

RETURN

To an Address of the House of Commons, dated 15th November 1867;
for copies of all documents in relation to the Extradition of Lamirande.

By Command.

HECTOR L. LANGEVIN,
Secretary of State.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
Ottawa, 11th March, 1868.

PROVINCE OF CANADA, } To the Right Honorable Charles Stanley, Viscount Monck
District of Montreal. } Baron Monck of Ballytramon, in the County of Wexford,
Governor General of British North America, &c., &c., and Captain General and
Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick,
and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same, &c., &c.

The Petition of Félix Gastier, arrested under the name of Ernest S. Lamirande, now detained in the common jail of the District of Montreal, respectfully represents :

That on Wednesday, the first August instant, your petitioner was arrested at Laprairie by the police of Montreal, without any written warrant, at the request, it is said, of some representatives of the French Government, and, as the Petitioner has been informed, upon the charge of embezzling money belonging to the Bank of France where the said pretended Lamirande was cashier, and the Petitioner also understands that the said representatives of the French Government are about to apply for a writ of Extradition, in order to have him, the Petitioner, sent back to France.

That as the offence styled "embezzlement" with which the said Petitioner is charged is not mentioned in the treaty between England and France, if any such treaty is still in force, and does yet exist between the two countries, and as therefore it is impossible for them to obtain his extradition, they have resolved upon employing subornation, force and violence; unlawfully and without any right, to kidnap the Petitioner, and without any authority to send him to the United States or France. The Petitioner has come to that conclusion from the fact that the Police Officers who arrested the Petitioner have been offered several thousand dollars, if they would kidnap him and bring him to the United States, which the said Police Officers, in the full sense of their duty, sternly refused to do; and also, from the fact that the parties directing the prosecution against the Petitioner have boasted that they would have the Petitioner anyhow, whether lawfully or unlawfully, that they were bound to have him, and that they would have him, no matter by what means.