

tance in performing the thankless, reproathful drudgery of the Commission appeared cruel, and therefore no course seemed open to him other than to shoulder the whole burden, and act under it as efficiently as possible, which he did as long as perseverance was of any use. But who can imagine that it is the duty of any private individual to place himself a *second time* in such a position? Or that any person will ever do so who knows the history of this case? No one should do it—every person should be warned against it. And the necessity of doing so, or the part of any citizen, should be at once removed, by a statute provision for the appointment of an officer, to whom may be assigned all the duties of prosecutor, wherever a Commission requires the performance of such services. So that in time to come every private individual shall be viewed as having performed his duty to his country when he shall have fully communicated to the Commission appointed for any purpose, whatever information he may be possessed of, bearing on the objects of its appointment.

The Newspaper charges of conspiracy being perfectly fabulous, and several persons having expressed a desire to assist Mr. Dick in paying the expenses he has incurred, he now gives notice, *as he has nothing to conceal*, that he is prepared to receive and enter in an account, all sums sent by mail or otherwise; the balance of the amount of which sums, after paying the actual cash expenses, to be paid to the Treasurer of the Toronto House of Industry, and by him acknowledged through the *Globe*. Address *box 986*.

In promotion of the reform in Commission courts herein advocated, it is suggested that petitions to all the branches of the legislature be immediately put in circulation, that they may be returned and presented as soon as possible. To facilitate this work, the subjoined form of petition is presented; and it is urged that every citizen who perceives the connection which exists between these courts of inquiry and the tone of public morality, and the influence of the latter upon the moral purity of each family circle, be found ready for immediate and efficient effort, to be patiently persevered in, till a basis be established for the future organization and direction of Commission courts in Canada, such as shall entitle them to the respect and confidence of the wise and good of all classes of her citizens.

*The Petition of the Undersigned inhabitants of—
Humbly Sheweth:—*

That your petitioners having ample proof that the investigations of Commission Courts exert a direct and powerful influence upon the tone and standard of public morality, the effects of which upon the moral purity of the family circle are known to be immeasurably great, PRAY, the Canadian Legislature to enact a Law for the future organization and government of Courts of inquiry, such as shall invest Commissioners with all necessary control over witnesses, according to the expressed wish of the chairman of the recent University Commission—prevent Commissioners from receiving illegal evidence—prohibit them from exercising the functions of counsel on either side, by pleadings either general or supplementary—provide for the appointment when necessary, of a responsible prosecuting officer, and establish efficient safeguards, as in Courts of arbitration, against the appointment of unsuitable persons as Commissioners; and that shall in all other respects, as you in your wisdom shall see fit to decree, so constitute and regulate these Courts, as to entitle them to the respect and confidence of the wise and the good of all classes of Canadian citizens.

And your petitioners as in duty bound
will ever pray.

The following article appeared on the cover of the February number. It is now necessary to give it a more permanent location, as an antidote against the evil influences of the erroneous charges of malicious and mercenary motives, made and circulated so industriously against him who performed the thankless drudgery of the Commission Court.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COMMISSION CASE.

Pending the decision of the Commissioners, all parties had a right to expect that little would be done by public Journalists to forestall that decision. On the one side, so far as known, this expectation has not been disappointed; while upon the other, statements have been made so affirmative of the clear and triumphant manner in which every charge has been refuted, as to render it a matter of very grave surprise that the Commission did not at once announce the fact to the world. Sixteen days have passed since the examination of the witnesses and the pleadings of counsel were ended, and still the public mind is kept in suspense as to what may be the judgment of the Commissioners. In the meantime, *journal after journal* is giving its utterance as already stated.—Now admitting that all the statements of these newspapers, alluded to, are in perfect accordance with truth and propriety; it is certainly a notable circumstance, that they all, without exception, accompany their statements with the most bitter reflections against the individual who performed the *necessary*, though painful, duty of presenting the charges. As the necessity and duty of the act is thus questioned, it is proper to ask—1st, Would the commission have been appointed by His Excellency without the existence of an obvious necessity for so doing?—2nd, When so appointed from such obvious necessity, could the commission have failed to discover that it had a legitimate object?—3d, Having before it a legitimate object, could the commission, if endowed with requisite ability and wisdom, have failed to discover the most appropriate means of procedure?—4th, Is it to be believed, that a commission of *honorable men* would have adopted as the most appropriate means of compassing a legitimate object, a course of procedure, in which it would be literally impossible to advance one step, until one or more of their fellow citizens should be found ready, in answer to their call, to enter deliberately upon the performance of a *low, VILLANOUS, DISHONORABLE ACT*?—!!! If such be indeed the fact, then undoubtedly it is most fervently to be hoped, that Canada has seen the last—the very last of these commissions. Let their existence and name perish with this University Commission.—If it be indeed a fact that no *honorable man* can lay business before these courts, then, assuredly, all may well exclaim, let the just execration of an indignant people blot out their name and their memory together! Or if they *must* be remembered, let it be for an everlasting reproach. If all this is not clearly demanded as the righteous outbursting of honorable indignation against such courts, then is it necessary, that all concede frankly and unreservedly, that it is POSSIBLE for business to be laid before them in an *honorable manner*, and that the man who does so is not necessarily a cowardly assailant of the personal character of pure and unoffending men.

In relation to the necessity which existed for the appointment of the present University Commission, little need be said. That the "*fama*" was of the most obnoxious and pestilential character—also of long standing, as well as progressively accumulative, is now beyond dispute. While the manner in which the wale was associated with a particular name, was such as virtually merged a High Priest of