## of considering the situation brought ranks. Think you should give them lit- Semlin, and that my official life is in-**THE EX-GOVERNOR** about by my asking for the resignation the time rather than force dissolution or a volved in Mr. Martin's defeat. All of which is respectfully submitted. of the Hon. Joseph Martin. I contend- change. R. W. SCOTT. ed that as the matter was now in your I have the honor to be, Your Excelhands, we should await your action in Secretary of State. May. lency's obedient servant, THOS. R. McINNES. IN HIS OWN DEFENCE the matter. I, of course, can form no opinion as to the result of the caucus, (Signed) To this I sent, the next morning, the Lieut.-Governor. following reply: out I hope that you may be able to be (Copy of letter to Hon. R. W. Scott.) "Several hours before receiving tele ere by the date mentioned for the caugram I called another adviser. Will cus, and to assure you that however you Government House, may decide your decision will be loyally | write full details, which will justify my Victoria, B.C., April 12, 1900. accepted by myself. action.' June 7th. Sir,-I have the honor to confirm my Mr. T. R. McInnes Writes to the People I have the honor to be, etc., etc., I wrote accordingly to the Hon. Mr. telegram to you of the 10th instant, C. A. SEMLIN. Scott on the 3rd instant, giving reasons reading, in cipher, as follows: Before my return to Victoria, how- for the action I had taken. I may exof British Columbia Telling of Legislature dissolved to-day in accordever, the difficulty was solved by Mr. plain that I wrote privately-and that ance with opinion of Privy Council as Martin sending me his resignation. Co- I did so because on a former occasion, contained in your telegram of to-day. incident with Mr. Martin's resignation in connection with the dismissal of the His Dismissal. Writ for general election issued to-day. came Mr. Higgins's open defection from Turner government, Mr. Scott intimat-Nomination twenty-sixth May. Poll the government, and threats from other ed to me that I might write details for ninth June. Writs returnable thirtieth members supporting the government his information either privately or offi-June. Legislature summoned on fifth that unless certain changes were made cially. July. Provisions for Election Act make in the government's policy, they, too. In connection with the letter of dis- it impossible for election now to be held Official Correspondence With the Governor-General and the would join the opposition. At the same missal I would ask Your Excellency to before tenth May, and on seventh May time complaints began to be made in observe, that although I expressly intibusiness circles, more particularly in those dependent on the mining indus-tries, that they were being seriously prejudiced by the critical and uncertain Federal Authorities-- The Changes of Government (Sgd.) in the Province. It wanted to be and m.B. tawa, Canada. left members of the House to assume, political conditions. In consequence of as they did, that I had treated them deciphered as follows: "Your report received seventh inall this, and foreseeing the likelihood of with discourtesy. This unexpected contin. As mayor, member of parliament, senator and lieutenant-governor, I had greater evils ensuing if some definite stant. After giving it and all the cirduct on the part of Mr. Semlin was, I cumstances every consideration Privy action were not soon taken, I urged upbelieve, largely, if not wholly responsible Council is of the opinion that the exon Mr. Semlin the advisability of hold acted in a public capacity continuously 22nd instant by the Laurier government in British Columbia since 1876, and for the insulting treatment which the isting Legislature should either be iming a session of the Legislature not later members thought fit to offer me on the mediately summoned to meet or imthan the 20th October, or of making an appeal to the electorate. This I urged both by interview and letter in August last. But Mr. Semlin was unwilling from the position of Lieutenant-Govern- there has not been a day of that period or of British Columbia, I am now free that either threats or corporations, or the chink of their coin had moved me occasion of the prorogation-which oc- mediately dissolve, and an appeal, made curred two days later. After the proro-gation of the House Mr. Semlin resigned the position of leader of his party, and without any (the cipher, word a"description" here following gives no in from the line of duty. And I believe telligible meaning, but I understood it it was the interests of the people of to adopt either of these courses. He asmade against me in connection with the British Columbia, rather than the in-Mr. Cotton was elected in his place. 1 sured me that his government retained as intended to give "delay") delay to was at the time convinced, and subset dismissal of the Semlin government and terests of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the the confidence of the Legislature, but the people. The postponment of such a meeting or appeal can't, in opinion the formation of the Martin government. Crow's Nest Pass magnates that I was that a session earlier than January quent events confirmed me in my opinof Privy Council, be justified. Please report your action by wire." ion, that Mr. Semlin was utterly unable It is said that the people of British bound to consider, and in my judgment. would cause great inconvenience. Simafter the defeat of the Semlin governultaneously I received instructions from to secure such support in the Legislature connection with the above matters. The ment, Mr. Martin was better fitted than any other member of the Legislature to the Hon, Mr. Scott, Secretary of State, as would enable him to administer a Accordingly on the advice of the strong or efficient government, and enact executive council, given in deference