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THE  
ULTRAMONTANE POLICY

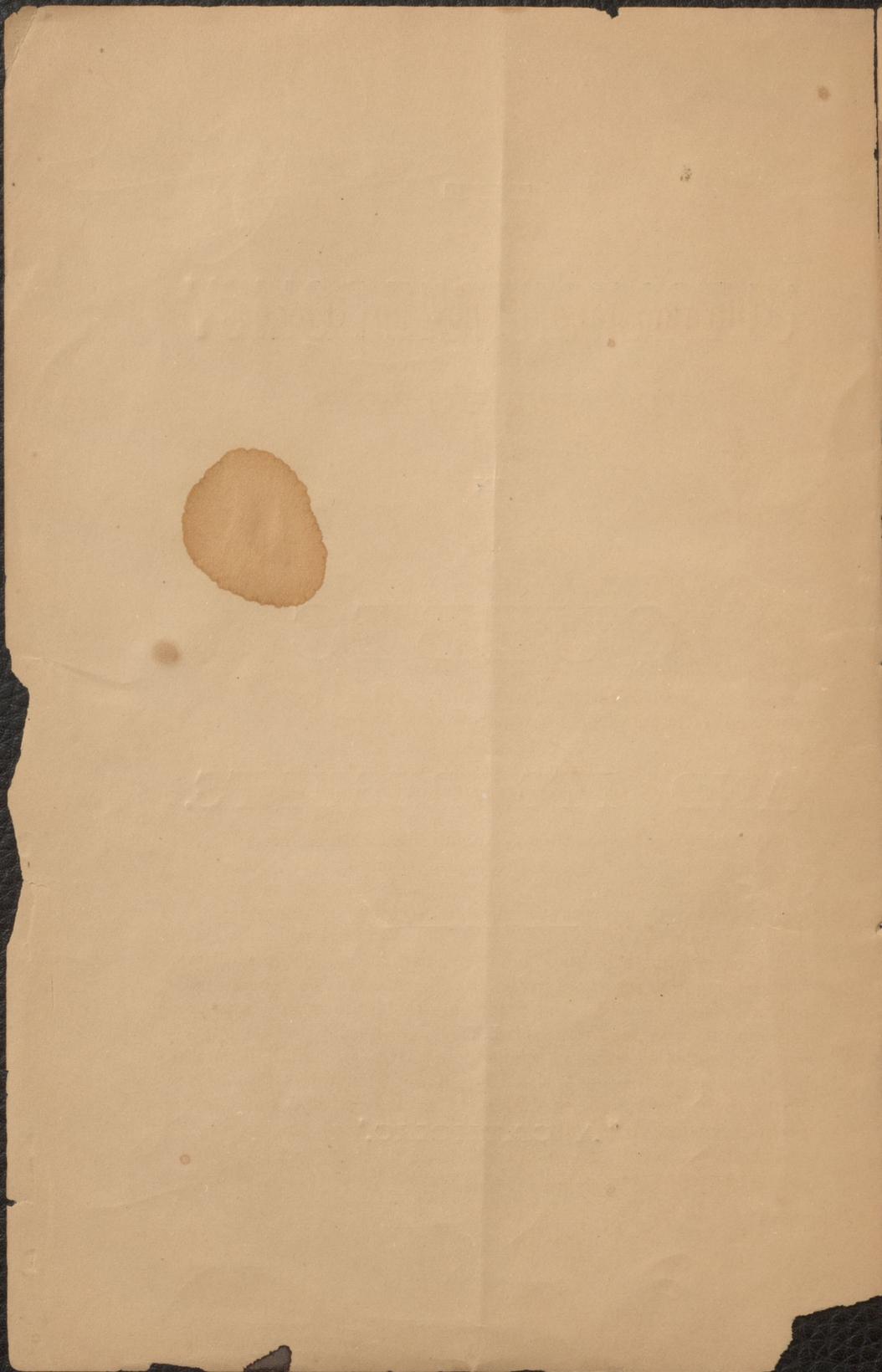
IN  
QUEBEC

AND ITS RESULTS.

—♦♦♦—  
BY

"A CATHOLIC."

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No. 1

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## Ultramontane Policy in Quebec

—AND—

### ITS RESULTS.

1889.

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*Extracts from the Ultramontane Pamphlet "La Source du Mal."*

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Page 1.—"Canada was first a French Colony and remained so till 1759, for a period of nearly 450 years. During this time, when the dangerous errors, called Gallican, predominated in France, the country imbibed, necessarily, all these errors. This is proved by numerous facts which would be too long to enumerate.

"These facts are inscribed on every page of our history, political and religious, and again, we may say, on every page of our Civil Code.

