

formed Mr. Marchand that Gowen had expressed his intention of paying \$10,000 and THAT THIS OFFER WAS STILL OPEN.

On the 29th April, Mr. Huot was informed that the offer had been withdrawn!!!

Had it been so, who knew better than Mr. Huot? He was the agent of the property. And in any case had the offer been withdrawn it could have taken place only since the 17th February, when at that date Mr. Huot says it was still open.

Mr. Marchand.—Notwithstanding his experience in managing jobs such as those of canals, denies the pretension that Gowen withdrew his offer of ten thousand dollars, he prevaricates. Here is official proof written by his own hand.

"Write to Mr. Gowen asking him if he is ready to make good his offer of \$8,000 in his letter of the 22nd January, 1878, to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(Signed,) F. G. M.

1st May, 1879."

The 1st of May the offer of \$8,000 was not withdrawn, Mr. Marchand then wrote to Gowen, asking him if he wished to make it good.

As may be seen by the reply of Mr. Gowen, the letter written by the order of Mr. Marchand was to permit the brother in law of the Premier to place in the record a semblance of justification of the trick which was being carried out.

Without waiting for Mr. Huot, Mr. Marchand wrote himself, not daring doubtless to trust to his employees the iniquity which he was about to perpetrate. The following is the other:—

CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT,
QUEBEC, 1st May, 1879.

SIR,—I wish to know if you are ready to carry out your offer of \$8,000, made in your letter of the 22nd January, 1878 to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, for the Government claim against the Notre Dame des Anges farm.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) F. G. MARCHAND.
C. C. L.

Gowen's reply is as follows:—

QUEBEC, 1st May, 1879.

To the Honorable Commissioner of Crown Lands,

SIR,—In reply to your letter of to-day, asking me to inform you of the line of

conduct which I propose to follow in reference to my offer of the 22nd January, 1879, in regard to the Government claim against the Notre Dame des Anges farm. I have the honor to inform you that I withdrew it a short time after making it, and that I do not intend to renew it, for I consider under present circumstances that it is altogether excessive.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) H. GOWEN.

On the 17th February, Mr. Huot, stated, the offer of Mr. Gowen for \$10,000 was opened. On the 1st of May Mr. Marchand asked him if he wished to make it good, and on the same day Gowen replied that he had withdrawn this offer a short time after it had been made.

Where is the letter in which this offer was withdrawn? It is false and iniquitous! If this letter exists the Government has hidden it, for it is not in the correspondence brought before the House.

It appears the affair was pressing, for on the same day even, the 1st of May Mr. Marchand gave an order to transfer to Mr. Gowen the rights of the Government for \$5,000.

"Seeing the reply of Mr. Gowen in his letter of to-day, (No. 2273) that he had long since withdrawn his offer of \$8,000 and that he is no longer disposed to make it good, Mr. Dechenes should be informed that considering the payment of \$5,000 cash, a full discharge shall be given of the Government claims against the Notre Dame des Anges farm. Instructions accordingly must be given to the agent.

(Signed,)

F. G. M.

1st May, 1879.

A report in accordance with this view to be submitted to the Honorable Executive Council.

(Signed,) F. G. M.

It will be borne in mind by the public that it was on the 1st of May that Mr. Marchand authorised the transfer of the Government rights. We shall to-morrow see the importance of this date.