

Mr. *Louis Boulet*, of the parish of St. Thomas, in the county of L'Islet, Mariner, called; and being Interrogated, answered:

Correspondence
respecting
Mr. Thompson

I HAVE been in the habit of coasting along the shore of the inferior district of Gaspé since the year 1830. It is to my knowledge that the common report is, that the Honourable John Gawler Thompson, judge of the provincial court of the inferior district of Gaspé, passes for a drunkard, and is reputed such. I know this from numerous conversations which I have had at different times with the inhabitants of the several localities of the said inferior district. I can say that the inhabitants there have no confidence in the said judge. I have frequently had occasion to remark that the said judge was laughed at and ridiculed; on one occasion, among others, at Douglass Town, in the county of Gaspé, in the said inferior district, at the term of the said court in the month of August last, I observed, while the court was sitting, that the said judge was drunk on the bench, as I was convinced. I could not help remarking it, as did also many other persons who were present at the sitting of the said court. I do not remember the exact day, but it was about the end of the term of the said court above mentioned. It is also to my knowledge that the common report is, that the judge shows great partiality to his nephew John Robinson Hamilton, esq., one of the advocates practising at the said provincial court. When a suitor loses his cause, he generally regrets that he did not employ the said John Robinson Hamilton, who is generally reputed to gain all his causes, no matter what they are. I know the said Honourable John Gawler Thompson, as judge of the said inferior district. In the month of August last, particularly, I had conversations with many of the inhabitants of Douglass Town aforesaid, who told me that they had frequently seen the said judge drunk on the bench while the court was sitting, at several terms of the said court held at Douglass Town.

Mr. *André Dominique*, of the parish of St. Thomas, in the county of L'Islet, Mariner, called in; and being Interrogated, answered:

SINCE the year 1830 I have been in the habit of coasting along the shore of the inferior district of Gaspé, and it is to my knowledge that, according to the common report, the Honourable John Gawler Thompson, judge of the provincial court of the inferior district of Gaspé, passes for a drunkard, and is reputed such. I know this from numerous conversations I have had at different times with the inhabitants of the several localities of the said inferior district. I can say that the inhabitants thereof have no confidence in the said judge. I have often had occasion to observe that he was laughed at, and turned into ridicule. On one occasion, among others, that is, at Douglass Town, in the county of Gaspé, in the said inferior district, at the term of the court held in August last at Douglass Town, I saw the said judge, as I am convinced, drunk on the bench while the court was sitting. I could not help remarking this, as did also many others present in court. I do not remember the exact date, but it was about the end of the said term of the said court. It is also to my knowledge that the common report is that the said judge shows great partiality in favour of his nephew John Robinson Hamilton, esq., one of the advocates practising at the said provincial court. When a suitor loses his cause, he is generally sorry that he did not employ the said John Robinson Hamilton, who is commonly reputed to gain all his causes, be they what they may. I know the said Honourable John Gawler Thompson, as judge of the said inferior district. In the month of August last, in particular, I had conversations with many of the inhabitants of Douglass Town aforesaid, who told me that they had often seen the judge drunk on the bench while the court was sitting, at many of the terms of the said court held at Douglass Town.

Saturday, 23 January 1836.

Mr. *John Green*, of Paspebiac, in the county of Bonaventure, called in; and being Interrogated, answered:

I HAVE known the Honourable John Gawler Thompson, as judge of His Majesty's provincial court for the inferior district of Gaspé, ever since his arrival at Paspebiac aforesaid, in the spring of the year 1827, at which time the said judge came to Paspebiac to replace the Honourable Alexis Caron, also judge of the said inferior district, who died at Paspebiac aforesaid in the winter of the same year. I lived at Paspebiac during 15 years consecutively, and left it in the spring of the year 1833, since which time I have been employed in different parts of the district of Quebec, and of the said inferior district. From the time of the appointment of the said Honourable Alexis Caron as judge of the said inferior district, until his decease, I lived with him as his cook, after his death I became a trader in the said inferior district of Gaspé; I have since taken up my former profession again. According to the common report, the said Mr. Justice Thompson is reputed to be a drunkard, and I know him myself as such. In the month of August, at Percé, during the term in the year 1827, and at the beginning of the said term, being then on board the schooner of Charles Poirier, one Mr. Money, then known by the name of Doctor Money, asked me, on behalf of the said judge, to give him two bottles of Cognac, which I did, telling him at the same time that I had goods to sell, but not to give away, but that I did not wish to disoblige the said judge. He then went ashore with the two bottles of Cognac. I followed him a short time afterwards, and went to pay my compliments to the judge where he was living, which was at the house of one Edmund Fleen; I found the said judge thoroughly drunk. When he saw me,