to as follows: people of British Columbia have not form a government in the interests of the opinion of the Privy Council as above expressed, I issued a proclama-"Your ministers are the proper judges such legislation as would restore confionly not condemned my action in dis- the province. And so I called upon Mr. dence to the business and mining interof the time to summon the assembly, tion dissolving the Legislature and the keeping, of course, within the year's ests of the province, and that to have And now the political assassination writ for a general election to be held prolonged the situation would have limit. that was threatened has taken place. In the face of this I could not urge merely resulted, at best, in putting off at the earliest possible date. In comis not a single member of that govern- For all that I do not regret the course my suggestions further upon my minis- for a short time an inevitable crisis. plying, however, with the expressed ment in the newly-elected Legislature, that I took-as an American once said: ters. I think, however, that subsequent which was the more likely to prove disdesire of the Privy Council, and holdand the party led by Mr. Semlin and his "I would rather be right than be presiing the election without any delay, the events, as understood in this province, astrous the longer it was deferred. But, colleagues is utterly a thing of the past. dent." But although the elections rehave fully demonstrated that it would however, this may have been, the unfollowing number of days must neces-And as to my conduct concerning the sulted in the defeat of Mr. Martin, the have been better had my suggestions doubted facts of the situation which I sarily elapse: Date of your telegram, as above, and been carried out. However, that may be, had to face on the morning of Tuesday, opposition still consisted of a number of of the dissolution of the Legislature. factions, and there was no one man the Legislature having met on the 4th the 27th February last, were these: that involved a series of official acts who could be looked upon as their lead of January last, Mr. Semlin's govern-10th April. which could only be properly pronounc- er. Consequently, when Mr! Martin 1. Mr. Semlin and his colleagues had At least two days required to prepare ment met with defeat immediately on been defeated in the Assembly on their writs' and proclamations for the rehanded in his resignation, I once more umbia through their representatives in had the duty upon me of selecting a conclusion of the opening ceremonies. own Redistribution Bill-every member turning officer, 12th April. the Legislature, after all the correspond-member whom I thought would be in a the government was sustained by the An absent member arriving, however, of the Assembly being present, and vot-At least ten days must be allowed ence in connection therewith was laid position to form a stable administration. ing. for writs to reach returning officers in Speaker's casting vote. In the meanbefore them. I was not allowed an I called upon Mr. Dunsmuir, because I 2. Mr. Semlin had treated that dethe outlying districts of Cariboo and time, and prior to this, circumstances opportunity to be heard on my own believed that that gentleman representfeat as a want of confidence on the part Cassiar, 22nd April. had occurred to greatly weaken the conbehalf. I have replied to every charge ed the policy which the people had de-One day required for the posting of of the Assembly. made against me, but my reply was clared for, and that he was in a better fidence I had felt in the advice tenderthe proclamation by the returning offi-3. Mr. Semlin had not had sufficient necessarily in the form of official reposition than any other member to hared me by Mr. Semlin and his colleagues, cer, 23rd April. control of the Assembly at any time durports to the Governor-General. The monize the contending factions of the but I hesitated to take any action, owing Eight days for proclamation to be ing the session, and it was demonstratto the warning conveyed in Mr. Scott's report containing my reasons for the opposition. I may say in this connection posted up according, to statute. (See ed that the assurances which he had giv-Semlin government that Mr. Martin did not recommend a letter, above referred to, as follows: sections 47 and 48, Provincial Elections en me in August last to the effect that was made on the 27th March last. On successor, and that I did not inform "Still it must be admitted that the Act.) 1st May. his government retained the confidence the 12th of April last I submitted to him of my intention to call upon Mr. course you took in getting rid of the Fourteen days required by statute to of the Assembly, were not well founded. the Secretary of State the reasons in- Dunsmuir until I had received Mr. Mar-Turner government was a little more elapse between nomination and election day. ((See section 52 of said Act.) Colonies," as applicable to my action in 4. 1 had grave reasons, herein referducing my ministers to fix the election 'tin's resignation. This was on the 14th drastic than that usually adopted under red to, and in part set forth in the letfor the 9th of June. And on the 15th | of June. On the 18th of June the resosimilar conditions. I should not, how-May last I made a further report deal- lution against me, of the secret conventer of dismissal, for distrusting any ad-Before the 15th May, however, anever, like to see you repeat so dashing a vice or assurance given to me by Mr. other section of the said Act, as amended in 1899, comes into effect, and method of changing your advisers. It tion that I have already referred to was Semlin or his colleagues. is always better to leave to the reprepassed and telegraphed to Ottawa. Sir sentatives of the people in the Assemmakes it illegal to hold an election on Wilfrid Laurier wired me the very next

