

Ottawa, 16 February 1882.

To McDonald & Charlebois :

The contract has been awarded to Onderdonk whose tender was the lowest, inasmuch as yours could not be taken into consideration, your cheque not being stamped as good, as required by the specifications.

(Signed)

F. BRAUN.

What reply was made to this ? A petition to the Governor General in Council, dated 14th February. It was the only recourse .

These Gentlemen contend that their tender was regular and \$200,000 lower than any other, but that it was set aside, the department alleging that it was not accompanied by the cheque for \$20,000 marked " valid ", as required by the specifications. They allege that their cheque was valid, that it was accepted by the bank, the 25th January, and that latér, after inquiry made on the 6th February, it was declared valid until paid and that it was valid since the date of the said cheque. They allege that the cheque is still valid, that it could be paid or negotiated for cash at any time, and that it is still in the possession of the department. They request that the order in Council awarding the contract to Onderdonk be reconsidered and that the contract be awarded to them ; and they declare that they are prepared to fill the said contract. This petition is accompanied by copies of letters and despatches given above
