General Business.

CHRISTMAS

AND

New Year

PRESENTS

TO SUIT EVERYONE.

COME

AND EXAMINE.

PRICES LOW.

G. STOTHART.

Dec. '91.

CHILDREN LIKE IT.

LIKE WHAT?

ESTEY'S

EMULSION

OF

Cod Liver Oil

Old and young take it for Coughs, Colds, Consumption, and all Lung diseases.

PALATABLE AS MILK. ASK YOUR DRUGGIST.

Executor's Notice.

All persons having any legal claims against the estate of Stenere Petre, late of the Town of Campbellton, in the County of Restigouche, N. B., deceased, are hereby requested to hand in the same to the undersigned, duly attested, within sixty days from the date hereof, and all persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to

REV. J. L. McDONALD,
Sole Executor

12-10
Campbellton, N. B., Dec. 1st, 1891.

DR. JAMES' NERVE BEANS.

NERVE BEANS are a new discovery that relieves and cure the worst cases of Nervous Debility, Lost Vigor and Failing Manhood; restores the weakness of body or mind caused by overwork, or the errors and excesses of youth. This Remedy absolutely cures the most obstinate cases when all other TREATMENTS have failed even to relieve. They do not, like other preparations advertised for Lost Manhood, etc., interfere with digestion, but impart new life, strength and energy in a quick and harmless manner peculiar to themselves.

Sold by druggists at $1.00 a package, or six for 5.00, or sent by mail on receipt of price. Address The James Medicine CO., Canadian Agency, St. John, N. B.

Write for pamphlet. Sold in Chatham by J. D. B. F. MACKENZIE.

UNPRECEDENTED ATTRACTION
OVER A MILLION DISTRIBUTED.

L. S. L.

Louisiana State Lottery Company.

Incorporated by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes, and its franchise made a part of the present State constitution, in 1879, by an overwhelming popular vote.

Its GRAND EXTRAORDINARY DRWINGS take place Semi-Annually, (June and December,) and its GRAND SINGLE NUMBER DRAWINGS take place in each of the other ten months of the year, and are all drawn in public, at the Academy of Music, New Orleans, La.

FAMED FOR TWENTY YEARS FOR INTEGRITY OF ITS DRAWINGS AND PROMPT PAYMENT OF PRIZES.

Attested as follows:

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Semi-Annual Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorise the company to use this certificate, with facsimiles of our signatures attached, in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early
Commissioners.

We the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in The Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

R. M. Walmsley, Pres. Louisiana Nat. Bk.
Pierre Lanaux, Pres. State Nat'l Bank.
A. Baldwin, Pres. New Orleans Nat'l Bk.
Carl Kohn, Pres. Union National Bank.

Grand Monthly Drawing.

WILL TAKE PLACE
At the Academy of Music, New Orleans,
Tuesday, January 12, 1892.

Capital Prize, $300,000.

100,000 numbers in the wheel.

LIST OF PRIZES

1 PRIZE OF	300,000 is	300,000
1 PRIZE OF	100,000 is	100,000
1 PRIZE OF	50,000 is	50,000
1 PRIZE OF	25,000 are	25,000
2 PRIZE OF	10,000 are	20,000
5 PRIZES OF	5,000 are	25,000
25 PRIZES OF	1,000 are	25,000
100 PRIZES OF	500 are	50,000
200 PRIZES OF	300 are	60,000
500 PRIZES OF	200 are	100 000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

100 Prizes of	$500 are	$50,000
100 do	300 are	30,000
100 do	200 are	20,000

TERMINAL PRIZES

999 do	100 are	99,900
999 do	100 are	99,900
3,134 Prizes, amounting to		$1,054,800

PRICE OF TICKETS.
Whole Tickets at $20; Halves $10; Quarters $5; Tenths, $2; Twentieths $1

Club Rates, 55 Fractional Tickets at $1, for $50.

SPECIAL RATES TO AGENTS.
AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE

IMPORTANT.