"Our laws have up to this day maintained a strong impression of Gallicanism and also our theological teaching. So, for example, Canadian jurists have believed and still believe, from early teaching, that civil authority can establish or remove obstacles to marriage. Canadian jurists believed, and still believe, with a large number of their followers, that the public authority can and ought to interfere, in the administration of ecclesiastical property, can tax it, fix and determine the limit within which corporations and religious bodies can acquire and possess property; can abolish tithes in whole or in part. Canadian jurists believed, and still believe, that Church wardens and vestry men derive their power, and are subject to civil authority, and that parishes erected canonically are as non-existing, so long as the civil authority have not sanctioned their existence. Canadian jurists have believed, and still believe, that the Courts can condemn

a priest, who refuses the sacrament to a person unworthy, as guilty of defamation or as exercising an unjust pressure ; to force him to give ecclesiastical burial to him whom the Church deprives of this honor, and even to declare, after assuming the right to examine his words and his speeches, in a judicial enquiry, if in the pulpit of truth he has confined himself to his sacred ministry."

Page 2.—"A man who died within the last forty years, and considered one of the lights of the Seminary of Quebec, whose president he was for many years, and who taught theology and philosophy, and held as an oracle even among the bishops, Mr. Vicar-General Demers, did not hesitate to affirm to his pupils, amongst other Gallican propositions, that the Pope was not infallible, and that Councils were above the Pope."

According to the writer's views, our whole legal and ecclesiastical system was, previous to the English rule in Canada, and still is, in its essential and fundamental parts, infested with heretical principles. Every provision of the law, which, for four hundred years, had been admitted and acknowledged as the undoubted law of Catholic France as regards the respective position of Church and State, of laymen and ecclesiastics, and the rights of the civil community to appeal to the Courts of Law in the interpretation of the Canon law, in reference to property, church temporalities, the liberty of the individual and the abuse of clerical authority, in matters purely temporal ; all this was suddenly pronounced to be contrary to the rules of the church, and the twenty generations of French Catholics, who asserted, defended and never doubted their truth, are declared to have lived and died excommunicated, out of the pale of the church and beyond hope of salvation.

The same sentence was pronounced against the venerable Mr. Demers, and all the Canadian Bishops, who admitted his doctrine, that the Pope was not infallible and that the Councils were above the Pope. Our Civil Code must be recast and founded upon this new theory, which must necessarily embody these new regulations.

The plain meaning of this is that the clerical authority is and must be supreme ; that any interference by the Courts, and every principle incorporated in our laws, maintaining such interference

in ecclesiastical or quasi ecclesiastical property, is heretical and must disappear, notwithstanding such may have been the law of France for over four centuries, and the law of Canada for over two hundred years. The taxing of ecclesiastical property, the limitation of the possession of real estate by ecclesiastical corporations, principles accepted by all civilized Catholic communities, is held as monstrous, also the consent of the State for the territorial division of the country, and any judge attempting to enforce such laws is *de facto* excommunicated, as such principles are Gallican or liberal heresies.

#### II.—CANADA AFTER THE CONQUEST.

Page 4.—“After the cession of Canada to Great Britain the situation did not improve, although the free exercise of the Catholic religion was guaranteed by the treaty.”

Page 5.—“The clerical authority, too much disposed, by the profession of these Gallican errors, to yield to the civil authority, had not the opportunity, amidst its increasing difficulties, to dispel these errors.

“The Canadians opposed an invincible resistance to the pretensions of England when they became intolerable.”

The writer after stating that by providential events the Province of Lower Canada remained exclusively Catholic and French says that their superior numbers entitle them to act independently, as they are not obliged to take in account the Protestant element, as in the other Provinces or in the United States, where this element predominates; and, therefore, it is absurd to pretend that Catholics should fear the Protestants.

Page 6.—“We have here truly perfect liberty to profess the Catholic religion in the Province of Quebec, and we can organize ourselves in as absolute a manner, in every respect,

#### AS IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

“The Protestants, notwithstanding what has been said or attempted lately to arouse them, offer no obstacle. Those who oppose this are liberals of our race, liberals whose leaders are openly impious, and who, for the most part, disguise and conceal themselves, and who even dare proclaim themselves sincere Catholics to alleviate the fears which they provoke and to attain more surely their work of destruction.”

III.—REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS IN CANADA AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES.

Page 7.—“The Legislative Union of Lower and Upper Canada was consummated in 1840, and the Catholics of Lower Canada obtained again the guarantee that their religious rights would be protected and maintained. We were obliged notwithstanding to struggle seriously against Protestantism in the public administration and in the enacting of laws. The struggle was the most serious, because our unbelievers and liberals made common cause with the Protestants; without this, notwithstanding the legislative union, we could have controlled the Protestants.”

IV.—PROGRESS OF REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS.—MODE OF ACTION OF OUR IMPIOUS LIBERALS.

Page 8.—“All those who are at the head of the Liberal party in the Province of Quebec work with a persistent energy for the destruction of Catholicism.