I respectfully submit to Your Exelbly the delicate question of deciding lency that, under such circumstances I whether the advisers of the Lieut.-Gov- was not only justified in seeking other ernor have the confidence of the coun- advisers, but that it was my bounden duty so to do. And such is the view al-

The circumstances that weakened my most unanimously taken throughout this province, and by our press of all politi-

completed. So that the following extra days must necessarily elapse before election day:

Revision of lists completed (say) 10th Time required for printing of revis-

ed lists and distribution of among returning officers, about 21 days, 31st May. One week's allowance for possible

mis-direction of papers, or accidents,

My advisers were of opinion, in view the above circumstances, that the 9th June would be the earliest day which it would be safe to fix as elec tion day, if all uncertainty as to validity or legality of the general e tion was to be removed. And my visers trust that their desire to act harmony with the opinion of the Privy Council in this matter has been ciently demonstrated. I have the honer to be, sir,

Your obedient servant. THOS. R. McINNES. Lieutenant-Governor he Hon, the Secretary of State, Ot.

Copy of leport to His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council re formation of Martin ministry:

Government House, Victoria, B. C., May 15, 1300. To His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council, Ottawa, Canada, Your Excellency: I have the honor to submit, as supplementary to my report to Your Excellency on the 27th March last, a report as to my official attitude subsequent to the dismissal of

the Semlin ministry, and in connection with the formation of my present ministry. I have not been officially advised that my said report of the 27th March was considered inadequate, as failing to deal with any essential or relevant phase of my conduct incident to the dismissal of my late advisers. But as repeated press dispatches from Ottawa represent the said report as falling short, inasmuch as it does not deal with the question of the personnel of my present ministry, the time given Mr. Martin in which to choose his colleagues, the time elapsing be-fore the dissolution of the Legislature,

etc., and lest it should be thought that I have no explanation to offer touching these matters, I beg to submit the following for Your Excellency's consideration, although not officially requested to do so, and although remaining of the opinion that every phase of the present political situation for which I could be held personally accountable has been

dealt with in my first report to Your Excellency of the 27th March last. I have nothing to add to the reasons given in my first report for the selection of Mr. Martin for the position of

Premier, but I would submit the following passages from "Todd's Parliaconnection therewith.

"The power of the Sovereign of England, as has been well remarked by a recent political writer, is considerably increased when rival political parties other than the revised lists. On are evenly balanced; and it rises still the first Monday in May, which this higher when the competition between year happens to be the 7th May, every advisers, but that it was my bounder year happens to be the rin hay, every duty so to do. And such is the view al-collector is required by statute to re-most unanimously taken throughout this province, and by our press of all politi-eal parties, in so far as the dismissal day," and not more than three days in

To the People of British Columbia: Having been officially deposed on the for the first time to say a word publicly in my own defence against the charges Columbia have condemned my action in missing the Semlin government, but they | Martin. have overwhelmingly ratified it, for there formation of the Martin government, ed upon by the people of British Coldismissal of the ing with all the various charges that had been made against me in connec-nection with my official attitude toward Martin administration. But Sir day that I should immediately telegraph Wilfrid Laurier did not see fit to lav my resignation that very day-notwiththose reports or any of them before standing the fact that he would have parliament, although asked by British, had but two days more to await receipt Columbia members to do so. And yet of my official report on the elections, although not a word that I had to say which he had been notified by wire had

## VICTORIA TIMES. FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 1900.

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But in

in my own defence was allowed to go before you, it was given out that you were to be the judges of my conduct. Is this British justice-is this British fair 'play? A week after the elections a majority