SEND MONEY BY EXPRESS AT OUR EXPENSE IN SUMS NOT LESS THAN FIVE DOLLARS, on which we will pay all charges, and we prepay Express Charges on Tickets and Lists of Prizes forwarded to correspondents.

Address PAUL CONRAD,
New Orleans, La.,

Give full address and make signature plain.

Congress having lately passed laws prohibiting the use of the mails to ALL Lotteries, we use the Express Companies in answering correspondents and sending Lists of Prizes, until the Courts shall decide Our rights as a State Institution. The Postal authorities, however, will continue to deliver all Ordinary letters addressed to Paul Conrad, but will not deliver Registered letters to him.

The official Lists of Prizes will be sent on application to all Local Agents, after every drawing in any quantity, by express, FREE OF COST

ATTENTION.—The present charter of The Louisiana State Lottery Company which is part of the Constitution of the State, and by decision of the SUPREME COURT OF THE U. S. is an inviolable contract between the State and the Lottery Company will remain in force under any circumstances FIVE YEARS LONGER, UNTIL 1895.

The Louisiana Legislature which adjourned July 10th, voted by two-thirds majority in each House to let the people decide at an election whether the lottery shall continue from 1895 until 1910—The general impression is that THE PEOPLE WILL FAVOR CONTINUANCE.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., - - DECEMBER 24, 1891.

The Mercier Cabinet Dismissed.

Lieut-Governor Angers, of Quebec has dismissed his advisers, and the circumstances under which he has taken the important and unusual step are quite fully stated in the official correspondence which we publish elsewhere, Mr. Mercier—the ex-premier—happens to call himself a liberal, and it is evidently because of that fact that nearly all the liberal papers appear to hold that the governor has done wrong in not condoning the offences of which that gentleman and some of his colleagues have been guilty, for he had, constitutionally, no choice other than to either acquiesce in their conduct, dismiss them, or tender his own resignation. It is pitiful, and a striking illustration of the low level to which partyism has dragged many prominent papers, to find them thus practically defending public plunderers and holding that the representative of the Crown—after they had ignored him in his official capacity, given him assurances of their integrity which were false, and violated their most important constitutional obligations—should continue to preserve with them the relationship of a governor of a British province and his advisers. Governor Angers had the power to dismiss the corrupt members of his Cabinet and he would have disgraced his high office had he not exercised his prerogative as he has done. Mr. Mercier, however, has made a study of playing upon the sentimentality of the impressionable people of Quebec, who, as a whole, are perhaps more easily imposed upon by such harlequinades of politico-religious gymnastics as have been practiced by the late premier, than those of any other country in America, at least, and this fact seems to give substance to an impression that the people, when appealed to, may forget the dishonest administrator and be carried away by the glare and tinsel in which he has invested a large proportion of the public money which he has wrongfully appropriated. Should this happen, the province of Quebec will add another page to its already uninviting record as the "black sheep" of the Dominion family and discourage the acceptance of its governorship by self-respecting men, desirous of maintaining the dignity of the Crown and vindicating the good name of the province.

It is evident that Mr. Mercier is determined not to submit quietly to the punishment he so well deserves. It will be seen by his letter to governor Angers that he "talks back" in a fashion that is not only independent, but suggestive of audacity and recklessness that easily merge into impertinence. He mixes the Deity's name up in the controversy with a facility quite natural, no doubt, to one of the exalted authority in such matters which he imagines he has acquired; although the circumstances in which his disgrace had its genesis, and the environment of the case, from its earliest stages to the present time, were apparently the outcome of intents and objects upon which no blessing from on high could have been invoked with any degree of consistency or sincerity. He is, apparently, a master of sophistry; and the adroitness with which he misrepresents facts and juggles with inductions indicates that he depends more upon working upon the prejudices of the ignorant in the struggle that is before him, than the merits of his cause or any respect he has shown in the past for either the traditions of the empire or genuine regard for its sovereign, against whom, while pretending in his letter to hold her up as a defender of constitutional rights, he, nevertheless, utters a threatening growl, which will, of course, not render him the less popular amongst his sympathisers.

