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EVERY HUMOR OF THE SKIN AND SCALP of infancy and childhood, whether torturing, disfiguring, or hideous, bleeding, scaly, crusted, pimply or blotchy, with loss of hair, and every humority of the blood, whether simple, scrofulous or hereditary, is speedily, permanently and permanently cured by the CUTICURA REMEDIES, consisting of CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Purifier and Beautifier, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the new Blood and Skin Purifier, and greatest of Humor Remedies, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail. Parents, save your children years of mental and physical suffering. Begin now. Delayed are dangerous. Cures made in childhood are permanent.

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KIDNEY PAINS, Backache and muscular rheumatism relieved in one minute by the celebrated CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PLASTER.

MR. MERCIER

AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Some of His Methods Adopted to Force the Members to be His Most Obedient Servants

The following correspondence has been furnished at the request of the Hon. Mr. Mercier. It speaks for itself and needs no further introduction:—

ST. LAURENT, QUEBEC, May 9, 1888.

N. Larochelle, Esq., M.P.P.

DEAR SIR,—I have the honor of informing you that I am authorized by my colleagues to recommend to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to name your Legislative Councillor for the Lanzon division. Allow me, however, to call your attention on the inconvenience which may be caused by an election in December during the session.

Believe me, dear sir, Yours truly,

HONORE MERCIER.

[illegible]

ST. ANNE'S, May 9, 1888.

Hon. Honore Mercier, Prime Minister, Quebec.

DEAR SIR,—I thank you for your letter of the 9th inst., informing me that the Government is ready to do me the honor of naming me Legislative councillor for the Lanzon division, but calling my attention to the inconvenience of an election in December on the eve of the session, which inconvenience I admit. I would respectfully suggest that you appoint in my place my friend Louis Philippe Pelletier, advocate, of Quebec, councillor for the said Lanzon division.

Hoping that this suggestion may be agreeable to you, I remain, dear sir,

Yours devoted friend,

N. LAROCHELLE.

QUEBEC, May 9, 1888.

The undersigned declares on his word of honor:

"That if he becomes a member of the Legislative council, that is offered to him, he will continue to give to the Mercier Government the same loyal support which he has constantly given it since its formation.

2. That especially he will support the resolutions adopted at the interprovincial conference of Quebec in 1887.

(Signed) LOUIS P. PELLETIER.

The same day, added Mr. Mercier, in order to carry out the arrangement made between myself and Mr. Larochelle to give way after the session to the last named gentleman in the Council, Mr. Pelletier signed the following document post dated at a day which was supposed to be after the session. (The session ended the 12th July.

QUEBEC, July, 1888.

"His Honor the Lieutenant-governor-in-Council.

"The undersigned hereby resigns his seat as the Legislative Council representative of the Lanzon division and I have signed.

LOUIS P. PELLETIER.

On the 9th of May, in the presence of Mr. Pelletier and with his consent, Mr. Larochelle, the M.P.P. for Dorchester, signed the following document:

ST. ANNE'S, 9th May, 1888.

I [illegible] promise to support the Mercier Government in the Legislative Council, and I am appointed member thereof, and I promise to give my support to any measure emanating from the Government or mode of proceeding in Council.

(Signed) N. LAROCHELLE.

Signed with the presence of Dr. A. Morissette.

Afterwards, on the 28th November, 1888, when appointed to the Council, Mr. Larochelle added to his declaration the following words:

I made a verbal promise.

(Signed) N. LAROCHELLE, in the presence of his Honor.

The Provincial Secretary, who was at the St. Lawrence Hall, was interviewed on the subject by a reporter and gave the valuable information which follows.

Reporter—Have you seen that correspondence, was it confidential and had Mr. Mercier the right to use it?

Mr. Pelletier—I have read the correspondence published and I don't now consider it private. When I was attacked five or six months ago about that by Le National, I invited Mr. Mercier to publish it, telling him at the time that if he thought it to do so I would consider myself too to tell all that passed. He has accepted my invitation, and being free to speak now I am prepared to do so.

Reporter—What passed?

