

What a man to assist in shaping the destinies of a New Empire ! For shame's sake, Sir, if not for the sake of our common country, retire to the Pettifogger's desk ! but continue not to lay your sacrilegious hands on the ark of the New Dominion.

Second, as an Administrator. Placed at the head of that conglomeration of Departments, the Public Lands, you have proved yourself a failure. To entrust such a man with the administration of such a Department was an egregious mistake. This is now admitted by all parties, even by your own friends.

You were looked up to as the impartial administrator of the diverse, and oftentimes conflicting, interests which came up for your decision ; but such, at times, and so great was your zeal for the public service, that many, very many, mistook you for the special agent of special interests,—interests very often not in unison with the general interests of the country, and quite as often hurtful to the public revenue.

There are many of your acts which it is desirable to have explained ; for instance, the following :—

While actual settlers on public lands are compelled to pay up the last farthing of principal and interest on their purchase-money, and to perform, to the full, the conditions of settlement, before their patents are granted to them, you allowed patents to issue to the "*Canadian Land and Emigration Company*" before they fulfilled the conditions of their purchase of the ten Townships sold them. What authority had you to do this—and what was the secret history of that strange transaction ?

One of your earliest acts, after you became Commissioner of Crown Lands, was to order the Survey of the River Rouge to be stopped, and this notwithstanding that the faith of a previous Government was pledged that the Survey would be completed as soon as possible, and the territory placed in the market to meet the numerous demands of the trade for timber berths in that section of country. And why was the Survey of the River Rouge stopped ? Was it in order that Messrs. Hamilton Brothers might choose the best part of the territory, and that the Surveyor should be made to feel that he would not be allowed to complete the Survey unless he acquired their good graces ?