

and the Jurisdiction appertaining to the Quarter Sessions of the Peace, proceedings ought to have been taken before the last mentioned tribunal. This conduct in which the Attorney General has persevered, notwithstanding the reiterated representations of several Grand Juries of the District of Montreal, must have contributed to occasion discontent and contempt, to take the place of the confidence and respect which such a Public Functionary ought to command.

It has been established that, at the Election which took place at the Borough of Sorel, in one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, the Attorney General made use of the influence derived from his situation, to intimidate by menaces and acts of violence, those who voted against him, which to the scandalization of the Electors of the said Borough, were proofs of his contempt of the freedom of Election, and of the laws which protect it. The support upon which he publicly boasted he relied on that occasion, and which he in effect received, from the Earl of Dalhousie, who then resided at Sorel, would alone have been sufficient to cause him to be justly considered as a devoted partizan of the Administration of his Lordship, whilst, as Attorney General, he ought not to have belonged to any party, nor to have had any friend but Justice, nor any enemy but crime.

It has been a matter of public notoriety, that the Attorney General, with the view of gratifying his own personal sentiments of revenge, instituted criminal proceedings that were partial and oppressive; and it has not been without feelings of deep regret, that your Committee have listened to the proofs of it. It has been proved that he has prosecuted for perjury a man named Hus dit Cournoyer, and one named Buckner, who voted against him at the Sorel Election, on the ground of those individuals having taken the usual oaths on such occasions, without being possessed of the qualifications required; whilst he refused to prosecute other persons who had voted for him, although they were not better qualified than those two individuals, and although the affidavits put into his hands prove that they had taken the same oaths. The Attorney General followed up these prosecutions, after they had been twice rejected by Grand Juries, and it was not till after they had sustained considerable pecuniary loss, and that they had severely suffered during two long years that intervened, before the delays which the Attorney General had created by his illegal proceedings were terminated, that their trials could take place, and that these individuals were acquitted upon the ground that they were led into error by the Attorney General himself, who had publicly told a man named St. Germain, that he had a right to vote, although he was no better qualified than those individuals. The partiality shewn by the Attorney General that occasion, and his persecution of those individuals, could not fail to degrade and bring into contempt the administration of Justice in criminal matters, in the eyes of the inhabitants of this Province. And when your Committee consider how necessary a due administration of Criminal Justice is for the welfare of every civilized country, they cannot disguise from themselves that the state of degradation to which the Attorney General has reduced that important portion of the Government of this Province, must infallibly produce the most disastrous effect if they be not speedily obviated.

It has been proved that the Attorney General, with the same partiality and injustice, instituted similar criminal proceedings, founded upon similar facts against a man named Aussant, against another named Louis Allard, against another named Felix Lavallée, and others.

Hence it appears that it was not enough for the Attorney General to have substituted the powers with which the Law invests him, to support the views of
 administrati