Let us hope, however, that Quebec has seen the last of the Mercier regime. The rule of such men and those by whom he has surrounded himself in the historic province, would be financially ruinous to a country of independent revenue resources, to say nothing of its demoralising effects upon public virtue and tendency to create contempt for constitutional government. The effort of Quebec to purge itself of the disgrace of the Mercier gang will be watched throughout the world with unusual interest, and if the people of that province shall prove unequal to the duty devolving upon them in the elections that must take place, there will be a general feeling in every other part of the Dominion that every member of the confederacy is compelled to share the odium of association with those who compromise the honor of the country.

New Cabinet.

The new government of the Province of Quebec is composed of C. B. Deboucherville, premier and president of the council; T. C. Casgrain, attorney general; J. S. Hall, treasurer; E. J. Flynn, commissioner of crown lands; G. A. Nantel, commissioner of public works; Louis Beaubien, commissioner of agriculture; L. P. Pelletier, provincial secretary; L. R. Masson, L. O. Taillon, J. Mackintosh, ministers without portfolio.

A New Process.

A new process for manufacturing political ammunition—or, rather, the adaptation of an old idea to that work—is now being used by the party papers. A correspondent invents a story concerning some prominent public man and causes it to be published. Then, the papers of the party in whose supposed interest the invention is made solemnly direct attention to the fact that the thing is evidently true because the person concerning whom it has been said does not deny it. And, yet that kind of news passes current quite as readily as if it were a legitimate article.

Not Very Patriotic.

Our former good-natured contemporary—the St. John Globe—has of late manifested much ill-temper. It is so spiteful as to put the heading "Preparing for the Kingston election" over the following Ottawa despatch:—

Three convicts, named Hayes, Hollingsworth and Catellier, who were sentenced to five years' imprisonment in Kingston penitentiary for robbing mails, will be released on Christmas eve. They have served two years and were formerly mail clerks.

Because these men were in Kingston penitentiary, it does not follow that they belong to that electoral district and, in any case, their names could not possibly appear on any Canadian electoral list. But, after all, is it not a poor business for a Canadian paper to lend its circulation abroad to the work of creating incorrect impressions, to the detriment of the country in the minds of strangers?

"You Never Can Tell."

Some of the papers are rendering assistance to the lawyers and courts in trying cases of more or less local interest, and the results—so far as the general public is concerned—is to make the facts as clear as mud. One story appears good until one hears the other fellow's interpretation of it, while the declarations, affidavits, pleadings, replications and other luxuries in which the respective clients are investing their good money, add to the interest and uncertainty, so that life seems too short and its general affairs too important to justify the ordinary reporter in giving the time and study such abstruse subjects require for their proper and equitable adjustment. Besides, after the papers pronounce judgment, the judges have an awkward habit of deciding quite differently, for these gentlemen of the bench make a practice of patiently waiting to hear all the evidence, which the papers dealing with such matters think it unneccessary to do. Lawyers generally demonstrate their ability to take care of themselves, however their clients may fare, and it seems to us safest to let them fight their own battles and leave the judges to decide their cases.

The Politicians.

The Halifax Herald says:—

"The petition against the returns of Sir Adolphe Caron was, on Saturday, dismissed with costs. The same day a judgment was given in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia that renders invalid the petitions against the return of Sir John Thompson. Hon. Mr. Tupper, Mr. Mill's, (Annapolis), Mr. Kaulback, and Mr. White (Shelburne.) It is also announced in the Montreal papers of Friday, that the petition against Mr. Frechette, conservative member for Megantic is dead. This leaves only thirteen government supporters to 32 Liberals on the list."

The True Issue.

The Montreal Witness, the leading Liberal paper of Montreal, referring to the dismissal of Mercier, says:—

"The constitutional question is the secondary one in this contest; the main question is, shall a corrupt and discredited minister, who has simply played at ducks and drakes with the resources and credit of the province, and has allowed boodlers and toll-takers to grab provincial moneys by the scores and hundreds of thousands of dollars, while finding it difficult to place loans in Europe, thus made necessary, be sent back to power to continue that game? If the Ottawa Government is to blame for an unconstitutional course on the part of Mr. Angers, as so many Liberals hold, punish that Government by all means. But the present duty of all honest men, whether Liberal or Conservative, whether English or French, is to rebuke and punish the boodling Government of Quebec."

