

Can that Government transfer to Imperial officers, the duty of directing operations, and the authority to incur expenditure *ad libitum*, which the Parliament of Canada is bound to pay? Is there any constitutional check, control, or responsibility in such a system? If blundering incapacity, and reckless extravagance—such as we have witnessed in the fitting up of unnecessary barracks, and the chartering of foreign steamers that were not wanted—should be proved against these Imperial officers, will the Minister of Militia be permitted to say that *he* is not responsible because they were not subject to his orders? The representatives of the Canadian tax-payers will, let us hope, be ready to give the proper answers to these questions when submitted, as they soon must be, for their decision.

One word, in conclusion, as to the composition of the expeditionary force. Instead of calling for volunteers who wished to *settle* in the new Province, and who would have been glad to serve for a year or more, at the minimum of pay, with a grant of land on their discharge in Manitoba, you attempted to organize a force in equal proportions from Quebec and Ontario, in the hope that one half would, politically, antagonise the other—one man for Bishop Tache and one for Canada,—but the result disappointed the cunning projectors, and your scheme miscarried. After weeks of delay which cost this country a large sum, and increased unnecessarily, the expense of the Imperial contingent, less than a hundred French Canadians were enlisted! The remainder of the “Quebec battalion,” as, by a pleasant metonymy, it is still called, were drummed up wherever they could be found, in Ontario! The enterprising young men of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia were not wanted because, probably, they could not be trusted; they were, therefore, ignominiously excluded. When the accounts of the expedition are submitted to parliament, we shall be able to estimate how much this part of your “policy” has cost the Dominion.

I am yours, &c.,

WM. MACDOUGAL