“They want the separation of Church and State, and even assert the supremacy of the State; they sow everywhere distrust of the clergy, whom they represent as greedy for wealth and power; they maintain that law, when expressed by the will of the majority, is just and binding, even when in direct contradiction with ecclesiastical law; they deny to the Church and to the Pope the right to interfere in political questions; they claim the liberty of conscience, liberty of the press, and the liberty of doing everything in political matters; they work with all their might, whilst apparently acting in concert with the bishops, when appointed members of the Board of Education by persons disposed to secularise education; and they have already obtained grand success in that direction.

“To strengthen themselves and to obtain recruits, our impious Liberals succeeded in 1858 in being the great majority of the members of a celebrated literary institution formed several years previous, under the name of the *L'Institut Canadien*. When masters of this association they crowded its library with pernicious books.

“Mgr. Bourget, who so well deserved at the hands of the Church during his long episcopate, and who has now retired in the calm of meditation and prayer, acted with just severity towards the members of the *Institut*. They complained to the Holy Office, protesting their orthodoxy and their entire submission to the Church. The Holy Office was almost taken in by their lying protestations and was preparing a *monitum* to the Bishop, when the venerable prelate, warned in time, trans-

mitted documents of their own records, which could leave no room to doubt their guilt.

Page 2. —“ Our impious Liberals, which were also called Rouges, and who latterly assumed the name of Reformers, to remove the odium which they had brought on themselves, have repeatedly endeavored to secure the Government. Their object is to secure the triumph of ideas, and to substantiate those ideas in fact and legislation. They were kept at bay by the Conservatives. The latter are generally well disposed, but they are nevertheless still tainted with Gallicanism and false notions by reason of their defective education.”

No clearer exposition of the result which this Ultramontane party seeks to obtain, and of their doctrine as to constitutional liberty, could be found anywhere. The obedience to the law, if contrary to their notions, is an heresy which courts and judges are bound to disregard; the rights of the clergy to interfere without check or control in all political matters, the liberty of the press, the liberty of conscience, the control and direction of education by laymen, were so many damnable heresies, which they were in a fair way of extirpating, if they had not been timely arrested by Archbishop Taschereau.

Here we find the novel information that the Institut Canadien had almost obtained the right of existence with the sanction of the Roman authorities, when Bishop Bourget transmitted to them documents compiled by himself without notice to the Institut, which reversed the decision which had already censured his action.

V.—NEW CONSTITUTION—CONFEDERATION OF THE PROVINCES  
WITH A VIEW OF FAVORING THE CATHOLICS OF LOWER  
CANADA.

Page 11.—“ In our Parliamentary debates and struggles, Lower Canada would always have paralyzed the efforts of Protestant fanaticism and Upper Canada Orangeism, if all our French-Canadian representatives had been united to defend our true interests. But our Liberals, the Rouges, numerous enough in Parliament, have constantly sided with our bitterest enemies, as we have already stated. Matters had arrived at such a point that there was no possibility for Upper and Lower Canada to work together under a Legislative Union. It was then resolved

to remedy the situation by forming a Confederation of all the British Provinces."

Page 12.—"Our Catholic Conservatives insisted particularly on the formation of Provincial Parliaments, with the object of securing to the Province of Quebec, where the Catholics were far more numerous than the Protestants, the right to govern themselves *by truly Catholic laws*. If it had not been for this object, there would have been no Provincial Legislatures, as all the British Provinces, except Quebec, being Protestant in majority, one Parliament would have been sufficient for all."

Page 12.—"Our *Rouges*, who well understood that this new system would overthrow their plans of impiety, made a most determined opposition to its success, whilst most of the Protestants, moved by a national feeling of equity, favored it.

"The Province of Quebec, which our *Rouges* were anxious to govern by non-Catholic, even unchristian, laws, would now have a local parliament, composed almost exclusively of Catholics, and thereby was saved from their baneful influence. There was really room for despair."

According to this Ultra Monte Conservative writer, had it not been for the so-called French Canadian *Rouges*, Lower Canada, before and without Confederation, could have controlled everything—and his ideas would have prevailed. It is difficult to understand how this party was thwarted, and more difficult still to perceive where the efforts of Protestant fanaticism manifested themselves, except when it came to an open declaration, claiming complete submission to this thorough revolution in our laws and constitution. Is it not on the contrary, owing to the close alliance and support of Protestants and Orangeism, that this so-called ultramontane party has achieved the great triumphs which the writer admits they have secured for the past thirty years, and is it not owing to this close alliance that judges of our courts have been appointed who professed publicly the doctrine that the laws of the land could not and would not be applied whenever they were found to be tainted with Gallicanism or contrary to the new doctrines, thereby transferring the absolute legislative authority of repealing laws to the clerical power alone.

## VI.—DECEPTION PRACTISED BY THE LIBERALS TO OBTAIN POWER

“The Liberals did not abandon their aim, but formed the plan to arrive at their object with the assistance of the Protestants, and then to sway the Provincial Parliament at Quebec, to predominate in the Provincial Parliament was a supreme interest for them, as Catholicism which they sought to destroy had its stronghold in Quebec.”

