

No reply was returned to this letter. The subjoined testimony of Thomas Hurst throws full light on the whole story: I am in the employ of Henry Prince, who keeps a music store in this city. I have been with him since 1867. I have known Thomas Boyes, clerk in the Militia Office, since 1866. On the day the Pope-Macdonald letter was published in the *Montreal Herald* in September last, Mr. Boyes was passing the store as I was taking down the shutters. He stopped and asked me if I had seen the *Herald*. I then went into the store with him, when he picked up the *Herald*, which was on the counter, showed me a letter which was therein inserted, and, after asking me not to say anything about it, he said he was the party who had sent the letter to the Hon. John Young; that he had received the letter at the Post Office with other letters for the Militia Office; that in sorting these letters on his arrival at the Militia Office he had discovered amongst them the letter addressed to the Hon. J. H. Pope; that it was open, not having been properly fastened; that he took it out of the envelope and read it; when he found what it contained, he thought it would be a good joke to send it to the Hon. John Young. When Mr. Prince came to the store soon afterwards I showed him the letter in the *Herald*, and he said he thought it was a bogus letter, and I then told him that the letter had been sent to Mr. Young by a man named Boyes, in the Militia Office, and that Boyes admitted the fact to me that morning. A few days afterwards Boyes said had he known that what had happened was going to happen, he would never have meddled with the thing at all. When Mr. Palmer was suspended in April last, Boyes called on me, and promised that at the end of the month, when he got his pay, he would make a confession and leave the country, as he did not wish to see any one suffer on his account; he said he had no money then, and could not leave before he got his money. This interview took place at my house at eight o'clock in the morning, I being at the time sick in bed. I next met Boyes early in May of the present year, when one morning between ten and

THE POPE-MACDONALD LETTER.



WM. BOYES,
THE LETTER THIEF.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

twelve he passed several times before Mr. Prince's store; noticing him and believing he wanted to see me, I went out. On that very same day, previous to my seeing Boyes, being urged by Mr. Prince that something should be done, I determined to write Boyes to come and see me. When I went out I said to him—Well, Boyes, you have done nothing yet. He answered—yes, I have, and he proceeded to tell me that he had written to Mr. Dorion, the Minister of Justice, stating that if a pardon was promised, he would divulge who had taken the Pope-Macdonald letter; the answer was to be sent through the *Herald* by the 25th or 26th of the month. He told me that if no answer was received by the last named date he would leave the country, leaving a full confession behind him. He also stated that he had his confession already written. He told me that he had suffered a good deal through the affair, and that he would not see an innocent man suffer. He also told me then that he destroyed the pen with which he had written the statement and that he chewed up the blotting paper. I have never seen Boyes since. It is so long since I have seen Boyes' handwriting that I would not like to speak in regard to the identity of his writing. I omitted to mention that in the interview last mentioned he stated he had some few days before gone to the States, because he was afraid that something would leak out during the cross-examination of witnesses by Mr. Davidson. He said he was away about ten or eleven days. When Boyes called upon me at my house he had been drinking, and he told me then that he had spent nearly one hundred dollars for brandy. I told Mr. Geo. Hubbard some time in April last, and he and Prince are the only persons to whom I ever have spoken on the subject. This morning I met Mr. Palmer accidentally on the street, and informed him of all I knew about the letter. I told him also that Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Prince knew it. I never before to-day told Mr. Palmer or made him directly or indirectly acquainted that I was possessed of any such information. I always understood from Boyes that no one but himself was concerned in any way in the abstraction of



THE CARLIST WAR.—CAPTURED REPUBLICAN OFFICERS BROUGHT BEFORE DORREGARAY.