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### THE EXTRADITION OF LAMIRANDE.

He who would desire to laud the administration of justice in this land, to speak pleasant things of the energy and vigour of the Bench in carrying out laws and treaties with the purpose of doing substantial justice, or who would fain dwell with well buttered phrase on the manly and upright firmness of public officers in keeping within the limits of their duty, he, we say, who would like to speak or write after this fashion, had better avoid the subject of extradition, and our extradition cases. Some fatality hangs over them, some blunder besets them, some suspicion of crooked dealing ever attends them. The most recent case, that of LAMIRANDE, only furnishes another unfortunate example. We see a man carried from our shores who in the opinion, be it right or wrong, of the judges of our highest Court, is innocent of the crime imputed to him. As far as the individual is concerned, for aught we know, there may be no room for sympathy or commiseration. Unfaithful to the trust reposed in him, fearing to face a jury of his countrymen, betaking himself beyond the seas, and, in the first instance, successfully evading his captors, he is probably as great a culprit as any poor rogue who is really and truly guilty of forgery as defined by our law. But we did not expect to see a counsel learned in the law, and holding high office, attempting to divert attention from the true issue by representations of the worthlessness of the individual, or forgetting that an innocent man may to-morrow be the victim of some hasty and highhanded proceeding, which would seek shelter behind the precedent of LAMIRANDE'S case, if such precedent were permitted by the silence and apathy of the public.

But one practical result seems likely to flow from the unfortunate occurrences of the past few weeks. The privilege of the great writ is to be carefully guarded now, when the fair fame of the country has been tarnished,

and when American citizens amongst us talk of placing themselves under the consular flag for protection. Henceforth, some (not all) of our judges have stated, the writ of habeas corpus is to issue immediately, and the prisoner is thus to be brought before the Court.

As a record of a case of no little importance it may be interesting that the facts should be stated, and we accordingly avail ourselves of the statement drawn up by Mr. Justice DRUMMOND, read by him in Chambers on Tuesday, the 28th of August, and subsequently forwarded to His Excellency the Governor General. We also append a letter written to the *Montreal Gazette*, by Mr. RAMSAY, stating the case from an opposite point of view, for the satisfaction of those who may think the Judge's narrative too highly coloured.

The statement of Mr. Justice DRUMMOND is as follows:—

"On the 26th July last a document under the signature of His Excellency the Governor General, purporting to be a warrant for the extradition of the petitioner, issued under the authority vested in his Excellency by the provisions of the statute passed by the Legislature of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in the sixth and seventh years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An act to give effect to a convention between Her Majesty and the King of the French for the apprehension of certain offenders," setting forth that the said petitioner stood accused of the crime of "forgery by having, in his capacity of cashier of the Bank of France at Poitiers, made false entries in the books of the said bank, and thereby defrauded the said bank of the sum of seven hundred thousand francs;" that a requisition had been made to His Excellency by the Consul-General of France in the Province of British North America, to issue his warrant for the arrest of the said prisoner, and requiring all the justices of the peace and other magistrates and officers of justice within their several jurisdictions, to aid in apprehending the petitioner and committing him to jail.

Under this document the prisoner was arrested, and after examination before William H. Brehaut, Esq., police magistrate and justice of the peace, was fully committed to the common jail of this district on the 22nd day of the current month of August.

On the following day, between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock in the forenoon, notice was given in due form by the prisoner's counsel to the counsel charged with the criminal prosecutions in this district, that he (the counsel for the prisoner) would present a petition to any