Legislature passed a resolution in secret sion at a party convention, asking Sir Wilfrid Laurier to dismiss me. And Sir Wilfrid Laurier, although he had a few days before declared that the matter should be left to the Legislature to decide, promptly obeyed that resolution passed in secret session and at a party convention. Without my saying what amount of caution and daliberation might have been expected circumstances, it certainly was to have been expected that a body of men sufficiently imbued with the spirit of British institutions to represent you in the Legislature, would have waited before taking action until the Legislature was in session, when they could have called for all papers and correspondence in connection with the issues involved. and could then dispassionately and publicly have considered my official actions on their merits, as a question of right or wrong. They would only have had a month to wait and in the meantime a new government which they were prepared to support, had been installed in office. Under these circumstances, although there is not much satisfaction in a post-mortem trial to the man who has been hanges first and tried afterwards, I have decided to submit for your consideration all the correspondence relative to my official conduct toward the Semlin and

Martin governments. As stated in my report to the Gov-ernor-General, I do not claim that my indgment has been invariably free from error. Lord Roberts is reported to have said, when asked tog di iss General Buller from command, on account of certain mistakes that he had "A man who never made a mistake never made anything." But an error in judgment is one thing-an abuse or misuse of power justifying a dismissal is quite another, and I defy any member of the Dominion government or any one else to point to a single act of mine in connection with the dismissal of the Semlin government and the for-mation of the Martin government, and up to the very day of my dismissal, that ecimet be unheld and justified by pro-diate advisers, and to selection of present ones. Wire when report has been mailcannot be upheld and justified by pre- ed," I now have the honor, in complicedents established by Liberals them- ance with the above direction, to submit selves from the time of Pitt, the great herewith, for Your Excellency's infor-Commoner, to the present time. Upon mation, a report of such proceedings as the defeat of the Semlin government, I appear to me in any way incident to the was convinced that Mr. Martin was the dismissal of my late advisers, and to the man best fitted to assume control, under subsequent calling upon Mr. Martin 'o. the circumstances as they then existed. form an administration. While on a At the same time I had been made visit to Atlin last July I received from fully aware that Mr. Martin was dis- Mr. Semlin a communication, dated 1st at his office at 11 o'clock the next morntasteful to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's gov. July, informing me that he had that ernment, and that if I considered my day demanded the resignation of Mr. at 2:55 o'clock, the following telegram was forced upon me in the face of which Joseph Martin from his cabinet. I re (in cipher) was delivered at Govern- I felt in duty bound to act—and in which merely, I should under no circum- ceived a subsequent communication from stances call upon him. And immedi- him, dated the 7th July, as follows: ately upon the defeat of the Semlin government I was made fully aware also that the great corporations, whose To Lieutenant-Governor McInnes:

metallic influence is apparently all Sir :-- I beg to state for your informapowerful at Ottawa, would do their ut. tion that against my wish and my vote

been sent on the 15th instant. I refused to resign, although I had dismissal, as I was not in possession of previously offered to do so on several accurate details. But I may here state ing a new adviser, however, for the task confidential."

try."

led by wire had

present I merely wish to place the people of British Columbia in a position to intelligently understand the constitutional issues involved, and for that purpose. the official reports hereunder published will be sufficient. THOS. R. McINNES. Vancouver, B. C., June 25th, 1900.

The following is the official corres pondence between the then Lieutenant-Governor, the Governor-General in Council, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and Secretary of State Scott, with the exception of the confidential letters not ye revealed, from the Secretary of State to the then Lieutenant Governor:-Government Bouse, Victoria, R. C., March 27th, 1900.

To His Excellency, the Governor-Gen-eral Ottawa, Canada; Your Excellency Having yesterday received from the Honorable the Secre tary of State the following cipher tele

Victoria, B. C., July 7th, 1899.

