price of government lands, which was \$1.25 an acre, that there was something wrong. I did not commence any thorough investigation, I think, until, as I said, about 1869.

Q. The grounds of your belief were based upon the disproportion in the price? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you make that discovery, that there was a disproportion in the price received for this and government lands?

A. It was when the correspondence was opened with the Western States.

Q. When was that?

A. In 1869 and 1870.

Q. In 1866 you did not know what public lands were worth?

A. I do not understand you.

Q. You spoke of public lands?

A. The public lands held by the government, if I understand you, varied in price. I believe the minimum price per acre has been \$1.25, hasn't it?

Q. I am questioning you.

A. Well, this I stated before. This land was sold for 52½ cents per acre, and the government land at \$1.25 an acre.

Q. In 1866, when this land sold for 52½ cents—whether you knew before that time what government land was worth?

A. I have known that for a good many years, I think.

Q. Still, you were not led to believe there was anything wrong, induced by a disproportion of the price, until 1869?

A. I did not say that. I discovered, as I thought, there was something wrong about it as soon as I directed my attention to it with a view of unravelling it.

Q. That was in 1869?

A. Well, call it 1869. I had as lief start there as anywhere.

Q. With whom did you correspond in 1869?

A. I have stated that a gentleman who lives out at Oldtown, and whose name I have given here, had his attention called to this matter, and *believed it*, understand me, to be a swindle, and he commenced writing letters.

Q. I want you to divest your mind of one thing, and not testify under oath what other people believe.

A. Well, as he told me, perhaps I can relieve you a little and answer this question—

Q. I simply want to know the source of your information in 1869; I simply ask you this question, and you can answer it.

A. It was through correspondence by Mr. Hoskins with certain parties in the West, and he shew me the correspondence.

Q. That was not the question. I ask you this: Whether you by correspondence ascertained, or undertook to ascertain, what college scrip was worth in 1866?

A. Not personally, myself.

Q. Then you did not have any positive knowledge of your own through any correspondence?

A. I received all of the correspondence. The correspondence he received he handed to me.

Q. Now, going back. I find in this issue [of the Maine Standard of July 9th,] the following: "this same gang," this is the language, "the consorts of Blaine." Now, I want you to tell me who you meant by "this same gang"?

A. Am I to be held responsible for what was stated in the heat of a political campaign, before this committee?

Q. That is not the question I put to you.

A. Well, put it again.

Q. Who was "this same gang, the consorts of Blaine, who swindled over a million of dollars out of the people of Maine, in the disposition they made of the lands appropriated by Congress to the several States?"

A. Well, the party I had in view. I may have been extravagant.

Q. I ask you the question, you can answer it—"this same gang, the consorts of Blaine," the persons must have been known to you or else that declaration had no foundation in truth. Now, who were they?

A. I will tell you who I alluded to, and I can call their names. This land was placed in the hands of the Governor and Council, if I recollect right, to be disposed of.

Q. I understood you to denominate the Governor and Council as "this same gang, the consorts of Blaine." I understood you to say you meant the Governor and Council.

A. Very well.

Q. Is that right?

A. I am willing to leave it there. Perhaps there are some other parties with them. I do not recollect what I had in view at that time; it has been quite a time. I will leave it right there.

Q. [Reading.] "Swindled over a million dollars out of the people of Maine, in the disposition they made of the lands appro-

priated by Congress to the several States." Now, what did you mean by swindled?

A. I mean that the lands were disposed of for a much less value than they should have been. And if proper care and caution, such as you would have exercised in your own individual business, had been exercised, that this college, instead of being a pauper, would have a large fund amounting to nearly a million of dollars. That is what I mean.

Q. Is that what you call swindling?

A. I do. I do not know what you call it, if you have a mind to call it anything else. It is certainly something.

Q. Is that what you mean by *robbery*?

A. If you are guardian—

Q. I am asking you the question.

A. Then I will answer it; if I am guardian of a million of dollars—

Q. No, sir, wait.

A. Let me answer, please.

Q. No.

A. Well, this is an investigating committee.

Q. I want the truth. I do not want you to reason upon any pecuniary grounds. I want simply an answer to the question I put. You say you meant by "the gang," the Governor and Council? You meant by "swindling," selling lands for less than what they could have been sold for.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. That is what you mean by swindling; without having a proper regard, or without taking proper interest in it. Now I wish to know if that is what you call *robbery*, simply selling lands for less than what they were worth?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You call that *robbery*?

A. It is robbery of the people of the State.

Q. Then all you mean by *swindling* and *robbery*, as I understand you, is that the lands were sold for less than what they were worth?

A. I do not know but that is sufficient. A good deal less than they were worth.

Q. What do you mean by "Blaine's thieving Junto?" Who were they?

A. It is unnecessary for me to go any further ; I will, for the sake of answering your question—I will permit it to go—

Q. Wait ; don't you do anything for the sake of answering any question inconsistent with the oath of God that is upon you. Do I understand you to mean by " Blaine's thieving Junto," the Governor and Council ?

A. Well, I meant to say that this party had defrauded the State.

Q. The language is simple and plain. *Thief* is a word known to every school-boy in the State. Who did you mean by "Blaine's thieving Junto?"

A. I meant the party that disposed of the lands.

Q. The Governor and Council ?

A. And probably some parties that had a hand in it.

Q. Did you know who disposed of the lands ?

A. I knew that these lands were being manipulated and disposed of by the Governor and Council at that time.

Q. [Reading.] "Organized a Credit Mobiler." What did you mean by that ?

A. I meant that they disposed of the lands to suit themselves.

Q. [Continues reading.] "On the principal of one Oaks Ames of blessed memory, and sold the land to themselves!" What did you mean by that ?

A. These lands were distributed—

Q. Did you mean by that to be understood that they bought the lands individually ? What does *themselves* mean ?

A. I will tell you. Perhaps I was wrong in stating that. Wherever I am wrong I will acknowledge it. "Sold it to themselves." I should say that I was mistaken in that statement.

Q. That the only correction you desire to make ?

A. That is all I desire now.

Q. Then you were mistaken in *themselves*. In using the word you did not mean the Governor and Council, that they had bought the land did you ?

A. They disposed of it.

2. You say here, "sold the land to themselves."

A. I do not know ; all that I can say in relation to that is, I had reason to believe that parties connected with the Governor and Council purchased some of those lands for other parties. That it is what I meant by it. I had reason to believe.

Q. Why didn't you state it so ?

A. I suppose a man writing a newspaper article has a liberty to write as he chooses.

Q. Has the liberty to lie, in your judgment, when he knows the truth?

A. He has the liberty to express himself as he chooses, without any censure; that is my answer to that.

Q. He has?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. According to your judgment you have a right to slander and libel the living and blacken the memory of the dead in a newspaper article, without let or hindrance?

A. I do not say that. I say you nor any other man has a right to control my judgment in that matter. My tongue and my pen are my own.

Q. Then, in this then you simply wish to be understood that you did not mean the Governor and Council, but that they had sold it to other parties than themselves?

A. I never should have thought of that article again; I never look at them; but I had the impression that a large amount of this land—

Q. You now testify to your impressions. You have testified this was the result of six years investigation, and you introduce as the result, *impressions*. I do not want you to testify from your impressions.

A. I am ready to answer any questions.

Q. [Reading] "This prodigious swindle robbed the farmers of Maine of a vast fund." When you make use of that you mean—

A. I mean that the farmers of Maine did not receive their dues in the disposition of this land. You may call it a swindle, or anything else.

Q. That is to say, they were robbed of a thing that they never had?

A. They were robbed of a birth-right they did have. That is what I meant. They did have it.

Q. You meant by robbery, that they were cheated out of something that might have been their's?

A. I meant by robbery, that Gov. Cony and his Council had in their possession this land scrip.

Q. You say "through the action of Blaine's loyal swindlers." Do you mean the Governor and Council there, or *themselves*?

