

Hon. Mr. Marchand.

Under this honored name, the Liberals of the Province of Quebec march on, full of confidence as to the result of the coming fray. The friend and compeer of men of unsullied fame, he stands before the electors, and not a soul dare to breathe one word against his probity and absolute honesty of purpose. Friend and foe are at one on this. Whatever he promises we know he will carry out to the very uttermost; his remarks are not the reckless undertakings of the platform orator, at election times, to be forgotten so soon as the fight is over. What he says are the calm and stately utterances of a thoughtful and steadfast man. His record can be read of all men, and in the fierce light that beats upon his life no taint of ought that is vile can be found.

After his speeches no empty promises of impossible bridges or opportunity-offering roads will be found the theme of press or people. What he knows he can do that he promises, if for the common good. No better example of the high esteem Mr. Marchand enjoys can be found than in the following extract from the *Montreal Witness* of March 10th, 1837:

The Liberals of the Province of Quebec are fortunate in their leader. There is not another man in provincial politics in Quebec who is so generally known and highly esteemed as *l'abbé* Gabriel Marchand, of St. Johns. There is no other Provincial politician, who is so highly regarded by French and English-speaking people alike. He alone perhaps among the French leaders of either side, commands the complete confidence of the English-speaking people, and there is very good and solid ground for the general esteem in which he is held. Since Confederation he has been continuously in public life in this Province, and although he has served the people in more than one high office during that time, he has ever been found

EQUAL TO THE TRUST.

reposed in him. During that period a succession of corrupt and incapable governments have debauched political life in Quebec, have misgoverned the people,

have plunged the Province over head and ears in debt, have squandered and wasted its resources; he has not been a member of any of them and has not lent any of them his aid. On the contrary, he has been steadily in Opposition with the exception of the period of the *Mercier* Administration, when he was Speaker of the Assembly, and as such was its servant and served the whole body to the entire satisfaction of both sides of the House. One Administration he was a loyal member of, that of the Hon. Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, the only Government the Province has had which made a sincere and honest attempt to govern efficiently, economically and justly. For its virtues

IT WAS BETRAYED

by the present leader of the Government, Mr. Flynn, who entered on his career of office as the price of his betrayal of a just and pure leader. Perhaps nothing emphasizes better the difference between the two leaders who are now asking the confidence of the people of Quebec than the fact that one of them acted a treacherous part toward Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, while the other was loyal to him.

Though so continuously in Opposition Mr. Marchand has, throughout a period when the most shameless bribery of the constituencies was resorted to by governments to win them, securely held the confidence of the electors of St. Johns who have chosen him sometimes by acclamation and always by large majorities as their representative. The constituency was at one time about evenly divided between English and French-speaking people, but so strong was his hold upon English and French alike that during the agitations of race and religious questions he never lost the confidence of either. This fact speaks volumes for the broad liberal-