Mr. Pelletier—The seat for Lanzon in the Council was vacant, and Mr. Mercier wanted to fill it for the session. One evening Hon. L. N. Larochelle came to my house and told me he had an understanding with Mr. Mercier that he was to get the place after the session, and that he had suggested my name to fill the seat temporarily until after the session, but on condition that I would sign a document promising Mercier, first, an unqualified support; second, my vote in favor of the abolition of the Legislative Council. I told my friend Larochelle that I would willingly take the position, but that I would not sign any such document. "Come over at any rate to Mr. Mercier's house," said Mr. Larochelle, "and we will discuss the situation." I went accordingly, and when I arrived Mr. Mercier showed me a document in his own handwriting, which read about thus:—

"I hereby promise to give my entire support in the Council to the future policy of the present Government, and specially to vote for the abolition of the Legislative Council."

And he asked me to sign it in order that he could congratulate me on my appointment, and we would have a glass of wine. I told Mr. Mercier point blank that I would not sign any such document. He answered me then that he could not appoint me, that all the Legislative Councillors appointed by him had signed it with the exception of Mr. Garneau, and that he was bound to do the same thing with me. After some discussion Mr. Mercier got angry, tore away the paper and threw it in the waste paper basket, and said to Mr. Larochelle: "Pelletier evidently wants to vote against me, so I cannot appoint him." I answered that I did not intend to vote against him; that I was prepared to support his general policy as known to me, but that I could not bind myself to vote blindly on any new question which might come from him or anybody else. He then rose and shook hands with me, saying, "Bon soir, but I hope all this will be considered private." I agreed to that, and left the room. As I was leaving the house altogether, he called me back and asked me to again reconsider my decision. I told him it was no use. Well, he said can you give me your word of honor that you will vote for me during the next session. I answered that I would not vote for the abolition of the Council anyhow and that I could only promise that I would do in the future as I had done in the past, support him when I would think it was right to do so in my opinion. Then he said in order to have a clear understanding, put in writing what you have just said. I did so and wrote the first paragraph of my document. He then objected to the word "same," and asked me to strike it out in order that the document might read "the loyal support" instead of "the same loyal support." I refused to strike out that word, and I told Mr. Mercier that he knew very well that I had frequently made representations to him against some of his utterances in public; and that that it was known to him but not to the general public, and that if I only said "loyal support" it would mean an unrestricted support. Oh, but, said Mr. Mercier, this is not for the public. I would be no gentleman if anything that passes here was ever known. That did not satisfy me and I refused to alter the sentence. He then yielded on this point and asked me to state it was in favor of the resolutions of the interprovincial conference. I said yes, but with the understanding that in the option left by the resolution of the conference about the Council, I would vote for the modification but not for the abolition. He said that is all right. One of my colleagues, Mr. Garneau, is also opposed to the abolition of the Council, but he supports the resolution of the conference because he is rightly of opinion that that resolution does not bind him to vote for the abolition of the Council. "Then," I said, "you are satisfied." "Yes," said Mr. Mercier, "but you must sign that." I said: "So you don't take my word?" "Oh, yes," he said, "but it seems to me that if you give your word you can sign as well if you intend to keep your promise." "Of course," I said, "but mark this, I will not follow you blindly and I reserve my right to vote against you if any new measure which I cannot approve of is brought down." "But then where will your promised be?" I said "I will do this. Instead of promising to resign I will give it effect when you like. I would rather be out of the Council than remain in it to vote for what I do not approve. He accepted that, and said, at all events, it is only for one session. If it was for more you would have to sign a promise of unqualified support as all the others do.

Then the matter ended and Mr. Mercier added that I would regret very much having refused to sign the first paper prepared by him. I suppose, he said, you understand what I mean. I said I did, but I told it to the more.

Here is the whole thing, and you can now judge for yourself what sort of a game Mr. Mercier must be to try and grossly misrepresent what took place as this now does.

Reporter—Will you allow me to ask Mr. Pelletier that a word of explanation. He tried a very serious, but he never considered and that is the reason why he was so mad when I had the courage to expose him in the House. I had been elected as an independent supporter of the Government, and he in Arthabaska [illegible] when I voted against his bill [illegible] I lost the position I had [illegible] Mr. Mercier's boasting what is not true when he says that Mr. Larochelle's document was signed in my presence. This statement is not true and it appears on the very face of it that I was signed in the presence of another body, Mr. Morissette.

Reporter—Is it a fact that all the Councillors appointed by Mr. Mercier had to sign a paper binding themselves absolutely to him prior to being appointed?

Mr. Pelletier—Mr. Mercier told me himself that that was the case, and I know of some Legislative Councillors who have signed such a document. I will give names if requested to do so.

A FRIGHTFUL DISASTER,

An Explosion of Gas Entombs the Miners at Work in a Mine—Sad Scenes.