A. Yes, sir. Well—

Q. Which will you have it now ?

A. I suppose it is an indefinite party.

Q. Might it include you ?

A. No, because I had nothing to do with it. It did not include me. I think it included a good many.

Q. [Reading from Standard of July 16th] "At this supreme and solemn moment a set of conspirators, either among the trusted officers of the State"—Do you refer to the Governor and Council ?

A. Yes, sir, I do.

Q. Here [in the article] you declare the people of Maine were robbed of \$800,000. This refers to something ?

A. It is the same transaction, of course.

Q. [Reading from Standard of Aug. 13th] "Here is the secret of the whole conspiracy. The Legislature, through the recommendation of the Governor, who was backed by the conspirators." Do you mean the Council ?

A. I suppose that I meant this "Blaine gang." I guess I had better put it on that.

Q. You have denominated it the Governor and Council ?

A. Well—very well.

Q. In this article you say, further along, "That this wicked transaction, the evidences of which are plainly visible to any one who chooses to investigate them." That foreshadows the fact you have investigated the matters. Now, we will go to the question of what you know about that swindle ? I will ask you in the first place, if you know who had those lands, or the land scrip ?

A. All I know of who had them is what is published ; the names are published. I can give them to you in print, I believe here [shows Mr. Swazey a newspaper]. That is the Bangor Whig and Courier. In some place there you will find the bidders.

Q. Is this the first you knew who had the lands ?

A. I think that is the first definite statement I saw of the whole of them, altogether. I knew of them, knew they had had lands.

Q. This you found in the Whig and Conrier of Feb. 2, 1876 ?

A. Yes, that is the paper.

Q. This present month ?

A. Yes, sir. That is the fullest account I had seen.

Q. Does this contain a statement of the persons who bought the land of the Governor and Council ?

A. Yes, sir. That is, those who put in the bids, and to whom the lands were assigned.

Q. This is the first you knew of the purchasers of the scrip?

A. Of all of them; only by rumor, that is all.

Q. Then you did not know when you wrote this article, that the Governor and Council sold the lands to *themselves*—you did not know who had the lands?

A. I knew some of them.

Q. Name who you knew had any land at that time?

A. I heard the names of—

Q. I am asking of you who you knew?

A. I cannot know, because these parties were away. I certainly cannot know a great many persons.

Q. You say you did know some of the parties?

A. There was a party by the name of Woodman & Co., of New York, brokers in N. Y., that I had learned had had some land.

Q. When did you learn that fact?

A. I am sure I cannot answer it.

Q. Of whom did Woodman & Co. buy the land scrip?

A. I am speaking of the bids they put in. They put in bids and certain scrip was assigned.

Q. Woodman & Co.?

A. I do not know whether it was Woodman & Co. C. C. Woodman & Co., I think. They are brokers, I think, in N. Y.

Q. Do you know whether any was assigned to them?

A. I know it is so published.

Q. Then you did not know before you saw it published here?

A. I had heard of it by rumor.

Q. Of whom did they purchase?

A. They purchased their's from bids.

Q. From what?

A. They got their land by bidding for it.

Mr. Shepherd. You mean from the Governor and Council?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you learn that fact?

A. I learned the fact officially after the bids were opened; my attention was called to it after I saw the bids.

Q. That Woodman & Co. had bought some of the land scrip?

A. Yes, sir. There was another party in Detroit, I forget the name now.

Q. What amount did Woodman & Co. have, if you remember?

A. My impression is, somewhere about 90,000 acres; I am not definite, understand me. But that is my impression.

Q. Who else had any of this, to your knowledge?

A. The only knowledge I have is by report. Mr. Lancey, I think, had some; Gen. Smith had some.

Q. In your investigation, were you satisfied with simple reports?

A. I do not know why I should not be. There was nothing particular at stake in relation to it. I took the best evidence that I could get.

Q. How much did you learn that Lancey had?

A. I learned that Lancey had, I think, somewhere from fifteen to twenty-five thousand acres.

Q. When did you learn that?

A. I never learned it officially, (that is, for a certainty; I had heard it rumored) until I saw the bids published.

Q. When did you see the bids, published in this paper of Feb. 2d, 1876?

A. I had heard it by rumor for a long time, that Lancey and Smith had some of the lands.

Q. How much did Smith have?

A. My judgment is that Lancey, or, I think that Lancey took it for Gen. Smith. I think there were 25,000 acres; that is my judgment, and that Lancey divided with Smith. I think Lancey took 10,000 and Smith 15,000, or something like that.

Q. Who else did you know that had any of this land?

A. I know the same as I know how others have it; I think Mr. John Kimball had a small sum, seven or 8,000 acres, Kimball of Hermon, I think.

Q. How do you know?

A. I say I do not know, other than it is reported.

Q. In this newspaper?

A. In the newspaper there. I was not present.

Q. And this is the first you did know of it?

A. The first I knew of his having it, unless I knew it by rumor. That is the first official account.

Q. But you do not recollect any particular time when you heard of it before?

A. I cannot give you any dates.

Q. Who is John Kimball?

A. He is a man that I think I have seen. I believe he lives in Hermon, a town very near Bangor.

Q. Who is Mr. Lancey?

A. He is a gentleman living at Pittsfield.

Q. Who else did you know that had any of the land?

A. I do not seem to think of any other party now.

Q. Then in your investigation of this matter from 1869 to 1875, you had not really any positive knowledge of any body that had any of this land, had you, only by report?

A. How could I get at it in any other way?

Q. I am not on the stand; I am asking you the question.

A. I know it the same as I know anything that I heard from an official source.

Q. And you read that officially the first time in this paper?

A. Well, I read the whole of it there officially.

Q. Then I understand the result of your six years' investigation is, that it was based on reports, and that in fact you did not know until you saw it here, Feb. 2d, 1876, who had the land?

A. I knew by reports. It was common conversation. I live in a lumber country where people talk about land.

Q. Will you please to state what method you took during 1865 and 1866 in your investigation, to find out who had those lands?

A. I do not know as I took any particular method to find it out, only that the land was disposed of.

Q. Did you come here to the office to look at the records?

A. No, sir. I did not come here.

Q. Did you come here to examine any reports in the office?

A. I have examined these reports.

Q. Did you do it before you wrote these articles?

A. No, sir. Although I had access to reports at home, I did not come here for them. I had access to reports covering all that period.

Q. I want you to state, if you will, how much land you had any positive knowledge that any particular party owned prior to July of 1875?

A. I do not know as I could answer it any further than—I cannot state any positive amounts.

Q. Can you state one acre that you have any positive knowledge that any man owned of this college scrip, or bought of the Governor and Council?

A. At what time?

Q. Prior to the article that first appeared in the Maine Standard.

A. I had knowledge sufficient to satisfy me in relation to it.

Q. Had you seen any of the scrip?

A. No, I never saw any of it.

Q. Had you seen any of the records of the sale of that scrip, official records?

A. I had not seen any official records; I had heard of it. I had heard who had the lands. It was common conversation among the land men in Bangor.

Q. How did Lancey buy his land, and of whom?

A. He made application to the Governor and Council; put in a bid for it.

Q. You know that?

A. There are the bids [referring to the Whig and Courier.] They were published.

Q. Was Lancey a member of the Council at that time?

A. I was not aware of the fact. I think he was not.

Q. What are Lancey's politics? Do you know?

A. He is not a Republican.

Q. What is he?

A. I believe he calls himself a Democrat.

Q. What is Gen. Smith? Was he a member of the Council?

A. I think not.

Q. Governor Cony's Council?

A. No, sir.

Q. Woodman in New York could not have been a member of the Governor's Council?

A. I do not think he could.

Q. All these several parties you have no doubt bought their land of the Governor and Council under a resolve of the Legislature?

