

Correspondence
respecting
Mr. Thompson.

arrived at New Carlisle, I was told by several persons that the said judge was accused before the House of Assembly by Joseph F. Deblois, esq., a member of the House. The evening before I left, I met the judge at New Carlisle, coming out of the house of John Robinson Hamilton, esq., advocate, and nephew of the judge. The day of my departure from that place, that is, on or about the 20th November last, I learnt that Captain Thomas Caldwell's schooner was in sight, and I delayed my departure in order to get news from Quebec. On the arrival of the schooner, John Wilkie, esq., one of the prothonotaries of the said court, came ashore on New Carlisle beach, where I spoke to him. Mr. Wilkie mentioned to me the accusation brought against the said judge, and informed me that he was the bearer of letters addressed to the judge on that subject. The said prothonotary having landed his baggage, he opened one of his trunks and gave me letters addressed to the judge, containing, as I presume, a summary of the charges brought against him. I delivered the said letters immediately to the judge in Mr. Hamilton's house in New Carlisle, where I met him. The judge opened one of the letters in my presence, and as he appeared to me very much affected, I thought it proper to withdraw. I do not know who wrote these letters; I suppose it was some one of his relations or friends. To the best of my recollection, Mr. Wilkie and the captain of the schooner informed me that they had had a passage of about eight days. I have known the Honourable John Gawler Thompson, judge of the provincial court of the inferior district of Gaspé, since my arrival in the said district in the fall of 1827. Robert Sherar, esq., coroner of the said district, who came passenger in the said schooner, informed me that the judge had been accused by the said Joseph F. Deblois, esq., and he told me that he had heard that it was the intention to send several witnesses up, on behalf, as I understood, of the House of Assembly. I do not think that either Mr. Wilkie or Mr. Sherar entertained any feelings of hatred, vengeance or resentment towards the said judge. I myself have no cause of hatred, vengeance or resentment towards the said judge.

I attended the judge and his family professionally during my residence in the county of Bonaventure. I have been told by several persons since I left Carlisle, that the judge had been accused as above stated, that is, at Carleton, and more particularly at Ristigouche, in the province of New Brunswick, by John Montgomery, who told me that he had learnt at a dinner which was given him at Quebec by Hypolite Dubord, esq., member of Parliament, at which several other members of Parliament were present, that the said judge had been accused. The said John Montgomery was in Quebec in November last. To perform the journey by land between Carlisle and Quebec, at the time of the year in which I started, would require, I think, 20 days, that is, travelling comfortably. The judge requested me to send him a copy of the petition accusing him before the House of Assembly; this was in a conversation I had with him previously to the arrival of the schooner at New Carlisle. It is impossible for the judge to come to Quebec in winter, by the Metis road, because a man of his age, and weak state of health, is not able to travel with snow-shoes and sleep in the woods. It is doubtful whether the said judge could perform the journey by way of New Brunswick, because the roads are not always beaten for carriages, although there is a road open. I cannot say that this obstacle exists all the winter through, having performed the journey from New Carlisle only once, and that in the winter of 1833. I have no personal knowledge of the existence of this obstacle, having only heard of it during my journey in the year 1833, from persons residing at the Portage: but the said judge can come to Quebec by way of the state of Maine. I myself traced out the route he would have to follow in performing the journey that way; it can be performed with great ease and comfort. By passing through the United States, the journey from Paspebiac to Quebec can be performed in three or four weeks at the most, because there is a stage all the way through by which the traveller can come even to Pointe Lévi.

Monday, 4 January 1836.—ELZEAR BEDARD, Esquire, in the Chair.

Mr. Patrick Enright, heretofore of l'Ance du Cap, in the county of Gaspé, at present residing in the township of Sherrington, in the county of Acadie, Farmer, called in; and being Interrogated, answered:

I HAVE known the Honourable John Gawler Thompson as judge of the provincial court of the inferior district of Gaspé from the time he was appointed judge of the said inferior district. I was the holder of four promissory notes for 42 l. 9s. 4d. each, making altogether the sum of 169 l. 17s. 4d. These four notes had been made by Jacques Lamy of Paspebiac in the county of Bonaventure, in the said inferior district, farmer, trader and tavern-keeper, in favour of James Shannon, formerly of Hope Town, in the county of Bonaventure, in the said inferior district, and now of Ance du Cap aforesaid, in the county of Gaspé aforesaid. These notes had been so made by the said Jacques Lamy in favour of the said James Shannon, for and in consideration of a lot of land situate at Hope Town aforesaid, which the said James Shannon had sold to the said Jacques Lamy. The said notes had been indorsed to me by the said James Shannon, in part payment of a lot of land at Ance du Cap, which I sold him, and on which he now resides, having determined on leaving the district of Gaspé, and settling myself in the district of Montreal; which I did by becoming a resident in the said township of Sherrington. The said notes were payable at different times, but I cannot exactly remember at what times or dates. I went down to the inferior district of Gaspé in the month of July of the year 1834, to obtain payment of two of the said notes from the said Jacques Lamy, one of the notes becoming due in the month of August 1834. The first of them being then due, and having been so since the month of May in the said year 1834. The said Jacques Lamy pretending not to have the means of paying me, offered to procure