Page 13.—“They repudiated the name of *rouge* and assumed that of Liberals, and subsequently called themselves reformers.”

Page 15.—“The clergy, notwithstanding all the calumnies accumulated against it to destroy its authority so disastrous to the liberals, exercised a paramount influence on the people. Seeing then that the Liberals were manœuvring to secure power in Quebec to destroy, when this was once secured, the authority of the Church and Catholicism in its stronghold, the clergy then came to the determination of enlightening the faithful, and put them on their guard, against those who claimed their suffrages in the name of these ideas.

“To annihilate the efforts of this terrible enemy, the Liberals worked with incredible energy and perseverance to bring Archbishop Taschereau to separate from his suffragans the other bishops. They succeeded, through certain Liberal priests of the Archbishopric and Seminary of Quebec, who were their friends, and who represented to the Archbishop that a series of evils would fall on him if he did not yield to them.

“Besides, the weakness of Mgr. Taschereau was known. He was anxious to save his popularity and be agreeable to his family, filled with Liberal ideas. The Liberals succeeded, under one pretence or another, for example, on the ground of peace, on the ground of the respect due to the sacerdotal character, which, according to them, forbids the priest to talk politics, to paralyse the influence and the action of the clergy, to gag the priest in the pulpit, and thus to obtain free scope. Mgr. Taschereau served them admirably by his circulars.”

## VII.—OUR CATHOLIC LIBERALS—WHAT THEY SAY AND WHAT THEY DO, NOT TO BE CONSIDERED AS CONDEMNED BY THE HOLY SEE.

Page 17.—“We have just seen who are our impious Liberals, whom the clergy have strongly fought on account of the perversity of their aims and the pest of their doctrines.”

Page 18.—“As to the Catholic liberals, they are all those who

by reason of various interests, support or favor the first, in any manner whatsoever, more particularly by that tame-spiritedness which prompts to remain silent as was so often repeated by Pius IX., of illustrious and holy memory, and they are very numerous amongst us.

“As our Liberals of all shades are true Liberals, Liberals formed on the mode of those found in France and Belgium, it is natural that we should pronounce that voting for them to send them to Parliament, to take part in the administration of public affairs is of itself a serious fault, inasmuch as Pius IX. has declared that they cause more harm to society than to communists!”

Page 19.—“To blind us to their real intentions our Catholic Liberals have recourse to a thousand artifices. They attempt, for example, to assume that they are as the Liberals of England, of the United States, or of Ontario, where the Protestants rule and demand equal liberty for all in religious matters, and also ask that all should equally participate in material progress. Such Liberals are not those whom the Church condemns: they merely claim a liberty which is denied to the good, when granted to the wicked. Whilst impossible at the moment to secure the absolute control of Catholic authority, which is paramount to all other rights, they labor to obtain for Catholicism at least the same advantages which are allowed to false religions.

“There is an abyss between these men and our Liberals. The latter not only acknowledge that we must indulge in the practical toleration required by circumstances, but when they assert that Protestants have equal rights with Catholics they still go further. As the exercise of liberty appears to them legitimate, they are prepared to sacrifice the rights of the Church, and even its principles to free thought.

“The Catholic Liberals further say that they are unjustly judged as to their political alliance with Ontario representatives. They add that the Conservatives are on a par with the Conservatives. It is false!”

Page 20.—“What we exact is that our representatives should ally themselves with those of Ontario, who are most favorable to all our true interests and, particularly, to our religious interests; and this is what the Conservatives have proved themselves to be. The Liberals have proved themselves to be quite the opposite.

“If the Catholic clergy watches over politics so closely, it is because it sees in them principles of a superior order to protect or suppress.”

Page 21.—“We hear the doctrine of liberty of conscience and of the absolute authority of the state proclaimed. They go so far as to maintain that if, in a political election, an elector is swayed by a sermon to vote one way rather than the other, his vote is no longer free, and that this constitutes undue influence. On this ground all God’s commandments and those of the Church must be effaced.

“It is by virtue of such a principle that we have seen three political elections, Gaspé, Charlevoix and Berthier, annulled.”

Page 22.—“This doctrine has been applied by three judges, two of whom were Catholics. These judges held that they were bound to decide according to the laws of the land, and, as such, acknowledge no other law. Mgr. Taschereau, in whose diocese *these horrors were enunciated*, allowed them to pass unheeded when he could have prevented all this.”

Page 24.—“In conclusion let us say that truly Liberalism produces in Canada the dreadful results indicated by Pius IX.; it tears up the bonds of Catholic unity by authorizing the faithful to sit in judgment on their pastors, and to accept of their teachings only what suits them...and this phenomenon has revealed itself particularly since Mgr. Taschereau was appointed Archbishop of Quebec.

“In one word the free judgment of Protestantism has penetrated among us by the door which the so-called political Liberalism has opened to it.”

