

Church, Angers, and the other members of the Cabinet, he could say nothing against the honesty of the cities of Quebec and Montreal, and the various municipalities; though their credit had necessarily suffered with the credit of the whole Province, from the extravagance and incapacity of the Ministry, still their character remained, and on that character a dishonest Ministry, by unlawful means, now sought as a last resource to trade.

The second part of the railway resolutions must, at all events, be admitted to have had the advantage of being perfectly clear and unambiguous. It provided that, in the event of the cities of Montreal and Quebec, and the various municipalities along the line of rail, continuing to refuse to issue their bonds for the amounts by them subscribed, syndics should be named by the Government to replace the various mayors and wardens whose signatures to the bonds were necessary, and that the bonds, so signed by the said syndics and handed to the Government, should be held to be as binding upon the two cities and municipalities as if they had been signed for them by their duly elected mayors or wardens; and that, in the event of the interest on any of the said bonds becoming over-due fifteen days, the Sheriff should be notified, without further proceeding, to take in execution such amount of property within the limits of said municipality, as should be necessary to pay the interest so over-due; and, further, that none of the Courts of the Province should have the right to enquire into the matter in any way whatever. These provisions certainly appear simple, and, above all, effective. Interest being due, the Sheriff would only have had to select some handsome property, taking care, of course, to avoid that of his own particular friends, or the friends of the gentlemen in power, and bring it to the hammer; the proceeds of the sale would have gone into the treasury, and the plundered man might afterwards have settled with the municipality as to how he should be reimbursed the proportion which might be due him in consequence of the involuntary payment he had made for his neighbours as well as himself. In the dark ages, such a simple law might, perhaps, have been looked upon with admiration, except that instead of the provision that any property would be taken in execution, it would doubtless have been considered more just to say, any and every Jew and usurer known to reside within the limits of the municipality, shall be cast in gaol, and all his goods confiscated. Unfortunately for Mr.