

“ On the 11th of February, 1874, the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery received from the Election Clerk, *Joncas*, a copy of the letter of the 2nd of February, which as above stated, the Respondent had written to the said *Joncas*.

“ The 12th of February was the day on which the nomination of Candidates took place.

“ Questions:—

“ 1. Was the Respondent eligible on the 12th of February, 1874?

“ 2. Was the Election Clerk competent to act as Returning Officer, from and after the 2nd of February 1874, and if not, is the Election null?”

And I further certify that on the 7th day of January last, the said Election Court, as appears by a Copy of the Judgment of the said Court, which I herewith enclose, determined as follows:—

“ To the first Question:—That *Louis Georges Harper*, Esquire, was the Returning Officer of the Electoral Division of *Gaspé*, at the time of the Election, and was therefore incapable of being elected to serve in Parliament for that division.

“ To the second Question:—That the Respondent was Returning Officer *de jure*, but by his refusal to act as Returning Officer the Election Clerk was competent to act as Returning Officer *de facto*.”

And I further certify that having regard to the said judgment and determination, I did on the 19th of January last determine:—

1st. That the said *Louis Georges Harper*, Esquire, was not duly elected.

2nd. That the said Election is a void Election.

And I have appended hereto a copy of the notes of the evidence taken at the said trial.

And in further pursuance of the said Act I make this Special Report, as to matters which arose in the course of the said trial, an account of which ought in my judgment, to be submitted to the House of Commons.

A charge of corrupt practices having been committed was brought in recrimination by the Respondent against the Petitioner's claim to the seat, and the charge was fully borne out by the evidence, but no charge of any such practices having been committed was made in the Petition, so as to bring this case under the operation of section twenty of the said Act.

And I further state, that I have hitherto abstained from certifying and reporting to you, in this matter, in consequence of an appeal from my determination, which was brought by the Respondent, but which, by permission of the Superior Court, was yesterday withdrawn.

T. McCORD,  
*Judge.*

In Chambers, 8th April, 1875.