

is any right of appeal from the decision of the Governor; but if application is made in proper time, a writ of *habeas corpus* may be procured, which would have the effect of bringing the prisoner before the Court or Judge to examine into the cause of his detention. In Lamirande's case no such writ was either granted or issued, and therefore it is positively untrue that the prisoner was in the hands of the Court or Judge, as Mr. Drummond said.

Without this writ there was no power known to the law to stop the execution of the Governor's warrant; and this I at once explained to Mr. Justice Drummond in Chambers on Saturday morning, when he first spoke to me on the subject. I then told him that had the Sheriff consulted me, which he did not, I should have advised him to obey the warrant without a moment's loss of time. So unanswerable was this that Mr. Drummond, shifting his ground, said that he had put in a commitment before the removal of the prisoner; but I afterwards found that what he was pleased to call a commitment, was no commitment at all; but an order not to deliver Lamirande up on any warrant whatever. What renders this proceeding doubly ludicrous is that Mr. Justice Drummond was the person most terribly severe upon Mr. Justice Mondelet for his order in the Blossom case; yet when Mr. Mondelet gave that order he was sitting as the Court of Queen's Bench, whereas when Mr. Drummond gave his, he was prowling about the town at night, without any official character whatever, but that of a Justice of the Peace. On Saturday afternoon Mr. Justice Drummond again shifted his ground, and he was pleased to tell me that it was my *duty* to interfere in some way or another, and prevent the Governor's warrant taking effect. For Mr. Justice Drummond's information, let me say that when I seek a guide as to duty, I shall endeavour to select some one more immaculate than him; but in so far as regards the present case, I may add, that I was very unlikely to commit an illegality to prevent the extradition, inasmuch as I highly approve of it.

And now one word as to the prisoner. Lamirande was cashier of the Bank of France at Poitiers, and he there robbed his employers of 700,000 francs (£28,000 stg.) falsified books and entries (forged as the French court calls it) and fled to the United States. Being arrested there and about to be extradited, he managed to drug his guard and escape to Canada, while his lawyer stole the *arrêt de renvoi*, or French indictment, which formed part of the record before the commissioner. And this is the person for whom Mr. Justice Drummond felt so lively a personal interest as to induce him to abandon the retirement of his home, and endure the fatigue of sitting in Chambers for, I believe, almost the first time

since the beginning of vacation. While talking of conspiracy it would be however interesting to learn from Mr. Drummond, at whose invitation he undertook to adjudicate in Lamirande's case. The effort was not unpremeditated, for the interesting fact was duly *heralded* on Friday morning.

Your obedient servant,

T. K. RAMSAY.

Montreal, 27th August, 1866.

The GOVERNOR GENERAL telegraphed by the cable a statement of the case to the COLONIAL SECRETARY, and a private telegram was also sent to solicitors in London, but all efforts to detain LAMIRANDE in England proved unsuccessful, chiefly because there was no Judge in London (vacation having commenced) before whom an application for *habeas corpus* could be made. LAMIRANDE was accordingly taken to Paris.

At the moment of our going to press, Mr. Justice DRUMMOND has thought proper to take proceedings against Mr. RAMSAY, the representative of the ATTORNEY GENERAL, in respect of the above letter, and another which Mr. RAMSAY shortly afterwards wrote to the *Montreal Gazette*. An account of these proceedings we are obliged to reserve till our next issue.

LAW REPORTING.

The new scheme for publishing Law Reports in England, which went into operation on the 1st of January, we have already noticed. Subsequently, the Irish Bar appointed a committee to remodel their system of Law Reporting on the principle of the English Law Reports. The committee reported a scheme similar to that of the English Bar. The price of the Reports is to be fixed at three guineas per annum to subscribers, and the committee reckon on having 400 subscribers.

We notice by the last number of the *Upper Canada Law Journal* that a similar move has been made there. The Law Society are to assume the work of publishing the reports, but the expense is to be defrayed in a way which we do not think very desirable. The reports are to be furnished free, but all