

Proclamation Extraordinary!

Facts for the People!

WHICH MUST NOT BE FORGOTTEN AT THE POLLS.

MR. HINCKS' CHARACTER SHOWN UP IN ITS TRUE LIGHT, BY DOCUMENTS WHICH CANNOT BE DISPUTED!

The subjoined correspondence is submitted to the Electors of Oxford, not out of any ill feeling, either politically or personally, to Mr. Hincks, but merely for the purpose of showing, that the man who could be guilty of such conduct is totally unfit to be entrusted, as the guardian of the rights and privileges of British subjects.

It will be seen, that, while Mr. Hincks was a Minister of the Crown in 1843, and one of the sworn advisers of the Representative of Her Majesty in Canada, **HE WAS GUILTY OF THE GROSSEST CORRUPTION** that can possibly be imagined, and which can only be described by the correspondence itself. In the month of April, 1842, a few weeks before Mr. Hincks was gazetted as Inspector-General of this Province, he published a most atrocious libel on the character of the Laird of McNab and the late Judge Jones. Legal proceedings were afterwards instituted; but Mr. Hincks was a *Cabinet Minister*—his character must not be compromised; consequently, Dugald C. McNab was induced to assume the authorship of the libel. He was tried for it at the Spring Assizes, held in Perth, in 1843,—was convicted, and imprisoned; and while the unfortunate victim was suffering in Perth gaol, the following disgraceful correspondence took place:

(No. 1.)
Hincks to McNab—caution administered—letters sent by private conveyances are dangerous.

[PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

Kingston, June 2, 1843.
MY DEAR SIR,—I received your letter of the 30th ult., per Mr. O'Neil, and I would suggest the propriety of sending all your letters through the Post Office when writing to me, because I do not wish either that you or I should be compromised by mutual friends.

I told Mr. O'Neil that I should write you by Post, and therefore declined availing myself of his offer to carry my communication to you.

I have to request that you will now be fully as guarded as you were before trial; you have acted nobly in the matter, and I shall not forget it.

Could you not get Mr. Radehurst who conducted the trial on the part of the Crown to procure a copy of the evidence against you and send it to me, and you may rely that every promise made by me will be strictly kept. In the mean time I can do nothing without a petition from yourself to the Governor in Council, then all will be managed.

I am, my dear Sir, very truly yours,
(Signed) F. HINCKS.
D. C. McNAB, Esq., Gaol, Perth.

(No. 2.)
The imprisoned victim of Government corruption further victimized!

Kingston, July 1, 1843.
MY DEAR SIR,—I received your letter enclosing evidence, &c. Your petition is before the Council, and I have used all my influence to get you liberated at once, but Sir Charles wishes to take some time to deliberate upon it, and it will take some few weeks before the result is arrived at; whenever a decision is given I will immediately apprise you of it.

You will recollect that the note that you gave me for the law expenses in the libel suits became due in April, and I now take the liberty of enclosing a note for your signature for £100, payable at the Bank of Montreal here, two months after date, which I have no doubt you will attend to. You know that I have been put to very great expenses by the costs in that unlucky suit, and my removal from Toronto as well as the establishment I am bound to keep up here, have caused a very great increase in my expenditure; and you will therefore be kind enough to add to the services you have already rendered me by complying with this request, and you can retire the note when your legacy comes from Scotland.

Mr. Dickson has promised to pay £50 of the note, but cannot do so till October; and it will be for your interest at present to do as you are requested: if payment of the note is not convenient when it becomes due, I will not press you for it, but take it up myself.

I am, &c. &c.,
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

(No. 3.)
The base Minister and the upright Governor.

Kingston, August 4, 1843.
MY DEAR SIR,—The Governor General has remitted your fine of £50, but declines doing any thing more. He says he does not wish to interfere with the Administration of Justice. I have spoken to Mr. Daly to communicate the decision of His Excellency to Mr. Dickson forthwith, so that it may be known officially.

I shall write to Mr. Dickson more fully and explain to him a method by which your liberation may be effected in a few weeks.

I remain in haste, your sincere friend,
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

(No. 4.)
The protested Note.

Kingston, September 5, 1843.
SIR,—The Hon. F. Hincks called upon us this morning to protest a note for £100, drawn by you in his favour, and which became due on the 1st (or 4th) of the month, at the Bank of Montreal here, and protested for non-payment.

You will authorize our taking it up by sending a cheque for the amount.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) THOS. ASKEW,
MANAGER.