A. I presume so.

Q. In pursuance of the advertisement?

A. Very well.

Q. You have not doubt about that?

A. I see no reason to doubt that.

Q. Will you state how many acres of land you had any knowledge that any party owned, that was connected with the Governor or his Council?

A. No, sir.

Q. Will you state that you know a member of his Council, or the Governor, or any of the political friends of Gov. Cony or his Council, that had one acre to your positive knowledge?

A. I know they had the disposition of it.

Q. That is evading the question. Why don't you answer? If you have any knowledge about it, I want to know it.

A. I have no knowledge that Gov. Cony, or his Council—

Q. Or his political friends in the State had one acre of that college scrip? Have you any positive knowledge that they had?

A. I should say that some of his political friends had some of this scrip.

Q. Who are they?

A. Mr. John Kimball is one of his political friends I should think.

Q. And he had how much?

A. I think he had seven or eight thousand acres.

Q. And did you know that fact before July, 1875?

A. I do not know as I did. I am sure I do not know when I did know it.

Q. Is that all the instance you can name?

A. I have not stopped to think. I do not know anything about the friendship of those parties abroad. There was a party in Detroit, I think, who had some 90,000 acres, and then Woodman & Co. I know nothing about whether they are political friends or enemies.

Q. I will limit my question to the State. Can you name another party in Maine?

A. I do not know as I can. I have not thought of it. Perhaps I might.

Q. Then what do you mean by this article when you say that "Blaine's thieving Junto" got them? Do you mean Lancey?

A. No, sir.

Q. Do you mean Woodman of New York?

A. No, sir. I do not know whether I mean Woodman or not; he is a broker. What I meant to say was that Woodman is a stranger to me. I know that he is a broker and financier.

Q. Do you mean Gen. Smith?

A. In what connection?

Q. That he belonged to "Blaine's thieving Junto?"

A. No, sir, I do not mean it.

Q.. Who do you mean?

A. I mean the parties that disposed of those lands. The parties that disposed of those lands, I believe disposed of them, as I have said before, not in accordance with the best interests of this State.

Q. And you call that "Blaine's thieving Junto?"

A. Well, I am willing to have it rest there if you desire it.

Q. You call those the parties who sold the lands to *themselves*?

A. I call them parties that sold the lands.

Q. For *themselves*?

A. No, to outside parties.

Q. How did you qualify that before—*themselves* and to *their friends*?

A. I do not know as I said. They sold the lands, that is what I have to say. They sold the lands—disposed of them.

Q. Then you mean to be understood, if I understand anything at all, by what you do say, that "*Blaine's thieving Junto, themselves, band of conspirators, the robbers of Maine,*" you call Governor Cony and his Council?

A. I do not like to speak of the dead any way. But I speak of parties who had this land in their control. I believe that they either corruptly disposed of it, or that it was grossly—

Q. When did this tenderness of your conscience first show itself?

A. I have always had something of that sort.

Q. Do you think it is better to write about a man than to speak about him?

A. Have you any communication there of mine, where Governor Cony's name is mentioned?

Q. "The Governor and Council" at the time he was Governor would signify Governor Cony?

A. Very well, that is one thing.

Q. Still, you say they sold the land to *themselves* and their "*Blaine's thieving Junto,*" and you do not know a single member of that Council who ever had an acre of the land?

A. I will say this, as I have said before, that that land was disposed of in a way that it ought not to have been disposed of, and somebody got it.

Q. That is what you mean?

A. That is partly what I mean.

Q. Is that the result of your six years' investigation?

A. That is a part of the result of it.

Q. What is the other part? As intelligent as that?

A. The other part is this, that Maine once had 210,000 acres of land, which, in my judgment—

Q. Wait.

A. You wanted me to answer—[Continues his sentence]—and Maine has not got it now. Certainly, Maine had 210,000 acres of land, and it was sold at 52 cents an acre, while other States got from three to five dollars an acre for theirs.

[Maine Standard dated July 16, '74, shown witness.]

Q. Did you use Governor Cony's name there?

A. That is not mine.

Q. How did it appear in the Maine Standard?

A. I quoted it.

Q. A quotation of what?

A. [Reads.] "I have the honor to communicate for the information of the Legislature, that the Land Scrip, issued for the benefit of the Agricultural College in this State, under the law of the United States, amounting to about two hundred and fifty thousand acres, has been received.

SAMUEL CONY."

It is from a special message of the Governor that I took that, I think from a special message. It is one of his special messages to the Legislature.

Q. Now you went on in the same communication or in a subsequent one, and said, "at this supreme and solemn moment, a set of conspirators among the trusted officers of the State." Who did you mean? the Governor and Council?

A. I meant among the officers of the State. That is expressive enough.

Q. Did you know what Lancey paid for his college scrip?

A. I ascertained after the sale.

Q. When did you ascertain it?

A. I cannot tell you; when the bids were opened there was a good deal of talk about it. I suppose I got my information, not officially.

Q. You mean when the bids were opened on the first of March?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you learned immediately thereafter what Lancey paid?

A. I cannot say. I think I learned it at the same time.

Q. What did you learn that he paid?

A. I think he paid some 53 cents; I think that is his price.

Q. When did you learn what Kimball paid?

A. I do not know what Kimball paid. I could not state what he did pay. I only have a general recollection of it—that the lands sold at that time did not average much more than 53 or 54 cents.

Q. And you do not know positively what he did pay?

A. I could not state. I should say that he paid not over 53 cents. That is my recollection.

Q. What do you know about what Woodman paid, of New York, and when did you get your information?

A. I did not know how much he paid until I saw it, not certainly. I had heard it spoken of. But I saw it officially in the Whig and Courier.

Q. Do you recollect what he paid?

A. My impression is that it is 52½ cents.

Q. Did you learn that in 1866?

A. No, I do not recollect that I did at that time.

Q. Can you say you ever saw it until you saw it in this Whig and Courier?

A. I don't think I ever saw it in print.

Q. Did you ever see Woodman to converse with him about it?

A. No, sir.

Q. Ever see any of his agents to know what he paid, or to inquire what they paid for that college scrip?

A. I think there was a party in Bangor that knew them as brokers, that told me something about it. At any rate, I knew it when it was published.

Q. In the Whig?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. That was the second day of this month?

A. I knew it when it was published.

Q. You are certain about that?

A. I am pretty certain. I am certain the lands were sold very cheap.

Q. Did you ever correspond with Woodman yourself about it?

A. No, sir. I only know them by reputation as brokers, I think, in Wall Street.

Q. Ever had any correspondence with any party who had any of this college scrip?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know about the sale in 1870?

A. I know that there was a sale under Gov. Chamberlain. I have seen it in print. There was a modicum of the lands left, I think about twenty or thirty thousand acres. I think they brought 84 cents an acre.

Q. Where did you see that sale recorded?

A. I saw it in the newspapers, I do not know where.

Q. Did you ever know what the lands brought before you saw it?

A. I think very likely I did. I do not recollect about it. It is a matter that a person cannot know everything of. There is one patent fact I do know, most assuredly.

Q. Will you swear to it?

A. I have sworn to it.

Q. You have not written about it have you?

A. About what?

Q. That patent fact you do know.

A. Well, I shall to-morrow.

Q. [Reading] "There was something in the shape of an advertisement in a New York paper, and that was the extent of the advertisement."

