

Canada," arose one by one to attack my character under the protection of a "parliamentary privilege," thinking by that means to hoodwink the people of Canada, and so to get another innings in the parliamentary game of public robbery. In the pages of Hansard I find myself described by these gentlemen in the following terms:—discreditable, disreputable, lunatic, vicious, immoral, scurrilous, infamous, vile, foul, dirty, indelicate, violent, obscene, scoundrel, scalliwag. In these fifteen parliamentary words lies the whole moral defense of those gentlemen, and of the government of Canada.

Mr. Belcourt gives a curious excuse for his conduct in the case of the Anderson concession. After reading Mr. Belcourt's remarks and knowing the country so intimately as I do, I feel sorry for the shareholders of the Anderson company. No wonder they have got no return for their money. The ground which Mr. Belcourt says required extensive machinery, and for the working of which a company was formed in London with a capital of £350,000 has been worked for two years, and is being worked now as ordinary placer ground. As placer ground it pays remarkably well, the paystreak being essentially a placer paystreak, rich, but too shallow to pay for the enormous expenditure that would be necessary to work it by hydraulic power. What is the use of talking about hydraulic "propositions" with two feet of pay beneath twenty-five feet of frozen moss and loam. Such ground is suitable only for drifting underground. Mr. Belcourt says the company has already expended \$150,000 on it. The fact remains that the ground is being worked as any individual miner would have worked it with the ordinary thawing apparatus, only not so extensively as if individual miners had been allowed to stake it. It would be interesting to know how much of the \$150,000 has gone to the firm of Belcourt, McDougall & Smith for "departmental work in Ottawa a specialty." After hearing what Mr. Belcourt had to say, anyone living in this neighborhood may readily form a correct estimate of the Anderson "deal." When Mr. Belcourt was making his excuse to parliament, he did not mention the "special order in council" that was necessary to enable the Anderson company to hold the ground by a circumvention of law; and he did not mention the nature of the departmental pilotage whereby the Anderson ground was brought before the Government by Mr. Belcourt himself as a suitable proposition to receive the stamp of the "special order." Mr. Belcourt is probably one of the many who think a government cannot commit a crime. Nevertheless in the Anderson concession, Mr. Belcourt as departmental pilot manipulated a scheme that makes the Dominion Government either a dupe or a swindler.

Departmental pilots of multitudinous craft with black flags—these are the men and the kind of men who are brave enough to attack my character in the shelter of "parliamentary privilege." What a revelation there is in the so-called speeches of such men. Mr. Belcourt as a man is too harmless to be worth a moment's consideration. It is his position as

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