

came from the people of the province of Quebec when they dismissed the Administration of Mr. Mercier by the largest majority that has ever been known in the province of Quebec since Confederation. The Hon. Mr. Angers could well dispense with going before the people in the district of Quebec after the verdict had been rendered by the people of that district and by the people of the whole province. We know that in the largest centres like Montreal, every man who was returned was returned against the Administration of Mr. Mercier, and to support the action of the late Lieutenant-Governor; and Mr. Angers did not require again to go before the people of L'Islet or the people of the province of Quebec when his action had been endorsed in the manner in which it was in the general elections.

Mr. BRODEUR. (Translation.) I am astonished to hear the hon. Postmaster-General giving vent to feelings of indignation with respect to the Government who were the victims of the ex-Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Quebec. We all know that should he, the Postmaster-General, have had to overcome half of the difficulties set up against the Hon. Mr. Mercier, he would have been long since out of this House. If the hon. Minister had had courage enough to allow the investigation which we asked for last year to be carried on, we all know, and he knows more than any one else, that he would have been shown out of it by his own friends. Should the hon. gentleman have allowed a committee of this House to enquire into his conduct, should he have had a petition composed of the most ardent supporters one could find on the bench, he would have disappeared from this House before the day would have been over, he would have taken shelter into a rich cheese. They say the Hon. Mr. Mercier was very faulty. If that is so, how is it that, after having been dragged before the courts, and after a lengthy trial, he was acquitted? How is it that, now that light has been thrown upon his conduct, he is so popular in the province of Quebec? It is because, Mr. Speaker, he was not guilty. Had all the Conservative forces been brought to bear to crush him, they never could have thrown him down. I again state I am surprised when hearing the hon. Postmaster-General talking about virtue. We shall have an opportunity, during the session, to inquire into his conduct, and to know if he ought or not to remain in this House.

Mr. LANDERKIN. The continuance in this office of Sir Leonard Tilley, is, under the circumstances, very peculiar. We on this side may not be able to understand all the difficulties that lie in the way of appointing a successor to him, but those of us who have known Sir Leonard Tilley in this House are somewhat surprised that he should continue to occupy the position under present conditions. We who have always been loyal to the

Crown and have always desired to preserve the Crown in its purity, do not like to see a high officer such as a Lieutenant-Governor placed in the position in which Sir Leonard Tilley is now placed. It does seem singular that since Confederation this same office has been held by that gentleman more than half that period. It certainly looks as if the province of New Brunswick does not grow Lieutenant-Governors in abundance. There may be difficulties, and we probably should not look too closely into those difficulties, because we know that the Government have members who have held high office in the province of New Brunswick, and have occupied seats in this House as long and longer than did Sir Leonard Tilley. We know of men who have the experience and qualifications for that position, but it does appear there are peculiar influences at work. Some of these hon. gentlemen are Irish, and we understand that no Irish need apply. Some are anti-Irish, and there difficulties arise again. We do not want to increase the difficulties. We know what the hon. gentlemen did last election in the province of New Brunswick. We know that the appointment was made there of an Irishman, and that a cry of horror arose among those gentlemen because Mr. Blair chose to appoint to office in the city of St. John, a gentleman of Irish origin. Where is the Solicitor-General? I want to draw his attention to these matters, and would like to hear him say whether a man is to be excluded from a position because of the accident of his birth. I would like to draw the attention of the First Minister to this. I believe there is a number of candidates willing to sacrifice themselves on the altar of their country, but that Sir Leonard Tilley has to be retained for political reasons, and political reasons alone. Imagine a Lieutenant-Governor being kept in office to satisfy the exigencies of party. Imagine a people who boast of their loyalty to Britain and to British institutions, perpetuating a system which is derogatory to British institutions, and which ought not to be tolerated for a day. Look at the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Quebec, acting the part of a political partizan while he was exercising the functions of the Crown—bowing down to the shibboleth of a party, making himself a subservient tool of this Government, and receiving his reward for that subservience. It was disgraceful and should lead this House to consider how much longer this office of Lieutenant-Governor is to be retained, and whether men who disgrace the position by truckling to party interests are worthy of exercising the mandates of royalty any longer. We should teach those who take upon themselves the garb of Her Majesty that they will have to be loyal to the people of the country, that they must keep themselves above political partizanship, and not allow themselves to be made the tools of any party which chances to be in power. The