A. I was mistaken in that.

Q. Then that is not true?

A. I have answered it. I do not think you ought to put the question in that way. I say I was mistaken. I cannot tell you where it was advertised. And I wish to say a word about that when I get at it, if you please. I say I was mistaken in saying that was the sole advertisement. That was the extent of my knowledge at that time. But I found out subsequently I was mistaken. It is said to have been advertised in the Kennebec Journal, and I suppose it was, although by diligent search and inquiry in the city of Bangor among land men, I have never found a single man that ever saw it. And there is one man there that has taken the Kennebec Journal covering all that period, who took it expressly and for no other purpose than the advertisements, and that is Eben S. Coe, and he informed me that he never saw the advertisement in his life. It might have been there; I presume it was published. I have no doubt it was. But that paper had no circulation in the East, very limited circulation east of the Penobscot river. Nobody ever knew anything about it, or very few.

Q. You say you made diligent search among the lumber men to find one who had seen it?

A. Yes, I asked a good many persons, of those that deal in lands, if they ever saw it; such men as Coe, Gorham L. Boyington and William McCrillis, and that class of men that deal in those lands.

Q. Did they take the Journal?

A. No, sir, Eben Coe takes it. But I never found a man that ever saw it.

Q. What do you mean by this. [Reads.] "A republican gentleman and land owner, informs me that he thinks he saw something resembling an advertisement hid away in the corner of an obscure paper in Maine, but is not certain?"

A. Let me see that paper. [Paper shown witness.] I recollect now. I went to Isaac R. Clark, the Land Agent. It was at the time that I was investigating to find out if the Kennebec Journal had an advertisement in. And I went to several parties, as I told you, and I could find out nothing, and he being the Land Agent, I went to him. I recollect now. I had forgotten it. Clark *thought*, that is the way I put it. I guess I put it about as he stated it there, that there was something of that sort in the Kennebec Journal.

Q. Did you know the fact that the trustees of this agricultural college memorialized the Governor and Council to sell this scrip?

A. I did.

Q. You knew that fact?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. In your investigation what have you ascertained that college scrip brought in any State, during the years 1865 and up to the first of April, 1866, or the first of June, 1866, or even the first of July?

A. I have a letter here from the Governor of Michigan. It is dated 1870, and tells its own story. Will you permit me to read it; it is very short? The original letter, I wish to state to the committee—

Q. Is it published?

A. Yes, sir. I carried it into the compositors' room to put it in print, and I never called for the original letter. But I am under oath. [The (Bangor) Democrat shown chairman. It is dated Oct. 5th, 1870. Marked "J."]

Q. The question I asked you was, if you in your investigation had ascertained what college scrip was selling for prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. He writes there, and if you will let me read the letter—I think the letter is admissible.

Q. You can answer?

A. Well, I will answer the question. He says there, that in 1863 the Legislature fixes the minimum price at \$1.25.

Mr. Pike. The letter speaks for itself.

Witness. And the next Legislature raised the minimum price to three dollars.

Q. That is not what I am asking you. I am asking you if you found out in your investigation what college scrip sold for prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. I have a report, the dates I cannot tell exactly, from a very large number of States.

Q. Of sales prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. I do not know certainly that I could give the dates.

Q. The date is material.

A. What I have, were lands disposed of between 1864 and 1870; I cannot fix the dates.

Q. You can confine the sales at any time prior to 1869?

A. I should think those sales would amount to it, and I have no doubt—

Q. I want to know if, from your investigation, you are prepared to state any positive knowledge of what any college scrip sold for in 1865, to the first of July, 1866, I mean?

A. The particular dates I cannot give.

Q. You need not answer the question if you cannot give the dates, because that is the time our scrip was sold.

A. This (paper) I have here is a matter of record. It is all official. I have a large number of States here, where the lands were sold, but I cannot give the dates.

Q. When did you examine those records to ascertain?

A. Some of them I have examined recently, and some of them I had through correspondence.

Q. When did you make that memorandum?

A. This afternoon, I took it off. It is from official sources. It is pretty difficult to go behind the record.

Q. Have you any means of knowing what college scrip was worth in 1870, in February and March?

A. I am satisfied that these lands (on memorandum) were all sold previous to that time in 1870; I think the college scrip sold by Gov. Chamberlain was in 1870, for 84 cents. But if I under-

stand it, the most of this scrip outside of New England had been disposed of previously to that, at a very advanced price.

Q. Do you know what scrip was worth in 1870, anywhere, except in the sale in Maine?

A. I havn't it on my mind now, any further than records go.

Q. Have you ever ascertained, with a view to see what scrip was worth at that particular time when ours was sold?

A. I could inform myself of the date very quickly, I presume.

Q. I simply ask you if you did inform yourself what it was worth at that time?

A. At that particular date, I do not know as I did. I never got the dates, although I might have got them well enough. But these lands in the West were sold, I think, previously to 1870, mainly, and about the time this scrip was sold.

Q. Do you know what public land warrants were worth in 1870?

A. So far as my observation goes, land warrants never had any fixed price. If they got into the hands of brokers, probably they did. But these land warrants were generally obtained by impecunious persons who sold at what they could get.

Q. What they could get. Do you know what it was?

A. There is a record of them, I think.

Q. I ask you if you knew?

A. I know that the price was fluctuating.

Q. What was the variation in price, or between what limits did it fluctuate?

A. Perhaps forty cents to a dollar.

Q. An acre?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was that?

A. All the way along through a very long period, I should say.

Q. What do you call a long period, and when was it?

A. Any period perhaps; any period in the past. I do not know how long a period, but any period almost in the past.

Q. Put it inside of Adam won't you?

A. Yes; any time since we have had land scrip.

Q. What you mean by this article alleging "fraud, robbery and corruption in high places," is simply this: that the land was sold for less than it would have brought since that time?

A. A good deal less.

Q. And that is all you mean by the appellation?

A. I meant to say too, that at that same time other parties in other States were getting a very much larger sum than was received by Maine.

Q. Now will you tell me what States?

A. I will take the State of Michigan.

Q. What did Michigan get and when was the sale made?

A. The minimum price, as the Governor says, was fixed in 1863.

Q. I am not talking to you about the minimum price. I am talking to you about actual sales?

A. And he says there in that paper that he sold 17,000 acres of land for \$53,000.

Q. I am asking now to know what you know about actual sales to July 1st, 1866, at the time our scrip was sold. How much was sold in Michigan and what did it bring?

A. I have answered it as well as I can answer it.

Q. Is that all you know about it, what you gather from this communication of the Governor of Michigan?

A. There are other communications.

Q. Is this what you base your testimony upon?

A. It is, and it is explicit enough for my purpose. [The letter marked "I" is put in.]

Q. From that letter, will you tell me how much land was sold in Michigan prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. I think he did not state that point. He only states what he has sold there.

Q. Do you know whether States holding this scrip could locate the land?

A. I never had any doubt but that they could locate it if they chose so to do.

Q. Is that the result of your investigation?

A. It is the result of my judgment.

Q. Simply your judgment?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever read the act in relation to locating, the act granting this scrip to the several States?

A. Yes, sir, I have read the act. It is not altogether in my mind now.

Q. Do you know, or not, whether the State could locate?

A. I do not know as there was anything said in the act. I cannot say. It is not in my mind now.

Q. Do you or not know the fact that the States could locate if there were any public lands within their own limits?

A. That is not within my knowledge. I am not aware that there was any distinction made. My judgment was that a State could locate scrip at any time when it chose. That was my understanding of it.

Q. By the State in its official capacity?

A. Well, by parties that were authorized by the State.

Q. In the name of the State?

A. That is what I had supposed.

Q. Will you tell me, if you can, what other States sold, if any, prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. You confine me to dates. I did not take dates. I wish I had. I could have had them. I have a very large list here of lands, from the various States, taken from official sources. I had reason to know about them before.

Q. Then can you tell me of any other State besides Michigan that sold any college scrip prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. As I said before, you fix me down to dates. But here is Minnesota and Missouri and California, Iowa, Oregon, and all these States, or a large number of them that sold their lands at much higher price than ours.

