

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR J. A. MACDONALD, K. C. B.,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, CANADA.

RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR:—I have the honour to send to you a copy of a letter I have addressed to Dr. Selwyn, F. R. S., Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, under the Minister of the Interior.

I beg to call your attention to the charges I have been most reluctantly compelled to renew, (1) respecting the continued malfeasance of two of the most important officers of the Geological Survey, in the prosecution of official work concerning the North-West Territories, and the manufacture of false Reports.

Also to the very injurious character of the impostures they have thus practised upon the public, together with the disastrous and inhuman results these have already produced and are certain to continue to produce in increasing ratio through unchecked and selfish misapplication. (2)

In unison with the scientific deprivations pointed out, I have regretfully noticed very misleading statements relating to the same and kindred subjects made and disseminated by your Deputy, Mr. Lindsay Russell, the Surveyor General, through whose official supervision the reports on the North-West Territories appear to be filtered.

The official statements and filtrates of the Deputy of the Minister of the Interior are of a very pernicious character, adapted to promote illusory adventures under false pretences possessing official weight, and fitted to become a potent cause of suffering among uneducated immigrants deceived by them or their application, besides being dangerous to honest investors.

As a consequence of the malfeasance of the named officers of the Geological Survey and disregard of warnings, the good repute of that important public service is jeopardized, its influence having been purchased and sold for corrupt purposes, which all scientific bodies and educated persons will clearly perceive and understand.

These Societies and educated persons are able to satisfy their members and themselves that in the leading instances I have given, or am prepared to give, if the Assistant Director of the Geological Survey, Dr. Bell, or the Naturalist, Professor Macoun, had made use of available scientific data as these ought to be employed, instead of using or creating erroneous and fictitious data, the conclusions they have propagated relating to certain all-important physical features of the North-West, would have been reversed, or very materially and adversely modified, and much financial scheming of deplorable character, certain to be attended with distress and inhumanity, thereby avoided.

The utter disregard by Sir A. T. Galt of what I have pointed out to him in this relation, proves your High Commissioner at London, to be one of the most pernicious and dishonest servants of modern times. (3) He appears with his friends to reap pecuniary benefits from his connivance. But he knows that the Geological Survey of Canada, supervised by your Department of Government, lies behind him as a screen and shelter.

As a consequence of Sir Alexander Galt's nefarious work as outlined by me, the successor of the High Commissioner in London, whoever that may be, will be justly looked upon with gathering suspicion in the present condition of affairs, and his boldest representations spurned or vilely used, as belonging to one with doubtful objects to promote by iniquitous means. This necessary consequence must ensue and prevail with increasing force, as long as the present condition of North-West representative matter is permitted to continue, or the Wrecker's fire is lit.

Among the notices of my recent pamphlet entitled "MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST FRAUDS," which have appeared in the columns of the public press, there is one pre-eminently suggestive, considering its origin. It is contained in the Montreal financial paper bearing the name,

"THE SHAREHOLDER AND INSURANCE GAZETTE,"

said to be an influential medium in a certain well defined direction. The notice is as subjoined:—

"HENRY YOULE HIND, M. A., sends us a pamphlet entitled *Manitoba and the North-West Frauds*. We have not read it and don't mean to, but if the frauds be trials of any worse 'Frauds' than himself then we fear that Manitoba and the North-West are in a hopelessly bad way. The greatest humbugs of the day are generally conceded to be those utter charlatans the self styled 'weather prophets,' special curses of Montreal and Ottawa. Windsor, N. S., however, the present abode of 'Yowl' Hind, appears too, to be badly afflicted.—(The Shareholder and Insurance Gazette, Montreal, April 6, 1883.)

Your long experience of public life enables you to measure the usefulness of the sycophant and the power of the protected financial bully.

But you also know that when the cringing sharper is met with *Bassanio's* response to *Shylock*,

"This is no answer, thou unfeeling man,"

He can only savagely retort as the wolf,

"Why he hath made the ewe bleat for the lamb."

Investors will thank me for pointing out that the editor of "The Shareholder" raves about a document disclosing Fraud, which he professes that he has "NOT READ;" a procedure doubly announcing the imminent danger to which their millions are exposed. All men recognize this inexcusable method of dealing with enlightening statements which can not be controverted, as the last resource of pampered and sinking schemers.

I observe that in the next column of his financial paper, this conscious and pliant editor devotes a paragraph to an opposition statesman whom he designates as, "That very self-sufficient and conspicuously shallow personage, Sir Richard Cartwright."

With your educated sense of justice no man knows better than yourself that to teach the eager public investing lessons after the fashion of that financial con-artist at Montreal, is like winning brief climatic triumph with the pervasions of Macoun and Bell, or a fictitious Garden of Eden through the vile transmutations of Lindsay Russell.

Your finer sense of human right teaches you too, that the uneducated labouring poor have as just a claim to shelter and warmth, to seedtime and harvest, to rainfall and dew, as the gamblers who trifle with the wealth which perverted knowledge brings, or is won by the glow of the wreckers fire.

You will be pleased to bear in mind that on the 8th March, 1883, I renewed my application for an opportunity to be publicly and freely examined concerning those disgraceful deceptions of which the named officers in your Department of Government appear to be the protected and petted originators.

I am aware that in matters of State it is essential to proceed with great forbearance; but in the present case, forbearance appears to have gone inhumanly far, and to have already occasioned distress and suffering of unusual type, with a prospect of a large and threatening increase. Therefore, I claim your present reticence and inaction as an admission of my allegations, which no diplomacy or denial in open court could impair, and from which all escape is impossible, except by the exercise of arbitrary avoidance, or pitiless neglect of a matter which admits of no honest delay when it is brought directly under your notice, as is now done by me.

I respectfully ask that those public steps be immediately taken which will put out the WRECKERS FIRES and tend to arrest the selfish misuse by others of the various deceptions, originating in your Department, I have been compelled again to press upon your notice.

I do not doubt that you will recognize this just course as the only possible one,—apart from instant and open inquiry to obtain proofs of further fraud—which is worthy of your position and name, or of the country you serve.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

HENRY YOULE HIND.

Formerly in charge of the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Exploring Expedition.

Windsor, Nova Scotia, April 16th, 1883.

(1) Attention was first drawn by me to the gross practice of the kind of malfeasance herein noticed as early as May, 1881, and Nov., 1881, in printed letters and in distinct and specific terms, but without any apparent result it, arresting the continuance and further repetition of the frauds named, or their use for dishonest purposes.
(2) See the "DEATH AND MUTILATION ROLLS" in "Manitoba and North-West Frauds."
(3) I beg attention to the various communications I have transmitted to Sir Alex. Galt and the reply they elicited. To the "Colonists' Handbook," with its false map, false prices, false descriptions of land and deceitful anonymous letter. The "Colonists' Handbook" is the most shocking deception of the day, considering its authoritative origin and the method of its distribution among emigrating classes through the clergy. It is an endless disgrace to Sir A. T. Galt, and it besmirches the good name of Canada as long as it remains an uncorrected authority. Sir A. T. Galt's relation to the swindle perpetrated on the Royal Geographical Society, is utterly inexcusable.