D. C. McNAB, Esq., Perth.

(No. 5.)
The £100 must be paid, or the victim must remain in prison.

Kingston, September 25, 1843.
DEAR SIR,—Since I last saw you, I had to come here on business, and see your friend Mr. Hincks. He seems not well pleased with your letter to him, and you also blame me some. Now I would advise you to comply with Mr. Hincks' request for the present, and he will do more for you than you think.

The Clerk of the Peace at Bytown is vacant, and you are to be the one who is to be appointed. Mr. Hincks is embarrassed just now, and it would hurt him a good deal to pay that bill at the Bank; so you had better pay it at once; I will stand your friend, and you

will be out sooner than you think for. You know I put you with the debtors; when, if I wasn't a friend of yours, I would put you in the cells: I have been telling many of the Government officers of your bad state of health.

Write Mr. Hincks immediately, and send a cheque. Your sincere friend,
(Signed) AND. DICKSON.

P. S.—Malcolm Cameron, and Secretary West, will resign about the Seal of Government question. Malcolm told me so himself. A. D.

(No. 6.)
Hincks endorses the corruption of his minion. An important County office offered for the small sum of £100. Who would not be a Clerk of the Peace under such a Ministry!

[PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

Kingston, September 26, 1843.
MY DEAR SIR,—I saw Mr. Dickson's letter before it was sent, and endorse all that he says. It would embarrass me much to pay the sum of £100 now, and retire the note, when it can be arranged as I proposed in my last letter. You have £400 lying idle in the Bank of British North America; and it cannot be of much consequence to you to pay £50, and sign the renewal, were it only as a loan.

With respect to your liberation, I fear you overrate my power and ability. I am only one in the Council, and all my colleagues must be of the same way of thinking to make any impression on the Governor General. I may assure you to rely confidentially upon me that your discharge will be procured within a month.

You ought not to blame me altogether for your imprisonment; but as the subject is painful to all of us, I will not now enter upon a discussion which can do no good. The Clerkship of the Peace of the Dalhousie District is now vacant, and immediately upon your discharge I shall submit your name to the Governor General; and it being a personal request, I have not the slightest doubt of your appointment to that office, provided that you will honestly meet your monetary engagements. I have no doubt that you will now do as I require; and I trust that whatever may have been the misunderstanding between us it will be for ever forgotten.

Believe me to remain yours ever faithfully,
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

(No. 7.)
"Any port in a storm."—The victim forced to submit.

Perth, October 3, 1843.
MY DEAR SIR,—After mature reflection I at once comply. I herewith forward a cheque for £40, and you can do with my renewal at three months for £60. I think the Bank will take it; if not, let me know.

The Assizes sit this week, and I think the Grand Jury will recommend my discharge.

I have sent Dr. Nichol's certificate, with a petition, as you directed, to His Excellency.

I remain, &c. &c.
(Signed) D. C. McNAB.

(No. 8.)
Hincks must have the money. Dismissal of the Surgeon

Kingston, October 7, 1843.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I am kept here and can't get away. Mr. Hincks, your friend, received your letter; but the Bank won't renew unless they get £65 in cash, so you had better send another check up as soon as possible. You are like a good cow, that gives plenty of milk, but after she is milked she kicks the pail over and spills all the milk.

I will be down in a few days, and will discharge Dr. Wilson, or persuade him to resign.

Your friend,
(Signed) AND. DICKSON.

(No. 9.)
Attempt to corrupt the Surgeon.

Kingston, October 7, 1843.

MY DEAR SIR,—The Bank will not renew, under £65, cash; and you will be kind enough to send your cheque for £25, and sign the note I send enclosed; and Mr. Dickson promised that this should be done.

Your petition has been favourably received, and the Gaol Surgeon has been applied to for a certificate of your health. I think you will be at liberty in a fortnight. We have stormy times here.

I am, &c. &c.
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

(No. 10.)
The victim's fine is remitted; but Hincks pockets the money!

Kingston, 17th September, 1843.

[PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

DEAR SIR,—I am sorry that there should have been any misunderstanding between us on the subject of the note; but I assure you it arose altogether from the multiplicity of business which now occupies my attention. I could not find time to write to you

myself; but requested Mr. Askew to do so,—not thinking that you would be offended at his interference.

