

and guidance, which is the theory on which such applications are made. The offer to pay the costs of the Government as distinguished from the costs of the only parties interested in the validity of the legislation in question, is not, therefore, a very enormous one, nor would it afford any security to those who might deem it their duty to support or to oppose the allegation that the Acts in question were within the competency of the Legislature of Quebec.

As Your Excellency's Government would be under no expense, even if the reference should be made, and would not in any event feel justified in availing itself of private generosity to enable it to carry on public affairs, the cheque enclosed by the petitioner may properly be returned to him.

The undersigned would remind Your Excellency that as regards the Act for the settlement of the Jesuits' Estates, a resolution in favor of disallowing the same was presented to the House of Commons of Canada during the last session of Parliament, and was, after thorough discussion, negatived by an overwhelming majority. The will of the House of Commons that the Act should be left to its operation in the usual way, as being probably within the powers of the Legislature which passed it, was thereby unequivocally expressed. The attempt to attack the Act in the courts, by the use of Your Excellency's power to seek advice from the Supreme Court of Canada, would not, in the opinion of the undersigned be consistent with the deference which should be shown to that branch of Parliament, and would not be justifiable on the ground that the doubts which had been asserted, continued to be expressed by some who do not acquiesce in the conclusion then arrived at.

The undersigned would, therefore, recommend that the petitioner be informed, when his cheque is returned to him, that his suggestion is not one that can properly be complied with.

(Signed) JNO. S. D. THOMPSON,  
Minister of Justice.

July 10th, 1889.

#### PENSIONS.

The following despatch has been published

in the *Canada Gazette*, with reference to pensions to officers transferred from the Imperial Civil Service:—

DOWNING STREET, 20th August, 1889.

MY LORD,—With reference to the Earl of Carnarvon's Circular despatch of the 3rd of September, 1875, I have the honour to acquaint you that it has been decided that the Superannuation Act, 1859, does not allow of a pension being granted thereunder in any circumstances whatever to an officer of the Civil Service retiring from public employment under the age of 60 years, except on the ground of ill-health or of abolition of office.

Officers who have been transferred from the Imperial Civil Service to the Civil Service of a Colony in which the pensionable age is less than 60 years, should therefore be given to understand that, on their retirement from Colonial service, the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury will not be able to award them pensions in respect of their Imperial service under the Act of 1859, if that retirement takes place under 60 years of age, unless it be for one of the two reasons above mentioned.

I have the honour to be, My Lord,

Your most obedient humble servant,  
KNUTSFORD.

The Office Administering the  
Government of Canada.

#### INSOLVENT NOTICES, ETC.

*Quebec Official Gazette, Aug. 31.*

##### Judicial Abandonments.

Solomon Adam, merchant, Cap St. Ignace, Aug. 27.  
Lactance Marquette, Lévis, Aug. 24.  
Antoine Perrotin, trader, Hull, Aug. 24.  
Leonard Asa Stearns, doing business under the name of L. A. Stearns & Co., lumberman, township of Hatley, Aug. 20.  
Eusèbe St. Pierre, butcher, Ste. Canégonde, Aug. 22.  
Abel Valin, contractor, Montreal, Aug. 17.

##### Curators appointed.

*Re* Mary Eliza Jaques (F. R. Richardson & Co.).—Auguste Singer, Montreal, curator, Aug. 22.  
*Re* Norbert Lemaitre Duhaime, butter and cheese manufacturer, Montmagny.—P. A. Choquette, Montmagny, provisional guardian, Aug. 23.  
*Re* Eusèbe St. Pierre.—C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator, Aug. 23.  
*Re* Abel Valin.—C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator, Aug. 23.