

Memorial.

“ The undersigned, Members of the House of Commons of Canada, desire respectfully to approach Your Excellency and humbly to represent that more than four months have already elapsed since the Honourable Mr. *Huntington* made, from his place in the House, grave charges of corruption against Your Excellency’s constitutional advisers in reference to the Pacific Railway contract; that although the House has appointed a Committee to enquire into the said charges, the proceedings of this Committee have, on various grounds, been postponed, and the enquiry has not yet taken place; that the honour of the country imperatively requires that no further delay should take place in the investigation of charges of so grave a character, and which it is the duty and undoubted right and privilege of the Commons to prosecute.

“ The undersigned are deeply impressed with the conviction that any attempt to postpone this enquiry, or to remove it from the jurisdiction of the Commons, would create the most intense dissatisfaction; and they, therefore, pray Your Excellency not to prorogue Parliament until the House of Commons shall have an opportunity of taking such steps as it may deem necessary and expedient with reference to this important matter.

“ The number of names signed to this document is ninety, within ten of one-half the House. They are as follows:—

“ **OPPOSITION.**—Anglin, Archibald, Bain, Bechard, Bergin, Blain, Blake, Bodwell, Bourassa, Bowman, Boyer, Brouse, Buell, Burpee (Sunbury), Cameron (Huron), Cartwright, Casey, Casgrain, Cauchon, Charlton, *Church, Cockburn (Muskoka), Cook, Cutler, Delorme, St. George, Dorion, Dorion, Edgar, Ferris, Findlay, Fiset, Fleming, Fournier, Galbraith, Geoffrion, Gibson, Gillies, Goudge, Hagar, Harvey, Higginbotham, Holton, Horton, Huntington, Jetté, Laffamme, Landerkin, McDonald (Glengarry), Mackenzie, Mercier, Metcalfe, Mills, Oliver, Pâquet, Paterson, Pearson, Pelletier, Pickard, Poser, Prévost, Richard, Richards, *Ross, Ross, Ross, Rymal, Smith (Peel), Snyder, Stirton, Taschereau, Thompson, Thomson, *Tremblay, Trow, White (Halton), Wilkes, Wood, Young, Young.

“ **MINISTERIALISTS.**—Burpee (St. John), Coffin, Cunningham, Forbes, Glass, Macdonell (Inverness), Ray, Schultz, Scriver, Shibley, D. A. Smith (Selkirk), A. J. Smith (Westmoreland).” †

Reply.

“ *Gentlemen*,—It is quite unnecessary for me to assure you that any representations emanating from persons possessing the right to speak on public affairs with such authority as yourselves will always be considered by me with the greatest respect, even had not circumstances already compelled me to give my most anxious thought to the matters to which you are now desirous of calling my attention.

“ You say, in your memorandum, that four months have elapsed since the Hon. Mr. *Huntington* preferred grave charges of corruption against my present advisers, in reference to the Pacific Railway contract, and that although the House has appointed a Committee to enquire into these charges, the proceedings of this Committee have on various grounds been postponed, and the enquiry has not yet taken place.

“ *Gentlemen*, no person can regret more deeply than I do these unfortunate delays, the more so as they seem to have given rise to the impression that they have been unnecessarily interposed by the action of the Executive.

* The names thus noted were signed by proxy.

† The above classification is founded on the votes taken on Mr. *Huntington*’s motion. One or two gentlemen, however, classed with the opposition might be more properly set down as “Independent.”