

at elections, and afterwards hired to powerful corporations to carry out their violent and unjustifiable designs, is another outrage, a parallel of which can be found in no other British possession. Nor were the other departments much better served than Mr. Angers'. As Minister of Agriculture and Immigration, Mr. DeBoucherville, year after year, wasted immense sums transplanting *habitants* from the Lower St. Lawrence to the Eastern Townships, and comfortably settling these men on choice farms, in newly built houses, and on partly cleared land, at public expense, for the sole purpose of swamping the Protestant vote. It is a fact admitted by Mr. DeBoucherville under his signature, in his last report, and which calls for the most serious animadversion, that most of the *repatriés* never had left the country. The Minister of Crown Lands, wishing to secure and retain the good will of the lumbermen, accepted from them promissory notes in payment of timber dues, until these notes reached nearly half a million of dollars in face value, a large proportion of which is now admitted to have become worthless. Considering that the timber dues of the Province may be considered as a sort of custom dues, the impropriety of Mr. Garneau's conduct cannot be too severely reflected upon. His answer in justification, and the excuse offered by the Ministry in his defence, that the House had been made aware of the fact, without justifying Mr. Garneau, only more strongly points to the urgent necessity there was of getting rid of such a House. It is beyond question that the members of the legislature were made quite aware of the circumstance, and the supporters of the Cabinet seemed perfectly satisfied; but, at the same time, the question presents itself forcibly as to whether the interests of the province were not in imminent danger placed in the hands of men so subservient and so unmindful of their trust. Moreover, the approval by the DeBoucherville faction of an act of wrong-doing by Mr. Garneau could scarcely be expected to convert that wrong into right, that evil into good.

Such were the most serious accusations known to the public and to be brought against the Ministry when parliament assembled. They can be summed up in a very few words. Mr. DeBoucherville's adherents had been corruptly remiss in collecting the revenue due; imprudently extravagant in the expenditure of the monies on hand; and had, moreover, shown a disposition with arbitrary self-will to infringe upon the liberties of the people and disregard the safeguards of the constitution.