To carry out effectively this system the Supreme Court must be abolished, or at least the Appeal to this Court from any decision in the Province of Quebec, also the appeal to the Privy Council, and this has been repeatedly announced and officially reported by the Government of the Province of Quebec. (See report of Judge Loranger.)

Finding that it was impossible to obtain their object with the Legislative Union of Canada, by the reason of opposition offered on the part of the French Canadian Liberals, the writer informs the public that the scheme of confederation was devised with Provincial Parliament, for the sole “object of securing to the Province of Quebec, where the Catholics were more numerous than Protestants, the right to govern themselves *by truly Catholic laws*.”

What are truly Catholic laws the author has fully explained

and he expresses his gratitude to the Protestants who assisted this party in obtaining this great success which saved the Province from the baneful influence of the Liberals, and destroyed them forever, if an unfortunate division in the clergy had not brought them life.

The writer gives an historical account of the authorisation obtained by the Seminary of Quebec to establish the Laval University, pp. 26, 27 and 28, which he asserts to have been secured by fraud, the idea of establishing a Catholic university having originated with Bishop Bourget, who was anxious "to dissipate the darkness of ignorance which covered the Province and to save the youth from the abyss of corruption wherein they rushed with furor."

Page 25.—"The Seminary of Quebec was Gallican, Classical studies consisted in giving to the students unexpurged Pagan works, they were allowed to study history ancient and modern, in books written from a bad point of view; and philosophy was taught according to a rationalist system slightly modified."

Page 28.—"What proves how little they (the founders of Laval) were imbued with the idea eminently Catholic, which they undertook, is that immediately, spontaneously, without having been in any manner induced, they invited some Protestant Freemasons of Quebec to take Professors' chairs in their university."

Page 29.—"Pothier, notwithstanding his many serious errors, was the oracle of civil law.

"Besides Pothier, the students of the faculty of law were advised to read, without distinction, Demolomb, Troplong, Perriere and Desmarais.

"Great admirers of Mgr. Dupanloup, the Count de Talloux, and Montalembert, of the correspondent of Paris, they held in horror the writings of Louis Venillot, Dom Gueranger, Mgr. Saume, and others of the Catholic school of France."

VIII.—MGR. BOURGET WANTS A UNIVERSITY IN MONTREAL—  
THE QUEBEC SEMINARY OPPOSES IT.

Page 38.—"Mgr. Bourget, as we have already seen, was deceived in his expectations respecting the Laval University. It was not the Catholic University such as he conceived it."

Page 39.—"For these reasons, and others, Mgr. Bourget asked from Rome leave to establish another university in Montreal,

his city. The Seminary of Quebec raised a world of difficulties."

Page 41.—"There are in the University (of Laval) professors who inspire no confidence, because some of them are Protestants and Freemasons, others Liberals, who expressed more than once, and on solemn occasions, principles, not only dangerous, but impious.

"And Mr. Taschereau, Superior of the Seminary of Quebec and Rector of the Laval University, has applauded their iniquities, and even sanctioned them. His sentiments and his manner of acting have not changed since his appointment as Archbishop."

No better exposé could be given of the plan and intentions of this party, created, inspired, and directed by the Jesuits. They brought the entire clergy into league to destroy all liberal and constitutional notions in the country. They selected and made the representatives, they absolutely controlled the electors. They imposed their own legislation and the appointment of most of the judges. They claimed and obtained immunity and independence of legal control, they secured their absolute authority over all the primary schools, and were struggling with untiring energy and perseverance to impose, complete and perpetuate their domination by the monopoly of superior education through the establishment of a University, which would soon, by legislative enactments or ecclesiastical intimidation, have imparted alone the education to the better classes of Catholics, and made them impervious to any idea of progress. It is evident from this pamphlet that the object of the opposition to Laval was the establishment of a rival university, composed of and constituted by Jesuits, which would have the monopoly of university education in the districts of Montreal, Three Rivers, and any other districts where these ideas predominate, or where they could be made to prevail.

Pages 61-66.—"The author regrets the division which occurred between the members of the Episcopate in 1865, until which time perfect unanimity existed among them for the furtherance of their objects, and censures Archbishop Taschereau and several members of the Quebec clergy, whom he accuses of Gallicanism and liberal tendencies, which have prevented their

success and imperilled the interests that true Catholics had so well secured, and which they were developing so rapidly."

Page 74.—“To cap the climax, Archbishop Taschereau issued a mandate on the occasion of the bull which constituted canonically the Laval University, in which he stamped as idle the discussions between Catholics and Liberals. It was evidently sanctioning what the latter had urged in the interpretation of this bull. Hence a new scandal by which the Liberals greatly benefited.

“The success obtained by Mr. Langelier, in Charlevoix, on the ground of undue influence, induced another Liberal professor, of the University, Mr. Flynn, to employ the same means in the contestation of the election of Bonaventure.

“Judge Casault, another professor of Laval, gave judgment in this contestation, and enumerated principles directly opposed to the Catholic doctrine. He denied, for example, to the priest the right to pronounce in the pulpit that such and such acts were grievous offences before God. He proclaimed that Parliaments were omnipotent; that liberty of worship was absolutely obligatory, and he acknowledged the right of the Courts of law to repress abuses in preaching.

