

sume to call on me, to justify words which I have spoken on the floor of the Commons, and for which I am responsible to them, and to them alone.

I feel that I should do no act which may be construed into an acquiescence in the attempt to remove from the Commons the conduct and control of the enquiry.

I believe that the creation of the Commission involves a breach of that fundamental principle of the constitution, which preserves to the Commons the right and duty of initiating and controlling inquiries into high political offences; that it involves also a breach of that fundamental principle of justice, which prevents the accused from creating the tribunal and controlling the procedure for their trial; and that it is a Commission without precedent, unknown to the Common Law, unsanctioned by the Statute Law, providing by an exercise of the prerogative for an enquiry out of the ordinary course of justice into misdemeanor cognizable by the Courts, and consequently illegal and void.

Entertaining these views, you will not expect me to act otherwise than in conformity with them, and you will be satisfied that by my non-appearance before the Commission I intend no disrespect to the Commissioners, but am moved by the same sense of public duty which will constrain me, at the earliest practicable moment, to renew the efforts which I have been making since April last to bring to trial, before the Commons of Canada, the men whom I have impeached as public criminals.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,)

I. S. HUNTINGTON.