

(Translation.)

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER OF DR. BOUTHILLIER, DATED

St. Hyacinthe, 26 July, 1840.

MY DEAR SIR,—I delayed some days writing to you, for reasons which it is almost useless to mention. I assure you that I did not require any suggestion (although yours are always agreeable to me) to make me think of what we owe to Messrs. Colman and Rainsford*. I may tell you with all the frankness possible, and I have said it to several of my friends, that I regret exceedingly to see Captain Colman leaving us. Since his residence at St. Hyacinthe, we have lived in security and under the firm conviction that we were in no way exposed to the persecutions of any person. His conduct has been that of a benevolent and judicious man. And from the statements I have heard from influential persons at St. Denis and St. Antoine, the same may be said of Mr. Rainsford. We do not fail to appreciate the excellent qualities of these gentlemen, and for my part, I would be desirous of having a favorable opportunity to give them proofs of my esteem. But our political acts (if I may so express myself on the present occasion) are looked upon in such a bad light, so badly interpreted by the party in power, that it is better, until we can form part of a good sound government, to have as little as possible to do with the present one. Without doubt, *you have a large share in the good we have to say of Captain Colman and Mr. Rainsford*, the stipendiary magistrates, who have lived among us for nearly two years. Since that time the country has been quiet, and as we expected, the people have not experienced from you, or from the stipendiary magistrates in this part of the country, any of those little persecutions which we might have cause to fear from the indiscreet zeal or party spirit of some individuals. It is also a matter of some difficulty to explain the course followed by the government towards you and some of the magistrates! What does it intend to do? What are we to expect? *It was in fact predicted to you that you would not ascend the latter very high.* You must have believed that prediction; you console your-

* Stipendiaries in the Rural Police (under Colonel Guger) then about to be removed, and to whom the latter had recommended that some proof of the public satisfaction should be offered.

Ladde