QUEBEC!

The Political Heather on Fire.

GOVERNOR ANGERS DISMISSES HIS ADVISERS.

HE CHARGES MR. MERCIER WITH DECEPTION AND DECLARES THE DISMISSAL TO BE DEMANDED BY THE DIGNITY AND NECESSARY FOR THE SAFETY OF THE HONOR AND INTERESTS OF THE PROVINCE.

MR. MERCIER IS DEFIANT AND MOUNTS THE PEGASSUS OF THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS!

BOODLE AND BRAVADO DEFY THE GOVERNOR AND PROCLAIM THEIR RIGHT TO LICENSE IN THE NAME OF CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTY!

Premier Mercier's government has been dismissed by the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec. The following documents are interesting reading.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, QUEBEC, 16th Dec., 1891.

Honorable Honore Mercier, Prime Minister, Quebec:

SIR,—Touching the matter of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway Company, I have received an interim report of the majority of the Royal Commission, Honorable Judge Jette being incapacitated from participating therein by the sudden and serious illness under which he is laboring, and which will prevent him from undertaking all assidious work for 15 days to come. This document is as follows:

To His Honor A. R. Angers, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec, &c., &c:

We the undersigned commissioners have the honor to make the following report:

"The serious illness of the president of the commission, rendering absolutely impossible for an indefinite time his concurrence in the drawing up of the final report, we are compelled to suspend that report. However we understand that your honor has a right to be informed as soon as possible in the public interest of the result of our deliberations. His honor Judge Jette has apprised your honor that his state of health rendered it impossible for him to participate in any report for the present. Conscious of the grave responsibility assumed by us in accepting the difficult charge which we undertook, we believe that it is a strict duty for us under the circumstances to transmit to you without further delay a summary of the conclusions at which we have arrived, without comment, however, reserving such for the final report.

During the negotiations with J. J. McDonald, and afterwards during those with A. M. Thom, with whom C. N. Armstrong had connected himself, Pacaud acted as intermediary between the parties interested and the members of the Local Government.

Both McDonald and Armstrong were persuaded that Pacaud's intervention was necessary to enable them to succeed. The bargain entered into between Armstrong and Pacaud about March 19, 1891, by which the sum of $100,000 was promised and afterwards paid to Pacaud was fraudulent, contrary to public order and an audacious exploitation of the Provincial Treasury, and it was effected under a pretext wearing all the outward appearance of plausibility. The Government, when the order-in-council No. 237 was passed, April 21 and 23, 1891, and the letters of credit, issued April 28, had nothing before them to establish that the persons with whom they were supposed to be transacting were legally bound and obliged to carry out the conditions of the act 54 Victoria, chap. 88. The order-in-council in question is based on the reorganization of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway Company, and yet such reorganization had not taken place when the letters of credit were irregularly issued without your honors' knowledge. In this order-in-council the terms "privileged debts," which occur in sub section 7 of section 1 of the 54 Vic., chap. 88, are replaced by the words, "actual debts," an alteration of a very grave character in our opinion.

"Armstrong's claim as shown by exhibit 3 of the record amounted to the sum of $293,493.62. It was not due, and consequently not payable, and moreover it was not privileged. The sudden and unexpected appearance of this claim after the passing of the order-in-council settled by advances made out of the public treasury appears to have caused a great deal of embarrassment, trouble and anxiety to Hon. Mr. Garneau, and without it evidently the said letters of credit would not have been issued.

