

Not only did he throughout those trying scenes, by his influence—by his example—by his unwearied exertion, restrain the passions of the enraged multitude, but on one particular occasion he stayed the tide of riot, of bloodshed, and what might have terminated in a rebellion worse than that which had been so lately rewarded.\*

Well do I remember the second night after the Parliament House was burnt, when the tidings spread like wild-fire through the City that the Government had armed their supporters in the suburbs, and that even at the moment they were assembled at Bonsecours Market. A spirit was evoked in the breast of every opponent of such a rash and one-sided act as the arming of one part of the population against the other, that boded fearful results, had the flame once burst its bounds. Arms were in the hands of every man and boy who could bear them, and a stern determination in the minds of all to meet in deadly hostility. The military were drawn up across Notre Dame street, near Jacques Cartier Market, cutting off communication by that street. It was at this time when all were resolved to force their way through the armed troops to reach the Bonsecours Market, when Gugsy appeared amongst them—and from the paling of the wall upon which I was standing by his side, addressed the assembled multitude, and by his commanding eloquence, his boldness, his energy and strong common sense, succeeded in allaying the popular excitement, and inducing all to disperse in quiet to their homes. Had he not been the instrument in the hands of that power which rules over all, he alone knows what might have been the consequence of the shedding of that blood which must have flowed on that night.

Up to the present time, I have never, amid all the obloquy which has been heaped upon his name, seen one word of tribute in justice to conduct which was as honorable to the man, as invaluable to our common country.

Such is the testimony of an eye-witness. Under a lamp elevated about ten feet, above an armed and infuriated mob, in the full glare of the light, hearing the imprecations of the

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\* Mr. Roche, of the Crown Lands Department, another eye witness, who has authorized the use of his name, is of the same opinion, and no one can overrate the consequences of the massacre by the troops of 400 or 500 men of the British population.