A terrible explosion took place in the Osage mine at Kreds, Idaho, on the 6th. From the facts at hand it is believed that the killed will number fully 100 and the injured 115, about one half of whom will probably die from the effects of their injuries. A tongue of flame shot up from the shaft and above the ground fifty feet, followed by a terrific report, which was heard for miles around and shook all the neighbouring country so violently that people in the surrounding mining towns, four or five miles away, thought an earthquake was rocking the ground. The men already above ground were prostrated by the force of the explosion, but did not receive severe injuries. The scenes about the mouth of the shaft immediately following the accident were fearful in the extreme. Weeping wives, mothers and sisters flocked there from the villages at the sound of the explosion, their faces blanched with dread and many of them hysterical to the point of insanity. The air shaft, the only means of escape for the entombed miners, was a point where the relatives of the miners congregated. Many of the miners were able to make their way out of the mine and they were welcomed at the surface by their waiting friends. The injured were quickly taken to places of shelter and were tenderly cared for. One man with a broken leg climbed all the distance of the 400 feet through the air-shaft and fell unconscious as he reached the surface. Others who were terribly burned labored painfully up the ladder, strips of flesh falling from their arms as they grasped the ladder rungs. The work of rescue was begun at once and has continued all through the dreary hours of last night and to-day. The work was terribly hazardous, but the hope that some of the unfortunate men might be rescued, have spurred the rescuers on to many deeds of bravery and self sacrifice. The explosion had entirely changed the topography of the mine. Many tunnels were closed entirely and big loose boulders were scattered promiscuously on sides of rock adjoining the air-shaft and the main shaft which a breath of air might almost fall down upon the rescuers. Notwithstanding these dangers the rescuers kept bravely at their work, at 5 o'clock in the evening had recovered about forty bodies. The rescuers worked at both the air and the main shafts and bodies were rescued by both routes. Those identified were immediately claimed and were carried away by relatives or friends, so that an accurate count of the number has not yet been made.

THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSION.

Things That Will be Made the Subject of Searching Enquiry

A.—The facts and circumstances which have preceded, accompanied, caused and followed the making, signing and granting of pretended contracts or engagements between any [illegible] member of the executive of the province and any other person, as follows,—To wit:—

1. A so-called engagement dated Quebec, February, 1884, signed by Hon. Honore Mercier, heretofore Premier of this province of Quebec, and by which J. A. Langlois was to furnish for four years the stationery in all the public offices of the province of Quebec.

2. An alleged engagement dated Quebec, February 10th, 1884, signed by Hon. Charles Langelier, heretofore provincial secretary, and by which the said Charles Langelier agreed to buy from J. A. Langlois 500 [illegible] copies of the volume entitled "La Sylviculture Illustrée" for the price of $25,000.

3. An alleged engagement dated Quebec May 2, 1887, signed by Hon. Charles Langelier, heretofore provincial secretary, and by which Hon. Charles Langelier agreed to buy from J. A. Langlois 10,000 copies of the volume entitled "La Sylviculture Illustrée" Engravings edition, for the price of $5,000.

4. An alleged engagement, dated Quebec, February 16th, 1891, by which Hon. Pierre Garneau, heretofore commissioner of public works of the province of Quebec, entrusted to Philippe Vallieres, of the city of Quebec, the manufacture of furniture and purchase of "ustensiles et la confection des meubles et laciat des ustensils," to be used to furnish the Court house in Montreal, the Normal and McGill and Laval schools at Quebec and Montreal, and the new prison for the district of Montreal.

5. A contract dated Quebec, September 3, 1890, before Mr. Cyrille Tessier, notary, for the construction of an addition of stone to the Montreal Court house, between the government of the Province of Quebec and Thomas Berger and all the circumstances relating thereto.

6. The payment to G. H. Dechenes by the Department of Public Works of the sum of $[illegible] on the 28th October, 1891, and the sum of $[illegible] on the 23rd February, 1891, under the pretext that number was to be furnished to the said department by the said G. H. Dechenes.

7. The payment to P. N. Bertrand, Montreal, [illegible] of a certain [illegible] medals and 2000 copies of a work entitled "Le Collection [illegible]."

B.—On the facts and circumstances which preceded, accompanied, caused and followed the making, signing, execution, issue and negotiation of certain letters of credit [illegible] Langelier [illegible] Langlois [illegible] Langlois [illegible] Langlois