occasions. For had I resigned under that my late advisers, having failed to of forming an administration, was in such circumstances it would have been induce me to sign special warrants for this case unusually great. For there was construed as an admission that I was certain undertakings, as to the consti- no recognized leader in the Assembly upof the newly-elected members of the in the wrong, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier tutionality of which I had grave doubts on whom I could call with any assurwould have been relieved entirely from and which the Attorney-General himself ance that he could command the conhaving had to devise a justification for would not pronounce constitutional, al- fidence either of the Assembly or of the my dismissal. I may also say that 1 though expressly asked by me to do so, electorate. Out of over a dozen prominreceived instructions from the Secretary deliberately undertook and carried on ent men who had a certain following, of State last August respecting the atti- certain public works without a vestige either in the Legislature or among the tude which I should adopt in certain of authority, involving liabilities to an people, or whose experience in provincial matters toward my ministers. But the extent of over seventy-five thousand dol- political life entitled them to considera-Secretary of State saw fit to convey lars. Such reckless sweeping aside of tion, I decided to call upon the Hon. Tothose instructions, which I obeyed im- all constitutional and statutory restraint, seph Martin, as a man best able to meet plicitly, in the form of a letter marked on the expenditure of public money was the necessities of the situation, create "confidential." Consequently I am not in itself, I submit, sufficient reason for decisive issues, and establish final order. from a Premier of Canada under such free to publish it. And yet, when I con- loss of confidence in my advisers. It and something like usual political conditinued to follow those instructions in was quite in keeping with the circummy attitude toward the Martin admin- stance of their having pledged the pro- which provincial parties had been rent. istration, the Secretary of State com- vince (through Mr. Cotton, I believe, al- In so doing I fully realized that an outplained of my having done so-but again though I have absolutely no official under cover of a letter marked "strictly knowledge of the transaction whatever), to contribute a million dollars toward I have not destroyed those letters, al- the construction of a Pacific cable. This would probably make common cause though I was told by the Secretary of was done, not only without any author-State to do so. At a future time I may ity from the Legislature, express or imdeal with the personal relations existing plied, but without having even submitbetween the members of the Ottawa ted an order-in-council for the authorgovernment and myself. But for the ization of such an offer. Fortunately the offer was not acted upon. Had it been accepted and acted upon, the re-

sult would have been awkward indeed for the province, as there would have been at least a moral responsibility incurred, which the Legislature would unquestionably have repudiated. Such being the condition of affairs, the

Legislature continued in session for nearly two months-no legislation was passed-the government hanging on to office. sometimes by a majority of one-sometimes by grace of the Speaker's casting vote. Finally on Friday, the 23rd ulti-Brown, however, could not see his way mo, the government was defeated on Ats clear to work in conjunction with Mr. Redistribution Bill-every member 96f Martin. As I considered Mr. Martin the Legislature being present. Mr. Sembest qualified to meet the situation, and lin waited upon me the same evening, as, moreover, it was undoubtedly Mr. and informed me of his defeat, which the Martin who had caused the final defeat treated as a want of confidence in his of Mr. Semlin's administration, I felt government. He asked me for time, that his claim to the Premiership was however, until Monday evening following paramount to that of the others. As to in order to consider the situation. This whether he will be the choice of the request was acceded to. On Monday electorate I, of course, cannot say. I evening, however, Mr. Semlin, instead do not claim to have infallibly gauged of tendering his resignation or asking the opinion of the electorate-I do not for a dissolution, as, I submit, was the think it should be expected of me. I only proper course open to him, merely say this because I observe that the matasked for more time-stated that he ter has already been discussed in parthought he could demonstrate his control of the House on the following day. On liament, and that certain positions have apparently been taken in regard to my my asking him how, he refused to state action herein, which, I trust, in the light -merely repeating that he thought he could demonstrate his control of the of fuller information, will be admitted House. I promised him an answer by- to be untenable. I most respectfully fore noon the next day. The answer 13 submit to Your Excellency that my contained in the letter of dismissal | "official life" cannot justly be made deabove referred to, which was delivered pendent in any way upon Mr. Martin's success or failure, under the peculiar circumstances of this case. A situation ing. In the afternoon of the same day,

ment House-having been sent out from I did act, as I judged, in the best interests of the province. And certainly if the telegraph office ten minutes earlier: Mr. Semlin himself does not make an is-Ottawa, February 27th, 1900. sue of my action in dismissing him-if,

Lieut.-Governor McInnes, Victoria, B., assuming Mr. Martin's defeat, some new C.: leader be elected upon new issues-I fail I understand your government is be- to see how, in such an event, it can with

most to have me politically assassinated the Council vote to hold a caucus on ing materially strengthened by accession any justice be said that the people have if I should dare to call upon Mr. Mar- July 26th at Victoria for the purpose of several members from opposition condemned my action in dismissing Mr.

most part referred to in the letter of cal parties, in so far as the dismissal any case. So that by May 10th, the ed with representing the Crown in the itself is concerned. The onus of selectregister of voters for the various elec. particular colony or province-whether toral districts will be revised. That is to say: Before any general election Lieutenant-Governor-must be regarded can now be held there will be a new as possessing, with the prescribed limits revised register of voters, revised by of this rule and jurisdiction, as the head imperative direction of statute on the of a self governing community, subheld. etc., etc.

