

grossly impertinent and to repudiating my authority altogether. When I alluded to this, after his last absence, he said, *that* matter was not done yet; and stated: "Sir, you stand on the brink of a precipice, and you had better look to yourself!"

I then told him I should report the whole matter to the Commissioner. This I would have done, as I did some months before to the Assistant Commissioner in a previous instance, but was too busy with the work of the office to attend to it. Moreover, I did not wish, on the eve of the breaking up of the Department, to take action which might permanently injure Mr. C. and his family.

Mr. Cowper has, however, anticipated such action, and entered into a malicious conspiracy with Mr. Robitaille—of whom he has made a cat's paw—to injure me in the eyes of the Commissioner, by bringing forward a private conversation had with the latter some two years and four months ago.

Only the darkest malevolence, and a desire to shield himself, with the hope to benefit by my injury, could, it appears to me, have prompted this conspiracy. There was no *necessity* for reviving the matter. Was it done in the interests of the public service—or in the interest of the Commissioner? Evidently not. It was a voluntary and malicious conspiracy, which the promoters hope to profit by.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed), P. M. PARTRIDGE.

To the Honorable A. CAMPBELL,
Commissioner Crown Lands, Ottawa.

(Copy.)

DOCUMENT NO. 6.

DEPARTMENT OF CROWN LANDS,
Ottawa, 29th May, 1867.

SIR,—

The Commissioner directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant, and to say that your statement, so far from palliating, increases your offence. I am to say that you neither disclaim, nor apparently regret, the lying slanders mentioned by Mr. Cowper and Mr. Robitaille;