

for its duty. This Government was dismissed from office by the Lieutenant-Governor. The facts which preceded and followed this event are entered in a Journal kept from day to day and from hour to hour, under the dictation of the ex-Premier, and the following is an exact and faithful recital thereof;

"On the 26th February, 1878, at about half past four o'clock p.m., the Premier received from the Lieutenant-Governor, through his Aide-de-Camp, the following letter:—

"GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

"Quebec, 25 February, 1878.

"To the Honorable C. B. DEBOUCHERVILLE.

"Premier of the Province of Quebec.

"The Lieutenant Governor desires the Executive Council to prepare for his consideration a factum, including a copy of the following documents:—

"1. A copy of the Acts of the Dominion Parliament authorizing the construction of the Railway now known under the name of the 'Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Occidental Railway,' as well as a copy of the Acts of the Legislature of Quebec respecting the same railway.

"2. A copy of the Acts of the Legislature of the Province of Quebec respecting the construction of the Railway between Quebec and Montreal, commonly known as the North Shore Railway.

"3. A copy of the By-laws of each of the Municipal Corporations by which they agreed to assist in the construction of the said road.

"4. A statement of the amount of the grant paid by each of those corporations, and a copy of the correspondence exchanged between the Government, the Railway Commissioners, or the Contractors of the said road, and the said Municipal Corporations, with respect to their said grant or subsidy.

"5. A copy of the several contracts entered into for the construction of the said roads.

"6. A copy of the official or confidential reports of the Engineers to whom was entrusted the location of these lines of railway, in whole or in part.

"7. A copy of the Report of the Railway Commissioners, laid before both Houses during the present Session, respecting the said roads.

"8. Copy of the representations made to the Government by the Municipal Corporations interested, or by the ratepayers of these municipalities, respecting the condition of their grant or subsidy.

"9. Copy of the resolutions proposed to the Provincial Legislature during the present Session, respecting the said subsidies, and to facilitate the payment and survey of the same.

"10. Copy of the Bill based upon the said resolutions, which was introduced into the House during the present Session.

"11. A plan showing the locations of each of the said Railways, or of any portion thereof.

"12. A detailed statement of the reasons which induced the Provincial Government not to content themselves with the provisions of the Statute and Common Law, and with those of the Civil Code of this Province, for the recovery of the sums of money which might become due by the said Corporations, but without having in any manner previously consulted with the Lieutenant-Governor, to propose an *ex post facto* legislation to compel them thereto.

"Another very important measure to provide for the imposition of new taxes, was also similarly proposed to the Legislature, without having been previously submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor.