

[COPY.]

HALIFAX, 10th June, 1872.

HON. W. B. VAIL, *Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia.*

Sir,—I have been authorized by the Forrester Memorial Committee to request the favor of an audience with the Government respecting a petition of the Managing Committee of the "Teachers' Association," and your letter to J. B. Calkin, Esq., of 15th May, 1872. The Committee is desirous of presenting a memorandum, and of making explanations regarding their appointment, their duties, and their work. The Committee named Saturday next, the 15th inst., in the hope that Mr. Calkin could also be present.

Hoping you will grant us the favor on that day, or as soon as possible,

I remain, Hon. Sir, yours obediently,

J. PARSONS, *Secretary F. M. C.*

Mr. Parsons took the opportunity of explaining that, not one of those now opposing the Forrester Memorial Committee was a member of the Association at the time of their appointment, and that neither Mr. Hunt nor any of the others attempting to dictate, and to stop the work, had ever contributed one cent to the Memorial fund. Also that only FOUR individuals out of ELEVEN officers and committee, could be induced to sign the petition—the last named (Mr. George Rennels) not being a member of the Committee nor even of the Association; and that one of the four, when solicited, almost two years previously, for a donation, had the good taste to insult the memory of the dead, by writing three ciphers opposite his name in the subscription list of Halifax City.

When Mr. Vail began to appreciate the false position into which he had been drawn, by granting, without affording any opportunities for reply, the petition to stop the Forrester Memorial Committee, he disclaimed all knowledge and part in the matter, said it was a personal affair entirely between two Committees, and the Government did not care to interfere. As the Government had already interfered on *ex parte* statements, *it was urged that a conference of all the parties with the Council might be the means of amicable adjustment, or at least afford the members of Government an opportunity to hear both sides.*

Several days after, the following answer was received to the request for an interview.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, HALIFAX, N. S., 13th June, 1872.

Sir,—I am instructed to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th inst., and to inform you that, since the receipt thereof, and the personal interview had with you on the same day, the Hon. the Provincial Secretary consulted his colleagues in the Government, who agreed with him