

of its adversaries, thus gaining the good-will if not the overt support, of the numerous portion of society which prefers security and a tranquil life to everything else. Yet I do not like the English party. It is fully as ambitious of dominion as the French party, and in my opinion, prepared to seek it by more unscrupulous means. Whenever either of the two at the present moment speaks of separation, I look upon it as a mere bombast of artifice to bend the course of government, but, depend upon it that if ever these heats in Lower Canada should go so far as to hazard the connection with the mother-country, the English will be the foremost to cut the tie. They, of the two parties, are by far the best disposed to sympathize with republican institutions.

“They are the most rancorous, for they remember the power they have lost, and hate their rivals as a sort of usurpers.”

How singularly this letter written sixty years ago reads, especially when one recalls the memorable utterance of the late Sir E. P. Taché, A.D.C. to the queen. “The last gun fired on Canadian soil in favour of England will be by a French Canadian.” Other bits of information, as new as the last, and curious as subjects for reflection, occur in Mr. Elliott’s second letter to Mr. Taylor, dated “Quebec, 12th November, 1835.”

After alluding to the opening of the session and to the doubt whether, in voting the arrears of the last two years, the assembly would include repayment of the sum of £31,000, ad-