Q. Prior to July 1st, 1866?

A. I say you fix me to a date, and I don't think it amounts to much any way. It is within that period.

Q. Do you know of a single State that sold their college scrip at the time we sold ours in 1870?

A. I have reason to believe—

Q. I ask you the question, if you know of a single State that sold their college scrip in 1870, at the time we sold ours?

A. I am satisfied that the scrip of all or nearly all the States, were sold at about the period and the time the scrip of Maine was sold. That is, between 1864 and 1870.

Q. You oscillate between extreme dates without giving any data at all.

A. Well, I do not think it is very important. I cannot be confined to a particular date.

Q. When you wrote these articles, charging that the State had been robbed, you did not know how much less Maine had sold for, nor how much more any other State had received, at the same time the sales were made?

A. I do not think it was necessary that I should, as a basis for writing those articles.

Q. Do you say you did not know?

A. I do not say I did not know it.

Q. What do you say about it?

A. I say that I had reasons to believe and did believe, from such information as I had, that other States received a vastly larger sum for her scrip than the State of Maine; and that is what I base my articles on.

Q. At the particular time that Maine sold her's?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you tell me one single State?

A. No, I cannot.

Q. Can you give me one single source of your information up to that time?

A. I received, as I told you, or a correspondence was carried on by another party, and I had a view of it. I learned that these Western States had sold their lands at a very much larger price, five or six times more than Maine got.

Q. But you won't swear when they sold them?

A. I will swear that they did sell them. I cannot fix the date.

HIRAM RUGGLES sworn.

Examined by Mr. Shepherd.

Q. Were you a member of the Council in 1865 and 1866?

A. I was.

Q. Are you conversant with the transactions that took place in connection with the sales of this land, known as the "Agricultural College Scrip?"

A. I am. I shared a part of the duties of disposing of that.

Q. Will you give us in brief a statement of the material points, without being questioned in particular?

A. Perhaps the first material point, so far as the history of the legislation of 1864 and '65, and the congressional legislation in regard to the scrip, is well understood by the committee, and what our powers were during the time we had charge of the sale. I suppose the first, and where criticisms have come in, is upon the advertisement. And I will make some little statement in regard to the time when we came to the point that we advertised this land for sale.

When selecting our papers for these advertisements we did not do it thoughtlessly, but looked over and canvassed in our minds what would be a fair advertisement to reach the business interests of the country. Of course we could not advertise in every little local paper, but we wanted to take such papers as had general circulation. Now for Maine, for here comes the greatest criticism that Maine was not duly notified of this sale. We first took the State paper. Then we took the New York Tribune, which in 1865 and 1866 had probably a more wide circulation and a larger circulation than any other paper in the State, or that came into the State. We put it into the weekly and in the Daily Tribune. We also advertised in the Boston Advertiser, which is a business newspaper; men of all creeds of belief believe in the Boston Advertiser as a business paper. We also put it in the Journal of Commerce of New York, which is another paper that business men consult. And then we put it in the papers of St. Louis and Chicago. And as subsequent events transpired, I have never felt but that the people were notified, and properly; the lands were properly and duly advertised. Another point which certainly should have some weight, although it did not appear in the newspaper print. On the 21st of December 1865, was the day that we decided what papers to put these advertisements in. In a very short time, and as you will recollect by looking back, the Governor for the two preceding years had spoken of this sale, or the disposition of these lands in his messages. He was about to deliver another message to the people of the State, and in that message it was stated that the lands had been advertised. Now here is only the 21st day of December that these advertisements were decided upon. This message was going into every town, into every business man's hands, mentioned in that message of the Governor that these lands were advertised, in plain English. That of itself seemed, with the other papers sufficient, in my judgment and in the judgment of the Council and the Executive, as an advertisement for the people of Maine. I do not know that I have anything further to say about the advertisement. These lands were advertised during and throughout the whole session of the Legislature. The Legislature adjourned, I think, the 23d or 24th of February of 1866. When we stated the time for opening these proposals, the first day of March, we presumed the Legislature would be in session; we had no doubt about it. Previous years they had held longer than that; but it so happened that

year that they adjourned the 23d or 24th of February. So the Governor kept his Council together after the adjournment until the first day of March, when those bids were opened.

Those bids have been published and republished, and have become a matter of record to the State. We were convinced, in looking at the bids, and looking at the disabilities that lay upon it, that it would not compare in the market with land warrants. And from the peculiarity of those bids, we knew that in certain localities, that is, in land centres, there was a market value for this scrip. It bore a market value, as gold will bear a value to-day. That is, perhaps, not so close, but we saw there was a market value, however; because they bid by fractions. When we came to New York it was so many cents and a fraction; when we came to Minnesota, so many cents and a fraction; from Detroit, so many cents and a fraction, and yet, all merging to within a very narrow compass—but a few cents from one limit to the other among these large bidders. And we spent a whole half day weighing this subject, and what we could do with it, or whether we had any right to reject the whole thing after the repeated requests of the Legislature and the college trustees to sell that scrip. And if we did, what was the prospect in view? At that time there was pending in Congress—(and I think to-day if it hadn't been for land brokers it might have passed, for it is the most natural thing in the world for Congress to give land to soldiers)—there was a bill in Congress pending to give 160 acres of land to every deceased soldier's heirs. And that had a weight upon our minds; because if that bill did become a law, we knew this scrip would go lower. The bids from Maine shew upon the face of them that they knew nothing about the value, simply cut in; I mean now the bids of the first of March, that were put in originally. They were down low. They seemed to strike at a venture; but very small. Here was a bid for 32,000 acres by D. Preston & Co. of Detroit at 53 cents and a fraction; Woodman & Co. of New York bid 52½ cents for 60,000 acres; McLuer of St. Cloud bid for 15,000 acres, at 57 cents and a fraction; Davis of Missouri bid for a small amount 60 cents. We came to the conclusion that we would accept, that is, so far as those bids I have named over, embracing lands that amounted in the aggregate to a little over 100,000 acres, perhaps one hundred and ten or twelve. When we came to notify the parties that their bids were accepted, the man that bid sixty cents did not respond at all. My inference is, that he found it was not for his

interest to respond. I have good reason for saying this, because I have in my pocket the market value of what these brokers stated they would sell for, even at a less price at that time, or soon after. The man at St. Cloud made an excuse that the mail did not reach him in season, and he bought otherwise, but he would take half of it any way. He was to pay 57 cents and something. That is McLure. He would take half of it. He was up for 57.

Mr. Swazey. Mr. McLure is on here (schedule) for sixty, too.

A. It was a very small amount at 60 cents, I guess. We had 15,000 at 57½. We took that. He did not accept. He falls back, but finally takes one-half. Woodman & Co., and D. Preston & Co. took theirs. And then, in the aggregate, we had sold a little less than 100,000 acres. Then we were ready to adjourn the Council; had no more business on hand. The Legislature had gone home, and we spent considerable more time than to know what to do for the future of the college. We then had, prospectively, \$50,000, or about that. We finally concluded as a council, informally, no record of this, that we would go on and sell that scrip the best we could, until we got a fund of \$100,000, and retain the rest of it, letting those after us do what they saw fit. The Council passed an order entrusting this matter to the Governor solely, as the Council could not be with him; but whatever parties that came making a better bid, or even the bid that we had received and accepted, to take it. I went home. I went to Bangor. I said to our folks, "here is scrip now in the market, it is open, if you want any of it you can go and get it, I presume; the governor has it solely in charge. If you make a little better bid—I generally put it in this way—I advise you to make a little better bid than we have accepted." I did not arouse a man in Bangor. That is, no voice came to me that this was a cheap sale, not one; no criticism, nor did I find the man to come up responsive and say, "I guess that is a good trade, and I will take hold of it," not one.