“Mgr. de Rimouski, in whose diocese Judge Casault expressed such subversive doctrines, thought it his duty to raise his voice to condemn them and to affirm the rights of the Church and of truth.”

Page 75.—“The Liberals of Quebec wreaked their vengeance by ridiculing the courageous prelate, and went so far as to insult him.

“Mgr. Taschereau, to crown their work and to assist them, published a note in the newspapers signed by himself as Archbishop, in which he stated that Rome had not ordered the expulsion of Judge Casault from the University, and had not stigmatized the judgment pronounced upon reasons which he had given in the contestation of the election of Bonaventure.”

Page 76.—“About the same time these things happened, those who had contested the election of Charlevoix, and who saw their pretensions set aside as unfounded in justice and in reason, by Judge Routhier, appealed from his judgment to the highest tribunal, the Supreme Court, which reversed the decision of Judge Routhier.

“Mr. Jean Thomas Taschereau, brother of the Archbishop of Quebec, was one of the judges, and he expressed the opinion of the Court on the occasion, and pronounced the most false and im-

pious propositions. He asserted that instructions given by the priest in the pulpit could really give cause to undue influence.

"He denied therefore to the priest the right to assert that it could be a serious crime to accept another politico religious opinion, and he declares that clergymen who dare attempt it are amenable to the civil courts. He went so far as to say that the law of the land was the only rule for the courts in public matters."

IX.—MGR. CONROY, APOSTOLICAL DELEGATE.

Page 77.—"The situation was in this painful condition when it was announced, in the winter of 1877, that Mgr. Conroy, Bishop of Armagh, was coming to Canada, with powers of a delegate from the Holy See.

"Mgr. Conroy seems to have made every effort to destroy all what Pius IX. had stated in his allocutions and decrees on the subject of Liberalism, and particularly Catholic Liberalism."

Page 82.—"Mgr. Conroy pretended, and this on many occasions, that one could vote for a Catholic Liberal, acknowledged as such, and even for a downright infidel, whose name he himself mentioned. This person, however, Mr. Rodolph Lafanme, was anxious to become a representative for the sole object of securing the triumph of evil doctrines. Nevertheless, Bishop Conroy absolutely declared that it was allowable to vote for him."

Page 85.—"Mgr. Conroy added that Mr. Mackenzie, Prime Minister in the Federal Government of 1877, supported by our Liberals, was equal to Sir John Macdonald, supported by the Ultramontanes."

Page 86.—"Admitting, as Mgr. Conroy says, Messrs. Mackenzie and Macdonald were as good personally as politicians, there was a great difference, and here is the proof:

*"Whenever Sir John was the head of the Government, he called as Ministers to support him from the Province of Quebec the most sincere and devoted Catholics, and whenever it was in his power he yielded to the Catholics in every question where they had an interest."*

Page 93.—"Mgr. Conroy did everything in his power to confirm the Liberals in their error with Pius IX. so often stigmatized."

Page 97.—"Unfortunate Mgr. Conroy! He obtained exactly the contrary of what he was seeking. Some time after the pastoral letter of the 11th of October, he received letters informing

him of what injuries he had done us; how he was lowered in the estimation of the clergy, and of all good citizens. He received a heap of letters of this kind, and then he found himself isolated. Apart from a few Liberals, everyone shunned him, because everyone had lost confidence in him."

Page 98.—"Truly, the visit of Mgr. Conroy to Canada has been a great misfortune for us. His mission has made us retrograde immensely in the path of true progress. In a word, he has prepared horrible disasters, which will befall us in a short time if Providence does not come to our rescue.

"This is what Bishops think and say, and with them most of the priests, and all good citizens."

#### X.—QUESTION OF THE RESTORATION OF THE JESUITS' PROPERTY.

Page 104.—"We have stated in the previous chapter that the sums allowed by the Government every year to the various educational establishments of the Province are derived from the property of the Jesuits, which it unjustly detains."

Page 105.—"The Catholics, who were neither Gallicans nor Liberals, always maintained a hope that this property would be restored to their legitimate owners, against whom the Government for many reasons could not prescribe.

"Circumstances seemed favorable for reparation to all the injury caused to this illustrious Society when our political constitution was altered in 1867, when, as we have already stated, the Province of Quebec had obtained the right to govern itself. It had self control over the Jesuits' estate, and as our representatives were mostly all Catholics, no reason seemed to exist for refusing restitution.

"In consequence the Jesuits a few years ago laid claim to this property, and the then Prime Minister of Quebec, a Catholic, Mr. Ouimet, now Minister of Education, wrote on the subject to Cardinal Antonelli that there would be a revolution in Canada if the Holy See insisted on the restitution, and that the Government wished to treat of this matter with the Archbishop alone."