We are of opinion that Mr. Garneau, in the course of the entire transaction with Thom, underwent considerable pressure on the part of his colleagues and gave proof of carelessness, but that he was in good faith and benefitted in no way by the transaction. The fact of Hon. Mr. Robidoux having in his possession Pacaud's note for $20,000 endorsed by P. Valliere, and to which was attached one of the $20,000 checks signed by Jean Chrysostome Langelier, commissioner in the Baie des Chaleurs affair, and the letter of Cashier Webb to Cashier Bousquet, promising to meet this check of Pacaud's when the letter of credit for $100,000 would be paid by the Government, together with the attempt made by Mr. Robidoux to get this check of Pacaud's cashed, constitute very compromising acts for that gentleman. There is no evidence, however, that Mr. Robidoux received any portion of the $100,000 in question as he moreover declared before us. Out of this sum of $100,000, Pacaud at different times paid to Hon. Charles Langelier, provincial secretary, divers sums of money amounting in all to $9,291 23, from which it appears to be pretended that a sum of $2,872 76 should be deducted. Mr. Langelier was one of the ministers who took the greatest part in the adoption of the Thom proposal. He knew and seconded the efforts of Pacaud, his intimate friend, to get the $100,000 letter of credit discounted at the Banque Nationale. The discount obtained by Pacaud, as well at the Banque Nationale as the Banque du Peuple, was known to him. After having carefully weighed and considered all the facts relating to that gentleman, we cannot avoid saying that when Mr. Langelier accepted that money from Pacaud he was perfectly aware of the source from which it had come. The notes, to the amount of $23,000 in all, discounted for political purposes, were paid by Mr. Pacaud out of the Baie des Chaleurs money. That debt, as established by Mr. Mercier's own evidence was contracted with the formal understanding that the responsibility would be equally shared between the signers of endorsers without regard to the order of the signatures or endorsations. Although the payment by Mr. Pacaud of these notes appears to have been done outside of the knowledge and without the consent of the interested parties, it does not the less constitute the discharge of a debt personal to each of them and when the payment was known later it was not repudiated by them and they profited by it. Messrs. Mercier and Langelier were included among these endorsers. The $5000 required by the draft sent by Mr. Pacaud to Mr. Mercier were at the moment so sent from the proceeds of a note for $20,000 discounted on the same day at the Banque Nationale and to which one of the checks of Commissioner Langelier in favor of Armstrong was annexed.

We deem it your duty to here note the apparent contradiction existing between Mr. Mercier's statement to you in his explanations as reported in the official correspondence and the evidence rendered before us. In his reply to Your Honor's memorandum of Sept. 7th last Mr. Mercier expresses himself in the following terms:—"At page 24 of your letter Your Honor says: On the same day (May 15) Mr. Pacaud purchased by means of a check drawn on the same account a bill of exchange in favor of Hon. Mr. Mercier for $5000 producing 25,500 francs The evidence of Mr. Lafranc, cashier at Quebec, pages 77 and 78, establishes that these $5000 were taken from the proceeds of a note of Mr. Pacaud's endorsed by Mr. Valliere and guaranteed by one of the checks mentioned by Your Honor. On the other hand I am informed that this amount was raised by means of one of the blank notes which I had left with Senator Pelletier before my departure for Europe. I have not had occasion to verify which of the two versions is correct. But in any case I affirm that being in Europe and having fixed the price of that sum I asked for it, convinced that the amount could be raised by means of the blank notes which I had left behind me and naturally with the intention of myself taking up the paper used to procure the amount as it was for personal expenses. I affirm further that when I asked for this amount I ignored for a long time afterwards that the transaction of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway had taken place, and that I only learned some time after my return to Canada, through the report of the Senate proceedings published in the newspapers, that Mr. Pacaud had obtained a sum of $100,000, or any other sum,"

Nevertheless, Messrs. Mercier and Pacaud both deposed that this first draft had been called for by a letter written in the early days of May, the money to be raised by the check for $5000, which Mr. Mercier had left with Mr. Pacaud before his departure for Europe. The latter replied by forwarding the draft or by advising him that it would be transmitted. We cannot understand why Mr. Mercier did not state to Your Honor as he declared before us that he had left this $5000 check in Pacaud's hands, together with another for $3500 for his (Mr. Mercier's) personal use. We regret also that the following letters were not produced: Mr. Garneau's letter to Mr. Mercier and the latter's reply, Mr. Chas. Langelier's letter to Mr. Mercier, Mr. Pacaud's letter to Mr. Garneau, and the correspondence between him and Mr. Mercier, to which he refers in his evidence. It is not proved that Mr. Mercier knew of the existence of the bargain between Armstrong and Pacaud, and that gentleman declares that he benefitted in no way thereby. Hon. Messrs. Ross, Shehyn, Boyer and Duhamel derived no advantage whatever from the transaction.