This was ten years ago. I am not able to say (but I have strong impressions I did) that I talked with this man and that and the other, after the years have passed over. It will be hard for me to come up and swear that I said this to a man. He might forget himself and say that it could not be that I did say it, when my impression was strong that I did. I know I talked it in the banks, on the cars, and with men. I saw Lancey and Smith, and this man (Kimball) or Kimball or Lancey and Smith, so it was from my talk publicly on the cars that they heard, and through

that they came to get it. Now certainly, here there was no favoritism with me. Mr. Lancey had no acquaintance, and our political affinities, were not together at all. I knew that he was a man that speculated. I said, "Lancey, go over and make a trade and get some of the land." Very soon, that is, as soon as the mails would go to Detroit and back—it seems this is a matter of history—I was not conversant with at the time. But D. Preston & Co., offered the Governor to duplicate and triplicate and quadruplicate his bid of 32,000; that is, as long as it lasted, taking so many pieces in a given time. As you see upon the record, the Governor accepted a duplicate and triplicate, and then it was exhausted, that is, the \$100,000 was received after accepting the bids of Lancey, Smith and Kimball. And there was no more to sell. But no man ever came up to me—no man ever made the expression to me, "if I could have known this I would have given more." When it came along to the close of the year, I got these papers together, made up the report of the facts in the case, detailing them so far as I recollected, with the vouchers and everything with them, as near as I could, and put them upon record. There have been some pretty hard things said here to-night. Of course I take my share of the responsibility.

Q. Do you recollect of ever any parties coming to the Governor or Council at any time previous to these lands being advertised, and making any private offers, or having any talk in reference to the sale of the land?

A. I not only do not know of any, but during the conversation with the Governor this day when we were canvassing as to the bids the first day of March, I know I asked him about it; said I, "Governor, you have had this matter on your hands a good while. Here the first year the Legislature, it seemed the Legislature, indicated a disposition to put it solely into your hands, and you were to go out and confer with other States, &c., that a combination of States might be gotten up to dispose of these lands. Now is there anything giving any light whereby you may see any way out to get any more for those lands?" He told me emphatically, I remember his language, "not any," "nothing," he says, "from any source." I suppose why you asked that question is in regard to Mr. Brown's testimony. Now, as I say, I do not know with whom I talked, but I said to Mr. Brown after he gave that testimony, "it seemed to me that you were the very man or

one of them, that I talked with." Said I, "I felt that it must be so, but I should hesitate a little in stating it under oath." I felt it was so. "Now you or I or one of us have forgotten it." I said, "I do know this, Mr. Brown, when Mr. Kimball came to me at a certain time and wanted to unload his scrip because he did not want to carry it any longer, I said perhaps you can go and do something with Mr. Brown; you go and try him." Mr. Kimball is here to speak for himself. I asked him afterward how he succeeded, and he said he could get no offer out of Mr. Brown.

Q. Do you know from your own knowledge in the matter, what college scrip was worth, or what it sold for generally in the markets, along in 1865 and 1866, along the time this was sold by the State of Maine?

A. I have something here of D. Preston & Co.'s, not only giving the rates of money, but land and various things, published daily, giving what he will give or what he will sell for. I have here one of his cards published in 1866. [It is marked "F." and is called "Preston's Daily Financial Circular." It is made a part of the report.]

Q. Did you ever hear of lumber men, or men who dealt in Western lands in Bangor, make any complaint that they were not notified, or that they did not know about this sale, at any time up to 1870?

A. I think I stated that no man came to me with a complaint that he had not due notice, or that he wanted any; or that he would have done better if he had know it.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. There seems to be a quantity sold to Kimball. Whether you were personally interested in that?

A. Mr. Kimball is here; I had no interest in his bid whatever, not in the least. After April, I think, quite early in April, Kimball came to me and said he had more land with him than he wanted, and would like to sell a part of it. And he wanted I should buy a piece of it; wanted to get rid of it he said. I told him I would think of it, and if I could, I would take a quarter of his scrip; that is, a quarter of 5,000 acres. As it went on a short time longer, he fell in with Gen. Hersey, and he got a promise from him to either take the other half or all. But finally Hersey and I bought all of it, I buying one quarter and Hersey three-quarters of the scrip. I made an arrangement with Gen. Hersey

to locate my portion, and he thought he should locate his, and I was to pay one-quarter of the bills for exploring, &c., and we were to locate the land. At the end of about a year, Hersey, I think, went out in the spring, and took the scrip out with him. Either in the fall or winter he reported to me that he had made some bills, but he had had no success. He had made explorations, and when he got ready to sit down he could not, because somebody was ahead of him. The next year the success was the same. He did not manage to locate, and gave it up and put it into the market at St. Louis and sold it, and I got out of mine I think after paying the expenses, a little over a hundred dollars. I figured it up and made it just about a fair interest out of my speculation.

Q. That the only interest you had?

A. That is the only interest whatever. I had no shadow of interest whatever, until after the whole thing was closed out. I had no drawing that way. It was simply accommodation at the time, and I felt it when I took it.

By Mr. Swazey.

Q. Do you know whether any member of the Council bought any of this scrip?

A. I think that was the only thing that any member of the Council or the Executive had a touch. And I do not think when we parted, and when this was all done, that there was. If there is, there is no trace that I know.

Q. Did Republican, or political friends of the Governor or Council, buy any scrip?

A. Mr. Kimball is a Republican. That is the only man whose politics I know, except Smith and Lancey, whom I know to be Democrats. The way Mr. Kimball came to bid, I had considerable work to do in the Council, having a large class of war bills, State aid bills, and Mr. Kimball was a competent man, and I had him over here. I had five clerks, and Mr. Kimball was the chairman of them. When the Legislature got through that year, the auditing of accounts came up; that is, making certain corrections. I do not mean now, adjudicating accounts, but clerical accounts, State aid accounts. I left him here with the clerks when the Council adjourned. I went home and stayed two or three weeks. And during that time he was here, this bid was put in, I believe, unbeknown to me, without any connection with him whatever.

Q. Did I understand you to say the bid was unknown to you?

A. Yes, sir, at the time he made it. We had committed this matter to the Governor and gone home. And it was subsequently to that that he made his bid. We adjourned the first of March, and it was about the 15th, I think, that these bids were made. I only know that, from making up these records what took place after the first of March.

Mr. Powers. When did you receive that circular (marked "H")?

A. It has not been in my hands very long.

Mr. Bass. You could not swear whether it was printed in 1866?

Mr. Pike. What do you mean by "very long"?

A. Here is a gentleman (pointing to Daniel Cony) that can tell more about this circular. He gave me the circular.

Mr. Cony. I gave him the circular.

Witness. Mrs. Cony says she found it done up carefully in the Governor's papers, with "College Scrip" marked upon it, and some of those papers dated back to the transaction, and this was filed among them. His papers were of no consequence to the public; but they were filed carefully away, and this was taken out of them, so Mrs. Cony told me.

JOHN KIMBALL SWORN.

Examined by Mr. Powers.

Q. Where do you live?

A. In the town of Hermon.

Q. How long have you resided there?

A. Thirty-five years, nearly.

Q. Did you buy any of this college scrip?

A. I did.

Q. How much?

A. Five thousand acres.

Q. What did you pay for it?

A. Fifty-three cents.

Q. I see your bid says for you and others. Who had associated themselves with you at the time you bought it, any one?

A. No, sir.

Q. No one?

A. No, sir.

Q. State whether or not Mr. Ruggles at the time you bought it, had any connection with you about it?

A. Not that I know of, anything more than to tell me the conditions upon which the Council had agreed to sell it. I did not

want so much as 5,000 acres, but I could not buy any less unless I bought that amount. That, I believe, was the decision of the Council.