Page 106.—"The minister who replaced Mr. Ouimet was the Honorable Mr. de Boucherville. He took up this question of the property of the Jesuits, and he was determined to settle it as justice and religion prescribed; the more so as the R.R. fathers were satisfied to accept \$400,000 in lieu of all restitution. Notwithstanding his good intentions Mr. de Boucherville was hindered in the accomplishment of his designs."

Page 107.—"The gentlemen of the Seminary of Quebec, who

wish to be the only great luminaries of heaven in Canada, fear nothing so much as the influence of the Jesuits, and consider as a public calamity their appearance at Quebec as teachers of youth.

"To remove every hope from the Jesuits to re-open their college at Quebec, the question was hurriedly mooted of demolishing their old college, then vacant, under pretence that this solid edifice, more solidly constructed than the present Seminary of Quebec, threatened to fall.

"A number of Catholics protested, in the newspapers and elsewhere, against this act of vandalism, which consummated an odious and sacrilegious usurpation. Mr. de Boucherville, to calm the scruples of his conscience, consulted then, as it was stated at the time, the highest ecclesiastical authority of the Province, *i.e.*, Mgr. Taschereau, and the answer of the prelate was that demolition must be effected."

So it is evident that the influence of the ultramontane clergy, for many years back, was exercised in our political world, and Confederation was created with the object of securing to the Jesuits the restoration of their property, in lieu of which they obtained \$400,000 from our bankrupt Province.

#### CONCLUSION.

Page 115.—"The conclusion of all that precedes is that the Holy See must interfere in the settlement of our affairs, and, considering the errors which prevail here, condemn such errors."

"Unfortunately, this we could not obtain until now."

"Let all the liberal errors pointed out by Pius IX be condemned for Canada."

"Let the principles of Christian reform in education be affirmed."

"Let religious authority be affirmed, and openly, more particularly with respect to the visitation of schools, and the right *to use in schools only such books as the religious authority may approve.*"

"Let the civil authority be declared inferior and subject to the ecclesiastical, and let the property formerly belonging to the Jesuits be restored to them, the legitimate owners."

"And, lastly, let Montreal have its University, so that it can organize it on a Catholic basis."

The foregoing comments were written on the publication of the pamphlet reviewed. The confession and disclosures made were so startling, and proved so conclusively the action of the ultramontane party, directed by the Jesuits in Canada, that the hierarchy in the District of Montreal became alarmed, and immediately ordered its suppression. According to the above pamphlet it is evident that its authority and ideas were entirely derived from Jesuitical sources. Its object was to secure to the Jesuits the restoration of their property or a proper indemnity, owing to the great services which have been rendered by them in securing the triumph of ultramontane ideas. According to these views everything done in Canada by the church, down to the promulgation of this new light in the relations of church and state, was absolutely heretical; and the Jesuits and their followers were the only true exponents of Roman Catholic ideas.

If we consider the principles enunciated in this pamphlet as expressing their doctrine, no liberty or independence of any kind can be maintained.

And it is somewhat consoling to true Liberals of the Province of Quebec to find a confession so clearly expressed, that it is owing entirely to the action, sanction and assistance of the Protestant Conservatives of Canada, that the Jesuits have succeeded in asserting and securing the predominance of their ideas.

Any person conversant with the history of our country for the last fifty years will admit that it is since the introduction of the Jesuits into Canada, and their incorporation under the fictitious name of the College of St. Mary in 1854, that these ideas have originated and been developed into actual results.

At that period the Parliament of Canada, even the French Catholic representatives, would not have given their sanction to the introduction of the Jesuit order as such. The ideas then prevailing among the intelligent class of the population were entirely against them. The popular traditions were unfavorable to them, and so they introduced themselves under a disguised name to avoid any discussion.

The prevailing objection to their institution amongst the enlightened and liberally educated, was that of civilized Europe, that they were dangerous, constantly intriguing in secret in every class of society, to obtain the control of the community, and secure political power, with the constant aim of establishing despotism, which they would direct, and that they were waging an incessant and relentless war against all liberal ideas.

Immediately after their admission, the individual members of this new corporation displayed great energy in historical and literary works.

They established at first a modest school, secured grants, and donations, under one pretence or another, exercised all the influence they could bring to bear in order to obtain a foothold, and a college, where their reputation as teachers, would attract a good proportion of the patronage of the richer members of society.

They introduced eloquent preachers of their order, and soon obtained a congregation of admirers from the wealthier class of the community.

Finding that the educated young men were mostly republican and liberal, and anxious for free discussion and inquiry, they organized a debating society under the name of *L'Institut Canadien*. The members of the order devoted special attention to this young association gave their services as lecturers, and were most assiduous in their diffusion of historical and scientific notions.

