

so rather from a want of confidence in the Leader of the Conservative party, than in the party itself, which we still believe to be prudent enough not to allow important events, upon which our destinies depend, to take place under its responsibility without itself and the country being consulted ; and national enough, not to allow its leaders to expose to danger interests as sacred as those which are to-day in jeopardy, with impunity and without protest.

"The Conservative leaders have recently counted too much upon their own strength, and not enough upon their duties as leaders and members of a nationality which they must not allow to perish ; in order to bring about the triumph of a project which has become their constant dream, they seem disposed to sacrifice everything. Ambition instead of patriotism seems to be the guide by means of which they wish to overcome the difficulties of the moment."

(Signed)

HONORÉ MERCIER.  
PAUL DE CAZES.

Saint Hyacinthe, May 23rd, 1866.

Here is the reply of the other contributors :

"Of what use are all their fine professions, and their sentiments of devotion, if they cannot be trusted ?

"This proves one thing, viz ; that when one has no definite opinions, and, under the pretext of not wishing to compromise himself, swims between two floods, it is better to say nothing rather than run a risk of falling into contradictions which are evident to everyone, and which are always injurious to a man's political reputation .....

(Signed)

THE OTHER CONTRIBUTORS.

In 1872, he was elected under the auspices of the Conservatives of Rouville. In 1874, he was sent home by the same county.

The Leader of the Opposition asks me if I accept the