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## PETITIONS

*In reference to the charges preferred against the Hon. Edmund Burke Wood, Chief Justice of the Province of Manitoba—and a Copy in full of the Answer to the said Petitions by Chief Justice Wood.*

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*To the Honorable the House of Commons in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of the Province of Manitoba, humbly sheweth :

That a Commission was issued by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor under the Great Seal of the Province of Manitoba on the 28th of October last, under which an enquiry was instituted into the administration of justice in that Province, as to infants' lands and estates.

That a large amount of evidence was taken before the Commissioners so appointed.

That a learned counsel was retained by the Attorney General of the Province, to marshal the evidence before the said Commissioners and report upon the same.

That, accordingly, an exhaustive report was made by the said learned counsel to the Attorney-General upon the proceedings and evidence taken under the said Commission:—

Your Petitioners most respectfully allege that the grossest mal-administration of justice has been committed by the Hon. Edmund Burke Wood, Chief Justice of the Province of Manitoba as proved in the evidence before the said Commissioners.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will cause an enquiry to be made into the truth of their allegation, and adopt such means as to your Honorable House may seem meet to preserve the integrity of the Bench of Justice in our Province, that it may possess the confidence of the community, and be above suspicion as one of the greatest blessings to be enjoyed by any people, especially by those inhabiting a new and sparsely settled Province.

And, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

EDWARD ELLIOTT.

W. GIBBENS.

W. F. McCREADY.

March 6th, 1882.

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## CANADA.

*To the Honorable the House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada in Parliament assembled.*

The Petition of the undersigned living or having interests in the Province of Manitoba, most respectfully sheweth to your Honorable House :

That the conduct of the Hon. Edmund Burke Wood, Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for the Province of Manitoba, residing at Winnipeg in the said Province, is and has been for years past characterized by very serious misconduct and injustice and by acts of a nature to completely destroy all confidence in him as Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench, of suitors and all other classes of people in the said Province of Manitoba, to wit :

That the said Hon. Burke Wood, Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of the Province of Manitoba, did deliberately and in a most illegal and unjust manner in the case of the Queen vs. Louis Riel *et al.*, without the knowledge or consent of the Clerk of the Crown of the said Court of Queen's Bench or of the defendant's counsel, alter and change the dates in certain documents and records of the said Court of Queen's Bench, then in the custody of the Clerk of the Crown and Prothonotary of the said Court, and did thereby procure an illegal outlawry of Louis Riel and others.