Q. Did you sell any to Charles P. Brown?

A. I did not.

Q. Did you go to him and try to make a sale of this scrip to him?

A. I did meet with Charles P. Brown at one time in Bangor. My object was to sell to him if I could.

Q. Did you succeed?

A. I did not.

Q. What were you selling for at that time?

A. I had previously to that time sold to Gen. Hersey; I had sold to Mr. Ruggles one-quarter, and agreed with Gen. Hersey for one-half, reserving a quarter to myself.

Q. That is what you wanted to sell Mr. Brown?

A. Yes, sir. I sold to Hersey and Ruggles for 54½ cents, I think. I finally sold the three-quarters to Hersey.

Q. After going and seeing Brown, did you return and sell Hersey the remainder?

A. I did. I cannot recollect all the conversation between Brown and me about it.

Q. Do you have a distinct recollection that you went to him to sell this quarter?

A. I do. I would not have the committee misunderstand me. I did not go to his office for the purpose; but I met him on the street. I knew he was a land buyer, and I think I was acquainted with him. My object was to sell it if I could.

Q. You sold to Mr. Ruggles for 54½ cents did you?

A. Yes, I sold the whole for that, or very near it. I got about \$75 out of my purchase; that is what I made, \$75 or \$80.

Q. How long did you hold it before you made the sale?

A. But a short time.

Q. A month?

A. I should say it might be a month before I completed the whole thing. I saw Mr. Ruggles very soon after I went home from here, and possibly I saw him here before I went. He went away the first of the month and I was here. I remained some two or three weeks after the Council adjourned.

Q. Did you buy during these two or three weeks you were left here?

A. I made the offer to the Governor. And I think I made it in writing, but I am not sure. I would not swear to that unless I could see the writing. But I think I did. [Proposal marked "F" shown witness.]

Q. Look and see if that is your bid?

A. It has been ten years, and this thing has not been in my mind at all, from the time I got rid of it until now; yes, that is my hand-writing.

Q. You say at that time you had no particular persons in your mind under the term of "others?"

A. I had several persons in my mind that I was in hopes would come in with me, why I made that bid in that way. I supposed I had got to have it so in order to have others come in and buy with me and own it together.

Q. Who did you have in your mind?

A. Some of my neighbors; I cannot say I had men in Bangor. I had made no definite arrangement at that time with any one. I put it in that form that I might make the arrangement afterward. I never bought an acre before in my life, and I thought I would try my luck. But I got sick of looking, and finally concluded I could use my money better.

By Mr. Pike.

Q. Took a small profit and let it run?

A. Yes, sir. I thought it cost me all it came to, to take care of it. That is all I know about it.

Q. You are a connection of Mr. Ruggles?

A. No, sir.

Q. No connection by marriage?

A. No, sir, not any. We went to school together when we were boys. I am no relation that I know of.

Testimony Closed.

Mr. Powers moved that the report as made up by the Stenographer be regarded as the evidence before the committee, and that he certify it as in cases in court.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The foregoing is a true report of all the evidence and papers in the case, both oral and documentary.

Attest:

F. A. SMALL, *Stenographer.*

REPORT.

On the 31st day of January the Legislature passed the following resolve :

WHEREAS, The lands or scrip granted by Congress to this State for a College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, are reported to have been sold at prices far below those obtained by some other States for similar land or scrip, be it

Ordered, That a Committee of seven on the part of the House, with such as the Senate may join, be appointed for the purpose of investigating said sales, and that said Committee have power to send for persons and papers and administer oaths and report to this Legislature.

SYNOPSIS OF EVIDENCE.

The undersigned, members of a committee appointed under the above resolve, have proceeded to make the examination indicated in it. They have summoned such witnesses as were readily accessible, and such documents as could be found in the Secretary of State's office. The limited time prevented them from pursuing the investigation further, and they now proceed to give the results which they have been able to accomplish.

They find by the law of Congress of 1862, 210,000 acres of land were assigned to this State, for the purpose of establishing an Agricultural College. The Legislature of 1863, accepted the Congressional grant in accordance with its terms. In 1864 an attempt was made by the Legislature to act in conjunction with other States in the disposal of this valuable property. The next year the Governor and Council was intrusted with the control and disposal of these lands. The record given in the testimony presented herewith, states the manner in which they discharged their duty. It seems by it that they published one small advertisement of the sale in the Kennebec Journal, and this was the only paper in Maine containing a notice of the sale. In addition to this publication, notices were published in the Boston, New York, St. Louis and Chicago papers. This notice was published in December, 1865, and invited proposals for these lands, and on the first of March, 1866, the proposals were opened. They were found to contain the bids reported in the evidence. It will be seen that the only bidders in Maine were Isaac R. Clark, at that time Land Agent, and the Bangor Land Company, a paper company, composed of the Adjutant General, John L. Hodgdon and the Land Agent, Mr. Clark. The Governor and Council accepted a portion of these bids, taking all those above $53\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Some of the purchasers did not close the bargain, leaving about half of the lands undisposed of. These lands, so undisposed of, were subsequently sold at private sale at $53\frac{1}{2}$ cents, partly to persons in Maine, and the rest to parties in the Western States. These transactions occurred in March and April of 1866, and made a disposition of the entire property, except about 16,000 acres, which were subsequently disposed of during Gov. Chamberlain's administration, at 84 cents per acre. The whole fund, with the accumulation of interest derived from these lands, now amounts to \$118,394.47.

While the State of Maine was thus managing and disposing of this property, other States, which had received larger or smaller quantities, according to their size, were similarly employed. We have given, in the evidence presented, the result of their efforts. We now call attention to the dates. In 1864 and 1865, Vermont sold its lands at an average price of 81½ cents. Connecticut sold for 75 cents. New York sold 76,000 acres at 85 cents per acre. In 1866 and 1867 Massachusetts closed the sale of its lands, averaging for the whole quantity 66 cents per acre. During these years about one-half the large grant of lands to New York were located by Mr. Cornell, chiefly in Wisconsin. Mr. Cornell's locations comprised about 525,000 acres of the 990,000 acres received by that State. At the close of 1867 it was deemed best by the New York authorities to dispose of their remaining lands, and make no further location. They desired to realize money for present purposes. During those years they sold 381,000 acres for 93 cents per acre. The documents we have been able to obtain do not indicate the times at which the remainder of the college lands were sold. The sales of the Southern States, it is believed, were generally made at a later date and larger price. Nor do we deem it fair to compare the sales of lands belonging to Maine with those of the Western States, which had certain prior rights as to the public lands within their limits. The sales of land in the other five New England States averaged 66 cents an acre. New York, by means of advantageous locations, obtained very much more. Mr. Cornell making sales at \$4, \$5 and \$6 per acre, of the lands he located.