The whole humbly submitted,

Quebec, 15th Dec., 1891.

(Signed) G. BABY,
C. P. DAVIDSON,
Commissioners.

SIR,—The statements you made to me in the ministerial explanations that the Government's action was perfectly honorable and in the public interest, that the negotiations between the Government and the company were carried out in the most regular and honorable manner possible from a business standpoint only, and that nothing occurred, directly or indirectly, which could give rise to suspicions on the character of the transactions as regards the ministry; all these statements as well as the justification which you have attempted of the conduct of the ministry lose their value in the face of the foregoing. The above report, the carelessness and the illegalities with which the action of the ministry is marked, the facts and circumstances which preceded, accompanied, led to, and followed its action; the issue of letters of credit to the amount of $175,000, in violation of the Treasury law, without the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, and to the injury of the public credit, the malversation and diversion of the sum of $175,000 from its legislative destination, the payment made thereof to Mr. Armstrong, to whom nothing was due by the Government or by the company in money, the sharing of the $100,000 levied from Mr. Armstrong and the use made thereof to pay the debts of several of the ministers and to subsidize several members supporting the Cabinet, the contradictions existing between the evidence and the ministerial explanations, the silence of those explanations in regard to certain facts of extreme gravity personal to some of the ministers, as the whole is proved and established by the investigation and the above report, force upon me the conviction that the ministry is not in a position to advise the representative of the Crown wisely, disinterestedly and faithfully. In the face of the persistence of the ministry to remain in office notwithstanding the carelessness and illegalities of its action and the facts established by the investigation, there only remains for me, under the circumstances, in order to protect the dignity of the Crown and to safeguard the honor and interests of the Province in danger, the constitutional remedy of withdrawing from you my confidence and to relieve you and your colleagues from your functions as advisers of the representative of the Crown and members of the Executive Council.

Wherefore, sir, I withdraw my confidence from you and relieve you and your colleagues from your functions as advisers of the Crown and members of the Executive Council of the Province of Quebec.

I have the honor to be sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. R. ANGERS,
Lieutenant Governor.

On receipt of the foregoing Mr. Mercier wrote to the governor requesting a copy of a letter which he stated he was assured his honor had received from Judge Jette, president of the commission, and said he presumed there could be no objection to his publishing both Judge Jette's letter, and that of the governor dismissing his advisers.

In reply, governor Angers wrote Mr. Mercier saying:—

"I consider the letter of Honorable Judge Jette as personal. I cannot for the present permit the publication of my despatch of yesterday. To do so would be to violate the usages and constitutional laws in such matters. The publication of state documents cannot be made except upon the responsibility of the advisers of the Crown."

Mr. Mercier replies to the governor, recounting his application for Judge Jette's letter, etc., and his honor's refusal, and proceeds as follows:—

You therefore refuse both to give me a copy of Judge Jette's letter and the permission which I did not ask from you to publish your letter of yesterday. You refuse purely and simply to do me justice. I regret the fact more on your own account than mine, for this refusal to give me an official document coming from the president of the commission, and to publish the letter dismissing me proves beyond all doubt that I have to do, not with an impartial head of the executive, but with a political adversary subjected to the outside influence of evil counsellors and bad passions, and avowing without respect for the exalted position which he occupies, the subterfuges by which he seeks to deprive me of the advantages derivable from the letter in question and its publication, together with that of yesterday.

