

The Premier may verify the dates which we place before him and which the Committee of Investigation will in its turn investigate.

On the 21st March 1870, by an authentic act passed before the same Notary Bignell, who has just estimated at \$5,000 the farm of Notre Dame des Anges, Hammond Gowen, the fortunate brother-in-law, and the Hon. H. G. Joly acquired a mortgage for \$7,369, coming after that of the Government!! *i. e.* Mr. Joly himself set a great value on the property by buying so large an asset which was to be paid after that of the Crown Lands only.

Well! Mr. H. Gowen, the fortunate brother-in-law, has bound himself to pay this mortgage to the heirs Gowen, amongst whom is Mr. Joly, by the deed of purchase from the Government.

The Government estimated the farm of Notre Dame des Anges at \$5,000.

We defy the ministers to deny the following facts:—

Gowen, besides these \$5,000 paid to the Department of Crown Lands, paid Mr. Blekell \$5,000 for half the property. Moreover he bound himself to pay to the heirs Gowen their share of the mortgage, *i. e.* about \$5,000.

And moreover the mortgage of Mrs. Bignell *i. e.* about \$5,000. Thus Gowen has paid or has bound himself to pay about \$12,000 besides the \$5,000 paid to Government, proving thereby that he himself estimates at a very high figure this property which in reality is very valuable.

The Government accepted the evaluation of the Notary Bignell for \$5,000.

It is on the 15th May that for that amount it renounced its mortgage.

On the 13th May 1879, Mr. Hammond Gowen, the fortunate brother-in-law, borrowed \$9,600 from Miss Bowen, giving as security this same farm of Notre Dame Des Anges!! And the notary who raised this loan for Gowen was Mr. P. A. Shaw, brother-in-law of Notary Bignell the evaluator at \$5,000!

A property on which \$9,600 is borrowed, is at least worth twice that amount, for a lender does not risk his money without such a margin in these hard times.

And Messrs. Montizambert and Pemberton, who are the agents of Miss Bowen did not invest their funds without the best of security.

This loan of \$9,600 sums up the whole affair, and shows the odium of the trans-

saction; it is to Miss Bowen, who lent money to Gowen, that the Government has ceded its rights; as the deed passed between her and the Commissioner of Crown Lands, mention is made of the Gowen Loan, *i. e.*, that the Ministers who took part in this transaction, knew that Gowen was borrowing \$9,600 on a property which was mortgaged to the Government for \$17,000, which \$17,000 they were sacrificing for \$5,000 to the brother-in-law of the Prime Minister, who had himself a lien on it to secure the transaction.

In our next issue we shall have more crushing details.

We do not know if the other Ministers, Messrs. Chauveau, Starnes, Ross and Mercier were aware of this unjustifiable act. They will become responsible for it if they continue to sit with their colleagues who perpetrated it.

[Mr. Tarte, M.P.P. has moved in the House for a Committee to investigate the matter.]

On the 22nd of January, in 1878, Mr. Hammond Gowen, who has just acquired for \$5,000, rights which the Government held to the amount of \$17,000 wrote to the Hon. Mr. Garneau, then Commissioner of Crown Lands, the following letter:—

QUEBEC, Jan. 22 1878.

To the Hon. P. GARNEAU,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Sir,—It is now about 40 years ago, that the Government of the day ceded a lot of land known under the name of "the farm of Notre Dame des Anges" to one Mr. Smith at a constituted rental of one hundred and thirty two pounds a year.

Subsequently this property fell into the hands of P. G. Huot, then a politician, and the collection of this revenue was abandoned. I cannot say how many years those arrears are due. During the last five years I have been sole proprietor of this farm and I wished to obtain the complete proprietorship of it.

For this purpose then, Sheriff sales were requisite, but I find that it is impossible to proceed further without previously obtaining from the Government a transfer of these claims. I can offer eight thousand (\$8,000) dollars cash, for this claim under the condition of settling matters directly with yourself. It is very difficult to do so in any other way than in that which I propose to you,