

"THE QUEBEC POLITICAL CRISIS."

(NOTES AND PRECEDENTS.)

The Opposition Pamphlet, better known as the "Dansereau Brochure," examined and refuted by the Light of British Constitutional History and Precedent.

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As we write, the Province of Quebec is passing through a political crisis, which transcends in gravity and importance anything of the kind that has yet presented itself in Canadian annals. This crisis has entailed a very serious and disturbing deadlock in our provincial affairs, which not only impedes the usual march of the public service, but redounds with disastrous effect upon private interests, as well as upon a very considerable proportion of our educational and charitable institutions, public works, roads, railways and colonization undertakings generally. It is therefore the more needful that the issues and principles involved, as well as the responsibility for the actual state of things, should be clearly defined and thoroughly understood. It may be briefly stated that those issues and principles vitally affect the sacred right of government by the people and for the people and imperil the stability of those cherished responsible institutions for which our forefathers battled and died. Indeed, since the establishment of Responsible or Representative Government in this great dependency of the British Empire, we look in vain for a parallel, either in point of danger to that system of government or in encroachment upon popular rights, to the case which has just arisen in our midst and for which we are indebted, beyond the possibility of question, to a foul conspiracy between the Opposition leaders in the popular branch of the Legislature and a factious, perverse and partisan majority in the Crown-nominated and irresponsible