

gatherers coming to their dooms, because those in authority plunder the public funds or allow others to do so? Will the Church stand tamely by and support the men who take the hard earnings of their people to squander them? I think the French Canadians are not such a down-trodden race. I think the men of their Church are animated by holier and purer principles.

Third.—The Railway Commissioners were appointed and the composition of the commission was so managed as to throw the whole management into the hands of one member. The commissioners may be likened to two little dogs; one little dog had a tail, so he went about and felt proud, but the other had no tail, and, feeling his deficiency, he wisely kept at home as much as possible.

Soon after the Commissioners began to deal with matters I saw the state of things that would follow, and I kept aloof from any participation in them, for, if ever I am found wilfully helping the squandering of the public money, even though I may not put any of it into my own pocket, I shall consider that whoever likes has full right to call me a scoundrel.

Officials, especially Conservative officials, have no real love for the Press, whenever, therefore, one sees such officials complaisant and supplying little paragraphs to the papers, one may be sure there is something on foot that bodes no good to the public interests. When, therefore, shortly after the Government was dealing with matters, I saw little paragraphs cropping out now and then to the effect that alterations and extensive repairs to the works already done were required I knew well enough what such items of news meant—they meant a paving of the way for fresh inroads on the public purse. And those inroads have followed, and will foot up to at least a million dollars.

The Assembly never authorized a dollar of this before the Province was pledged to pay it. The people should not mind that! They should be used to officials fattening on their labors by this time. The English say: Those French Canadians will stand anything. The people need only work half an hour a day later and let their children go without shoes and stockings through the winter as well as the summer, then they can pay the tax-gatherer and make it all square. The Assembly has but to support their late Government, who took the million from them without their sanction, to give them a majority again, and let them take another million in the same way. They'll do it.

On this question of extras I can again speak with professional knowledge. I was over portions of the lines two or three times during the progress of the works under the former contractors, and I can say that the work was being done as fairly as work generally in Canada. These works, as I have said before, lay in their unfinished state for a twelve-month or