Thus far we have given the statements chiefly from the documents alluded to in the evidence. Several witnesses were called, more or less at a venture, for the purpose of ascertaining any facts that might be of interest with reference to the sales, not contained in the documentary testimony. At an early meeting of the committee it was resolved to summon any witness any member of the committee might designate. At the first meeting for the examination of witnesses, Mr. Charles P. Brown of Bangor testified. Mr. Brown is a well known gentleman of wealth, who has long been engaged in the Western land business, having bought and sold since 1850 more than 20,000 land warrants, or about 300,000 acres. Being in this business so largely, he watched the land operations of the country very closely, and when the college land scrip made its appearance he gave particular attention to it. In July and

August of 1865, Mr. Brown was in the West, and made calculations and arrangements for the disposal of the Maine College Scrip in case he should be able to obtain it. In the fall of that year, he saw Gov. Cony at Augusta, and being well acquainted with him was solicited by the governor to make an offer for these lauds. And Mr. Brown then offered the governor 63 cents per acre for the whole quantity, paying \$25,000 in money, and taking scrip sufficient to absorb that amount at 63 cents an acre, and renewing this payment of \$25,000 every three months until all the scrip was exhausted, giving good security for the performance of his offer. Mr. Brown's offer was not accepted, the governor saying that it was the best proposition they had received, but adding some statement relative to proposals, and saying to Mr. Brown that he would confer further with him in relation to the sale. In that interview Mr. Brown advised locating one hundred thousand acres of the land, and expressed the opinion that five dollars an acre could be obtained for it after a time, and that the whole scrip taken together was worth one dollar per acre. Mr. Brown heard nothing farther of the sale of this land until all the sales of March and April, 1866, had been made. He was in Bangor during the winter, but heard and knew nothing of the advertisements for proposals. Mr. Brown farther states, that there has been no time from the time of his making the offer until the present, when he would not have been glad to carry out his proposition. He gives the price of land warrants, and gives his reasons why he deems the college scrip in some particulars preferable to land warrants.

This comparison between land warrants and college scrip is also made by Mr. Harmon and Mr. Lancey, who say that at times the scrip is not worth so much as land warrants by twenty-five per cent., but it seems that Mr. Lewis of Cleveland in 1868 purchased 180,000 acres of Mr. Cornell at one dollar per acre. Mr. Lewis was by far the largest purchaser of college scrip in the United States; and according to Mr. Harmon's statement in 1868, while Mr. Lewis was making these large purchases of college scrip at one dollar per acre, land warrants were worth but a dollar an acre. It is evident from this, that if at times there was a difference between the two, there were also times when the prices of the two were the same.

Mr. Brown gives his estimate of the value of land warrants which does not differ materially from that of Mr. Harmon.

Ex-Governor Coburn was examined by the Committee, and stated what he knew in relation to these lands. He had no knowledge personally, and took no interest in the sales of 1866. He also gives his views as to the price of land warrants, and the comparative value of land warrants as compared with scrip. His operations in land warrants were limited, compared with those of Mr. Brown or Mr. Harmon. His whole operation in land warrants was something less than twenty thousand acres, and was confined to purchasing warrants and locating. He has never sold either land warrants or the lands located under them. He says there was a fraction difference of the price in the two, but how much he cannot say, nor can he state the market price of either land warrants or scrip in 1866, when these lands were sold.

Mr. Z. K. Harmon of Portland, was examined by the Committee at some length, as to his knowledge of the price of land warrants and scrip. He seems to have been a very large dealer in warrants, and testified with precision as to their value at different times. He had nothing to do with the sale of scrip except that disposed of by Gov. Chamberlain. His statements as to the comparative value of scrip and land warrants we have already referred to. His calculations led him to infer that Mr. Lewis, the great dealer in college scrip, could not have paid a dollar an acre for it in 1868, because land warrants at that time were only worth about that price. But on page 14 of the Cornell investigation, we find it stated that Mr. Lewis did buy on the 23d of April, 1868, 180,000 acres of the New York land at one dollar an acre, and a short time previous to that he purchased a hundred thousand acres at ninety cents per acre. Mr. Harmon's statements agree in the main with those of Mr. Brown as to the value of land warrants, and these two gentlemen have been by far the largest operators in land warrants in the State.

Wm. K. Lancey testified that in March, 1866, by accident he heard of this scrip sale at the State House, and made an off-hand trade with Gov. Cony for fifteen thousand acres for himself and ten thousand for Gen. Smith, for fifty-three cents an acre, and after two or three years sold the land for one dollar an acre. He did not see or hear of the proposals for the sale of the scrip prior to the time of his purchase in 1866. He further stated that Hon. Hiram Ruggles told him he owned 5,000 acres of these lands.

Nathaniel Wilson, Esq., of Orono, testified that he made an attempt in April, 1866, to purchase some of these lands, he acting

under instruction of George W. Pickering and Amos M. Roberts of Bangor, and was prepared to go as high as 75 cents an acre. He knew nothing of the advertisements for proposals, and it would seem from the facts that he testifies to, that neither Mr. Pickering or Roberts knew of the advertisements. He also testified that Hon. Hiram Ruggles told him at the Exchange in Bangor, that he was interested in, owned or controlled, ten thousand acres of the college lands.

Hon. Hiram Ruggles testified that he was a member of the Governor's Council at the time of the sale of those lands in 1866. He gave the reasons for not advertising in more than one newspaper in the State of Maine, which were that they were advertised in papers out of the State of Maine that circulated in the State, and that the Governor in his annual message in January, 1866, stated the fact that the lands had been advertised for sale. He says he knew nothing of Mr. Brown's offer to Governor Cony, and that he purchased of Mr. John Kimball one-quarter interest of the 5,000 acres bought by Mr. Kimball, and that this was all the interest he had in the lands. He subsequently sold, making a profit of about one hundred dollars. He is quite sure that he mentioned the fact of these lands being for sale to several gentlemen in Bangor, but at this length of time cannot say to whom. Mr. Kimball was his clerk at the time of the transaction.

Mr. John Kimball of Hermon, stated that he derived a knowledge of these lands from Mr. Ruggles, and bought 5,000 acres of them entirely on his own account. He subsequently sold one-quarter of his purchase to Mr. Ruggles, and the other three-quarters to Gen. Hersey, making about seventy-five dollars on the transaction.

Isaac R. Clark testifies as to his bid, and as to the Bangor Land Company.

These are all the witnesses examined by the Committee, except Mr. Cony of Augusta, and Dr. Jordan of Bangor, who neither of them had any personal knowledge of these sales.

The undersigned do not deem it their part to draw conclusions from the testimony thus presented. The whole matter is now before the Legislature, who are possessed of all the information we have been able to obtain. It will be seen that other States in New England, as a whole received very considerably more than the State of Maine. Some of them sold at an earlier date than we did and some at a later period. As we have already stated, we have

been unable in the limited time at our disposal to learn the dates of all the sales of lands of the various States. The official report of the Cornell Investigation affords some data in this respect, and we have been favored by State officers of one or two other States. But as to the great bulk of the sales, we are ignorant as to the circumstances under which they were made.

Some of the other States located their lands, first assigning to trustees in order to comply with the law, and the others sold their scrip. Why our State authorities did not take measures to locate a portion of the scrip, as was wisely advised by Mr. Brown, or why Mr. Brown's offer to purchase was not accepted, or he in some way notified, as his offer would have yielded a much larger sum than was realized, or why the land scrip was not held for a rise as Ex-Gov. Coburn intimated would have been his policy, are questions that the Legislature, in view of all the facts in the case, can answer as well as we. The whole matter presses annually upon the public attention when appropriations are made for the Agricultural College, and it is certainly a matter of sincere regret to all the people of the State, whatever may have been the cause, that a larger sum was not obtained from this ample donation from the general government.

J. P. BASS,
SAM J. ANDERSON,
JNO. P. DONWORTH,
F. A. PIKE,
A. S. KIMBALL.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 23, 1876. }

Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*

IN SENATE, February 23, 1876.

Accepted.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*

CONCLUSION.

After the fullest investigation, we the undersigned, members of Committee, most respectfully submit the foregoing statement of testimony and facts relative to said sale, and that from such examination we report that those persons who were charged with the disposal of the Maine College Scrip, faithfully and honestly discharged the trust confided to them, and obtained for the scrip its fair market value at the time of sale.

JOHN P. SWAZEY,
LLEWELLYN POWERS,
J. S. WHEELWRIGHT,
R. B. SHEPHERD,
J. MANCHESTER HAYNES.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 22, 1876.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Februray 23, 1876. }

Accepted. Sent up for concurrence.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*

IN SENATE, February 23, 1876.

Accepted.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary.*

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