

Correspondence
respecting
Mr. Thompson.

procure me payment of 140*l.* by a draft, which he would obtain from the Honourable John Gawler Thompson, payable at the Quebec bank at 90 days' sight, if I would return him the four notes aforesaid, of which I was the holder and owner. I accepted the offer of the said Jacques Lamy, and he gave me the judge's draft for 140*l.* currency, drawn on the Quebec bank at 90 days' sight, and I delivered up to the said Jacques Lamy the four notes aforesaid. I thus consented to lose the sum of 29*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* for the sake of obtaining the money, of which I was in great need, and of avoiding the expense of travelling and a considerable loss of time, the distance from the said township of Sherrington to Paspebiac aforesaid being about 270 leagues. The said draft was subsequently protested for non-payment; the answer given was, that the said judge had no funds at his disposal in the said Quebec bank. The notary employed to make the protest was Mr. Campbell, of the lower town of Quebec. I went down to Paspebiac in August last, and went to the said honourable judge to demand payment of the said draft (so protested as aforesaid) for the sum of 140*l.* currency, and of the interest and the costs of the protest. I met the judge at his residence at Paspebiac aforesaid, on or about the 1st of September last. I represented to him the damages I had suffered, and the loss of time and expense which I was incurring. He replied, that if I applied to John Robinson Hamilton, esquire, advocate, (the nephew of the said judge) he would pay me the amount of my demand. Mrs. Thompson being present, told me that I had better have nothing to do with the said Mr. Hamilton, and that I should do better to keep the judge's draft. The said judge then made a sign with his head to his lady, and she said no more. The said judge repeated his offer, and pressed me to apply to the said Mr. Hamilton for payment of my demand. I did not know what to do; but the judge pressed me a third time to accept his offer, adding, "Mr. Hamilton will pay you the amount of your demand in cash, and I will give him my promissory note for a like sum." I withdrew with the intention of applying to Mr. Hamilton for what was lawfully due to me from the judge. I went to Mr. Hamilton's house, but was informed that he was not at home. I went again the following day (the 6th of September last), but was again unable to see him, as I was informed that he was not at home. I went again to Mr. Hamilton's on the 7th or the 8th of the same month, and met the judge in his carriage conversing with Mr. Hamilton. They were talking and appeared busy; they were at the corner of the house. I addressed myself first to the judge and entreated him to pay me. He then said, "Mr. Hamilton will settle this business directly, go with him." The judge then left me immediately, in great haste. I then spoke to Mr. Hamilton, who replied, repeating his words, "I am going to pay you, I am going to pay you." I understood that I was going to be paid immediately, and as it was near noon I withdrew, intending to return after dinner. I then went to the kitchen of the gaoler of the common gaol at New Carlisle, this building being very close to Mr. Hamilton's house, where I asked leave of the gaoler to light my pipe: he gave me leave, and when I was about to withdraw, he pressed me to sit down, in order, as he said, that we might have some conversation. Not suspecting anything, I accepted his offer, and about ten minutes afterwards, Martin Sheppard, esquire, sheriff of the inferior district of Gaspé, came into the gaoler's kitchen where I still was. The said sheriff appeared to me to be very gay and happy, and after having walked about the kitchen a little while, he came up to me, and laying his hand on my shoulder, said, "You are my prisoner." The said sheriff then addressing John McClellan, the gaoler aforesaid, said to him, "Take care of your prisoner." The sheriff then went out smiling. The gaoler then took me by the arm, and showed me into one of the rooms in the said gaol appropriated for the prisoners, saying, "That is your room, but during the day-time you will have the whole building and the yard for your prison." I remained a prisoner in the said gaol at New Carlisle, from the 7th or 8th of September last, until the 14th of the same month, on which day I was admitted to bail, during the sitting of the court, that being the day of the return of the writ of *capias ad respondendum*. I was so arrested at the suit of Peter Duval, of the island of Bonaventure, in the county of Gaspé, and of Amice Duval, of the island of Jersey, in Europe, (as having been formerly partners in business in the said island of Bonaventure, under the name and title of Peter Duval & Company,) for the sum of 12*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* currency, as appears by the copy of the writ of *capias ad respondendum* certified by Martin Sheppard, esquire, sheriff of the said inferior district of Gaspé, the said writ having been issued on the affidavit of John Robinson Hamilton, esquire, the attorney of the plaintiffs in the said cause, who took upon himself, as attorney for the said plaintiffs, to swear that I was indebted to the said plaintiffs in the sum aforesaid of 12*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* currency, which is false; for if the said Peter Duval & Company gave me credit for what I have delivered to them, they would owe me a balance. I now produce a copy of the said writ, and of the declaration in this cause, served on me by the said Martin Sheppard, esquire, sheriff of the inferior district of Gaspé, at the time I was arrested. Having been heard by my attorney, J. F. Deblois, esq. advocate, I was set at liberty, and the action dismissed with costs; but I do not know on what grounds. After having been set at liberty, I instructed my attorney to take communication of the affidavit of the said John Robinson Hamilton, esquire, the attorney of the plaintiffs, and also their attorney and advocate in the cause aforesaid. The said J. F. Deblois, esquire, advocate, my attorney, afterwards informed me that it was impossible for him to obtain communication of the said affidavit, or to procure a copy thereof certified by the prothonotaries of the provincial court of the inferior district of Gaspé, because, as he was informed by John Wilkie, esquire, one of the prothonotaries of the said court, the said affidavit was in the possession of the said John Robinson Hamilton, esquire, advocate, and not in the possession of the said prothonotaries. I went to the residence of Peter Duval, one of the plaintiffs in the cause aforesaid, in the island of Bonaventure, to ask him to