You might, I think, easily spare the £50, which would have been swallowed up by your fine, at any rate, and give a renewal at three months for the remainder: when it becomes due, Mr. Dickson will take it up. I herewith enclose the renewal note for your signature; and, if this is done, I will procure your liberation at the end of four weeks. You may rely on that. Mr. Dickson tells me that our plan works admirably; and that you are indeed very ill! The Gaol Surgeon is of opinion that it is mere indisposition, which will pass of speedily. You must apply to some other Doctor. Mr. Dickson, who is now here, suggests Dr. Nichol; and we will find means of dispensing with Dr. Wilson's services, and appoint your medical adviser in his stead, which he assures me that the magistrates will confirm at the next Sessions. Mr. Dickson states that Dr. Wilson is very inattentive to his duties: this will form a grand plea for his dismissal. You will procure a certificate of ill health from your Surgeon, and transmit it, with another petition, to the Provincial Secretary, for presentation.—Mr. Dickson will explain my intentions with regard to you on his return.

Destroy this letter as soon as you have noted its contents.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. HINCKS.

(No. 11.)
Affidavit of the correctness of the above documents.

Province of Canada, } JOHN McWHINNIE, of the
DISTRICT OF BATHURST, } Township of Ramsay, in the

TO WIT: } said District of Bathurst.

GENTLEMAN: Maketh oath and saith, that the annexed writings marked Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10, purporting to be copies of letters from the Hon. Francis Hincks to Dugald C. McNab, are true copies of the originals, addressed by the former to the latter, and that the original of the one marked No. 6, was seen by deponent, and perused at the time it was received by said Dugald C. McNab, with the exception of that portion of it which relates to the Clerkship of the Peace for the District of Dalhousie, and which must have been concealed from deponent at the time, as he has no recollection whatever of it, and deponent knows that said Dugald C. McNab was sometimes in the habit of exhibiting to deponent only particular parts of letters received by him. His deponent further saith, that he has also seen the original letters, written by Andrew Dickson, Sheriff of the District of Bathurst, to said Dugald C. McNab, and of which the annexed writings marked Nos. 5 and 8 are copies, but has no recollection of the paragraph contained in No. 5, respecting the reference to the Clerkship of the Peace, of the District of Dalhousie, and thinks it must have been kept from deponent's view at the time. This deponent further saith, that the annexed writing marked No. 4, is a copy of a letter written by Thomas Askew, of Kingston, to Dugald C. McNab, and the original of which was shewn to deponent at the time by said Dugald C. McNab, and that deponent saw said McNab write the letter of which the annexed paper marked No. 9, is a copy, and which letter was addressed to the Honourable Francis Hincks.

JOHN McWHINNIE.

Sworn before me at Perth, in the District of Bathurst, this 28th day of May, 1849.

A. FRASER,
A Commissioner for taking affidavits

(No. 12.)
Ungrateful and unjust—Hincks' witnesses in the Libel suit were never paid their expenses. He gave notes to them at the time of trial; but these notes have never been taken up. Let the following letter be attentively perused.

Renfrew, 9th April, 1849.

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 4th instant, which came to hand yesterday. The parties holding the notes against Mr. Hincks, to which you allude are as follows, viz:

Peter Campbell McNab, one for £7 10s.; Alexander McNab, one for £7 10s.; Andrew Taylor's (Widow) one for £3 10s.; Donald McIntyre, one for £3 10s.; Donald McNaughten, one per £3 10s.—Making a sum total of twenty-five pounds and ten shillings currency, and of which the parties stand much in need these unprecedented hard times, and if you can procure the amount for the poor people, I think you are in duty bound to do so. I shall be happy to hear from you again at your earliest convenience. Meantime I remain, dear Sir, yours most respectfully,

R. McINTYRE.

(No. 13.)
Dr. Nichol is appointed Physician of Perth Gaol, for the purpose of carrying out Mr. Hincks' intentions!!

Extract from the Record of the Minutes of Proceedings at the Court of General Quarter Sessions, held in the Bathurst District, in Jan. 1844.

"Dr. Nichol was appointed Surgeon of the Gaol, at a salary of Five Pounds per annum."

True Copy, W. B. F. BERFORD,
Clerk of the Peace,
Bathurst District.

Perth, 12th April, 1849.

Andrew Dickson, above referred to, has recently been appointed Inspector of the Provincial Penitentiary and of Prisons, by Mr. Hincks, doubtless as a reward for his services.

If McNab paid £100 for his liberation from Perth Gaol, how much did Dr. Keyes, of Brantford, pay for his, from the Penitentiary? Electors of Oxford! the above facts are well worth your consideration!

Woodstock, November 22, 1851.