(j) The register of voters as revised tions out of the chaos of factions into as above shall be certified to by the collector, shall be printed by the Queen's printer, and shall be the list cry would probably arise from the used at any election which may take friends and adherents of other aspirants place before the next revision has been for the Premiership, and that they completed.

any

You will observe that after the regisagainst the one chosen. But the situacertified to, as above provided, the Act | ministry, tion was such as to render this inevitable -the same outcry would have arisen no directs that it shall be printed by the matter upon whom I had called. And used at any election thereafter until personnel of the new cabinet. I may point out to Your Excellency that although my choice has been challenged. the next revision has been completed. and although I have been roundly abused by the provincial press that most strongly upheld the dismissal of Mr. al election be held on the same day Semlin, yet in no instance, although agreeing to condemn Mr. Martin, have they indicated, or even hinted at the wherein to reach the returning officers the electorate. man upon whom, in their opinion, I in the more remote districts, the nearshould have called. I may here state est practicable day after the dissolution that I consulted Mr. John Brown, of New Westminster, in conjunction with Mr. Martin, in the hope that they might the 15th May the present lists will no thereof. co-operate in securing to the province a longer be available-can no longer be new and efficient administration. Mr. legally used-as the revision of the new lists will by that date have been

7th May, and which will constitute the stantially the same privileges and funclists upon which the election must be tions that pertain to the Sovereign in the British constitution."-Todd's Par. Gov. Sub-sections (f) and (j) of secin British Columbia, 2nd Ed., p. 679. tion 11 of the Provincial Elections Act, Under such conditions as above reas amended by sections 8 and 9 of the Provincial, Elections Act, Amendferred to-with "parties evenly balment Act, 1899, read as follows: anced" and "competition between the various statesmen of all parties close" (f) On the first Monday of May and November in each and every year the collector shall hold a court of revision,

-I called upon Mr. Martin to form an administration. Subsequent to this, however, my official conduct has been represented as unconstitutional, or open to censure, for one or more of the following reasons: (a) Because the House was left in

session with no minister sworn in to carry on the govenment. (b) Because no information was given to the House concerning the reasons

ter of voters has been revised , and that led to the dismissal of the late (c) Because so long a time has been Queen's printer, and shall be the list allowed to elapse before completing the

(d) Because the persons selected to Now the Provincial Elections Act, as form a new ministry, were, for the amended in 1899, requires that a gener- most part, new and untried men. (e) Because the ministers have con-

throughout every electoral district of tinued in office, without bye-elections the province. And as above shown, having been held for the immediate after making barely reasonable time ratification of their appointments by

(f) Because a Legislature so recently whereon the general elections could be an endeavor having been made to form held would be the 15th May. But by a ministry from among the members (g) Because legislatures do no divide

on party lines, and coalition should have been permitted. (h) Because I did not force my minis-

try to bring on the general elections immediately. 1.

I shall submit to Your Excellency my reply to each of these objections; seriatim as above enumerated.

(a) Because the House was left in session with no ministry sworn in to carry on the government. In England, during a period of a little over one hundred years, ministerial interregnums have occurred while the House was in session, varying from one to thirty-seven days. I would refer to the following cases:

1. The Shelbourne ministry resigned on the 24th February, 1783, and on April 2nd, following the Duke of Portland undertook the formation of the succeeding ministry-a ministerial interregnum of thirty-seven days while the House was in session.

2. The Portland ministry was dismissed on December the 18th, 1783, the House being in session, and on the following day Mr. Pitt undertook the formation of the succeeding ministry.

3. The Percival ministry was solved by the assassination of Mr. Percival, the Premier, on the 11th May, 1812, and it was not until the 8th June following that the Earl of Liverpool undertook the formation of the succeeding ministry-a ministerial inter-

(Continued on page 7.)





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