

208. Were you not there practically representing the mortgagees?—No; I have never consulted them. Neither Sir Robert Stout nor my mother knew any about the business whatever.

209. After the bankruptcy, how did you come into possession?—I never went out of possession; I continued the same as before.

210. *The Chairman.*] If the mine had been paying would you have paid the wages that were due?—Yes; I would have paid the wages due if Gray would have made any reasonable arrangement; but he wanted to get the wages, and then to get the mine from Andrew for himself.

211. When you first took over the mine, did you then engage Gray and Hamill?—Yes. At that time, February, 1886, Gray was not working at the mine at all. He has said that he was underground manager with Shaw. He was not; he was working at another mine for several months before I took over the mine.

212. Did you engage him directly?—No; he was put there by my father, who gave him a letter to transplant Shaw two days or so before I entered the business.

213. Did you engage Hamill?—Hamill was there before I went, and went on with the work as before.

214. You paid them wages, but only at times?—Yes.

215. *Mr. Moore.*] With reference to that cheque that you placed in the hands of Mr. Toomey, and which you got advances against: it was not meant to indemnify him for the £50?—No.

216. When you had paid everything on the cheque, why did you not get it from Toomey?—After the last loan was paid I was laid up for a few weeks with a broken leg, and I suppose I forgot about the cheque. I never heard anything about its being used. It was through Mr. Macdonald that I eventually heard about it, when he spoke to me about Toomey having refused to pay the £50.

217. Did you feel that you were justified in using a cheque that you got indorsed for another purpose?—It was Sir Robert Stout's indorsement, and he would have indorsed what I wanted if he had been at home, in Dunedin. In one way, of course, I was not justified in using it.

218. *Mr. Macgregor* here put in three letters in Logan's handwriting.

219. *Hon. Sir R. Stout:* I have not seen these letters before. I wish to say this now: If Gray or Hamill or Andrew has any claim against this line let it be settled by the Supreme Court.

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