You assign as a pretext for your refusal that "to do so would be to violate the usages and the constitutional law in such matters. The publication of State documents cannot be made except upon the responsibility of the advisers of the Crown."

You were not of this opinion when you made public the letter you wrote me on Sept. 7 last, not only without the consent of your advisers, but even without their knowledge. I can therefore conclude that if the doctrine which you at present invoke is well founded, you have knowingly and wilfully violated the usages and constitutional law in such matters.

Under the circumstances I consider myself justified in doing without your permission and in publishing your letters of yesterday and to-day as well as my own.

You have kept me in tutorship for now nearly four months in violation of what you term "the usages and constitutional laws in such matters," and you have had the audacity—pardon me the expression—to do what our august Sovereign Queen Victoria would never have dared to do in England without provoking a revolution among the English people, nevertheless so peaceable, and was no Lieutenant Governor of any other of the provinces of confederation would have done either.

In dismissing me from office, you have given me liberty and if, up to the present, I have been under the obligation to keep silence—and God knows I have respected that obligation more than you have done—I have now the right to speak and I shall speak.

All good citizens must admit that there is a limit to tyranny, and that a man, though he may have been a prime minister is not a slave.

The preliminary report upon which you base your right to dismiss me, is not the report of the commission which you forced upon me. It is the report of two partisans, from whom you have dragged an unjust and unfounded opinion on the investigation in your interview with them at Spencer Wood. In fact, Judges Baby and Davidson left Montreal on the morning of the 15th, bearers of a letter from the President of the Commission. I am assured that they went to Spencer Wood on their arrival here, and as it was necessary for you to summon the Legislature or to throw the country into anarchy, you caused them to give you on the spot, in spite of the president's letter, a paper altogether informal and without legal value.

Everyone will remark that this pretended preliminary report is not addressed to the lieutenant-governor-in council, to whom alone the report of the commission should be addressed, but to yourself the head of the executive and a federal official, irresponsible to the people and their representatives. This informality is fatal and the document is worthless.

Further, the allegations of this pretended preliminary report are contrary to the proof which is known to everyone and which you cannot ignore, and they cannot bear discussion for an instant. They contain gratuitous insults to me, to my colleagues, to us all, Your Honor's ex-Ministers, supported by the great majority of the Legislature of this Province.

After having imposed your personal and autocratic government during nearly four months and arrested the regular working of the administration of this Province; after having unjustly refused to settle the debts legitimately due to the railway contractors, to the directors of colonization works, to the charitable institutions, to our houses of education, to the societies of agriculture, etc.; after having refused to call the legislature at the request of the great majority of the representatives of the people to enable them to judge the difference raised by you between us in obedience to the orders of the Ottawa authorities; after having refused during this whole time to attend day by day as was your duty at your official bureau in order to transact the public affairs, when you were paid to do so by the people of this country, after having stated that you waited the report of the commission to finally pass judgment on the unjust charges brought against your ministers; after having ascertained that you could not obtain that report and that the term for the meeting of the Legislature was fatally approaching, you hit upon this dodge of a pretended preliminary report and cynically carried out one of the most odious conspiracies ever entered into by an executive head against the constitutional liberties enjoyed by a free people.

You state that "in the face of the persistence of the Ministry to remain in office, notwithstanding the carelessness and illegalities of them are clear and the facts established by the investigation, there remains to me under the circumstances, to protect the dignity of the Crown and to safeguard the honor and interests of the province in danger, only the constitutional remedy of withdrawing from you my confidence and relieving you and your colleagues of your functions as advisers of the Crown and members of the Executive Council."

Permit me to say that you would have done better to have given no reasons at all to justify our dismissal from office than to have given bad ones.

You commenced by demanding explanations from me and by forcing on me at the same time and in the same document an investigation by royal commission. Since you had made up your mind to get rid of your ministers you had no need either of explanations or of an investigation, and the latter has now become a very costly farce.

You are in such a hurry to attain your object and to place power in the hands of your political friends that you do not even wait for the final report of the commission, whose members you yourself selected and whose jurisdiction you imposed upon us, and taking an abusive advantage of the illness of Judge Jette, you get his two colleagues to proceed ex parte against all the rules of decency and professional etiquette. You speak of the want of care of your Ministers, when you autocratically reduced them to powerlessness.

You speak of the dignity of the Crown and the honor and interests of the province, when you yourself have been the very first to trample under foot that dignity with which you are invested and to treat the honor and interests of the country with contempt.

You speak of the illegality of our proceedings, alluding no doubt to the conversion of the land subsidy into money, and to the issue of the letters of credit, when you yourself after study of the question, consented to that conversion and when you know by personal experience as a judge that the courts of appeal are frequently obliged to reverse the judgments of the lower courts even when presided over by a man who becomes Lieutenant Governor.

You state that you withdraw your confidence from me. You are laboring under a delusion, for you know well that you have always refused me your confidence. You abandoned the active conflicts of politics to ascend the bench, where you nevertheless always remained a partisan. You left the bench to go to Spencer Wood, and there again your conduct throughout the whole time I was your political adviser was that of a political partisan.

I was well aware that I had not your confidence, but I also knew that I had no need of it. I had that of the people and the great majority of their representatives and that was enough for me.

You pretend that the facts established at the investigation warrant you in dismissing me from office without the report of the commission, and you fancy that you are discharging a conscientious duty in vindicating public morality in that way.

Lord Dufferin, who was your superior both as a statesman and a constitutional governor, did not so act on the occasion of the Pacific Scandal. He allowed his advisers, while lying under a charge of having sold a public contract for a large sum of money intended for the purposes of electoral corruption, to select their own commission to hold the investigation. And when the facts were established, when it had been proved that the ministers of the Crown had received large sums of money from Sir Hugh Allan for the purposes aforesaid, and that a final report clear and positive had been laid before him, he considered it still his duty to send it before Parliament, in order that the latter might take communication of it and decide in its wisdom what should be done.

The inculpated Ministers, your political friends, did not deem it their duty to resign before knowing the hostile opinion of the majority of the House of Commons.

Those guilty ministers, your leaders; you were then in active political life and the respect for public morality which you to-day invoke did not prevent you from supporting them with all your talent and energy. Later on, when you sat in the House of Commons, you officially absolved them of the crime of which they had been found guilty, and by their own commissioners, as well as by the majority of the representatives of the people, and to-day you obey the will of the Federal Prime Minister, Mr. Abbott, who was himself the distributor of this bribery money to the Ministry, and still it is in the name of public morality that you dismiss me.

These are facts, Sir, which are within every one's knowledge, and you will never succeed in making your fellow-citizens believe that it is respect for public morality that is your guide in the actual circumstance.

Everyone knows it, and do not try to deny it. It is not in the interest of public morality that you have provoked this crisis and dismissed your Ministers. It is to give to your friends the benefit of the fat contracts which you have in your mind, the construction of the Normal School at Quebec, the Central Prison at Montreal, and other works of urgent necessity.

Your conduct, Sir, in the whole of this unfortunate business, puts our political institutions in jeopardy and makes a serious breach in the autonomy of our Province. Take and keep the responsibility before the country and before history. I will try to undo your nefarious work with the assistance of my colleagues and my political friends. For this purpose I will willingly expend all that that I possess in the way of energy and courage, and I do not despair of succeeding in saving our cherished Province from the abyss into which you and your friends have been seeking for some time past to hurl it.

I denounce you before public opinion, to which you are responsible as all others, and I trust that the day is not far distant when the representatives of the people will again resume the power of which you have temporarily stripped them, and vindicate the constitution which you have broken, though you solemnly swore to defend it.

In concluding allow me to remind you of what every one says—you will shortly receive from Mr. Abbott, your master, the price of your national treachery. Let me also recall what every one says of me—that I shall soon go before the people and receive from its strong and powerful hands a new mandate which will enable me to resume in the Legislature the position from which you have driven me, and to chase you constitutionally, but surely, from Spencer Wood, if you are still there.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) HONORE MERCIER.

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