They induced two members of the Sulpician order to assist them in their work, who subsequently proved devoted friends of the Jesuit order—the Rev. Messrs. DeCharbonnel, and Pinsonneault, who, notwithstanding their obligations to their own order, waged an incessant warfare against the Sulpicians for refusing to assist the Jesuits by contributions of money and otherwise. They succeeded in driving out the Superior of the Sulpicians at Montreal, Mr. Quiblier, who was interdicted by Bishop Bourget, or at least suspended, and who died broken-hearted in England. Mr. DeCharbonnel offered his services in conjunction with the Jesuits to the *Institut Canadien*. Any contemporary will remember that he delivered a lecture on George Washington, in the church of St. James on St. Denis street, which was crowded on the occasion, when he said he believed Washington to be a saint, and that he would have no hesitation to offer mass for the repose of his soul. This lecture was followed by several others, delivered by Rev. P. Martin, of the College of St. Marie, on various interesting subjects.

During these proceedings several attempts were made by Revs. DeCharbonnel and Pinsonneault to induce the members of the *Institut Canadien* to accept one of these reverend gentlemen as director of their society, which, however, the young men positively declined to do. Then arose the opposition to the *Institut Canadien*, and its persecution inspired by the Jesuits, actively supported by Mr. Pinsonneault, which ended in its destruction.

During this period the Jesuit order had increased considerably in influence and wealth. They built up their college and church, and all kinds of attractions, theatricals, concerts, &c., were used to induce the imaginative and sensational part of the community to join. They obtained absolute control of the female portion of the aristocratic Roman Catholics, and they had from their installation, complete control of Bishop Bourget, to whom they owed their existence.

At this same period began the war of the bishop against the so-called Gallican ideas. The dress of the clergy was changed, the use of the Roman Mantle, and Hat, and the bands were proscribed. In the churches, the old time ornaments on the church wardens seats, the crucifix and candelabras, were ordered to be removed and described by the Bishop as mummeries. The old French ritual was suppressed, as well as all the ancient Gallican ceremonies. Everything which could recall the memory of the Gallican Church was obliterated and had to give way to Roman and ultramontane rules and forms.

This revolution in the outward forms was accompanied by a ferocious war against the exercise of any independent control of the temporalities of the Church by the laymen. The fabrique was a national institution, a quasi municipal body electing its own officers. No expenditure could be ordered without their sanction, and any expenditure over one hundred francs (sixty dollars) had to be submitted to the approval of all the parish ioners.

Any violation of these laws could be visited by a penalty.

These laws, our courts, as well as French tribunals, for centuries never doubted, Their authority on these subjects was never questioned.

All these old laws, institutions and customs were found to offer serious obstructions to the exercise of absolute and arbitrary authority, and were the subject of incessant attack on the ground of heresy and anti-religious principles, &c., &c.

The history of our jurisprudence affords the best evidence of the success of the ultramontane party directed and inspired by the Jesuits. The legislature was constrained to yield to their directions, and our statute book shows their servility. Hardly any of the old institutions remain, and our courts have become the registrars of their death sentences.

The principle now consecrated is that the Bishop has absolute power to dispose of the funds of any church. The election of

the church wardens has become a farce, and by several statutes has been completely abolished in many localities.

On the arrival of the Jesuits, several colleges were placed under their control, and they prepared their schemes and programme for the education of the youth of the Province.

Absolute power was the only true principle of government. Democratic or constitutional ideas were rank heresies, the absolute supremacy of the church, the complete immunities of the clergy, their absolute independence from civil authority were insisted upon as articles of faith, and every contrary proposition entailed excommunication. This was the only salvation for society. All ideas of progress and liberty, popular suffrage, liberty of the Press, freedom of discussion, were things to be extirpated and abhorred. The massacre of St. Bartholomew, the inquisition, the revocation of the Edict of Nantes were justified as ministering to the true ends of religion and civilization. The most extravagant ideas of French Ultramontanes were claimed as the only true Catholic principles.

These new doctrines, exhumed from the middle ages, had found able exponents in France at the beginning of this century, when the same assaults were made against the Gallican Church and its principles. The French clergy were aroused and alarmed. The great majority of the French Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops issued a declaration condemning them in most explicit terms.

After lamenting the spread of impious and infidel doctrines the declaration proceeds in the following terms:—

“ Why must the success which they (the clergy) had a right to expect be compromised by attacks of a different nature, it is true, but which could entail new dangers for the State religion? Maxims sanctioned by the Church of France are loudly denounced as outrages against the divine constitution of the Catholic Church, as a work profaned by schism and heresy, as a profession of political atheism.

“ But what astounds and afflicts us most is the rashness with which an attempt is made to revive an opinion born in olden times, from the midst of the anarchy and confusion in which Europe was placed, which has been constantly repelled by the French clergy, and which had fallen into universal oblivion, by which the Sovereign authority was held subject to the spiritual power, *to the extent of liberating their subjects of the oath of allegiance.*

“In consequence we Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops undersigned declare we owe to France, to the Divine Ministry, which has been confided to us, and to the true interests of religion in the divers Christian communities—to declare that we repudiate the qualifications which have been used to blast and disgrace the maxims and memory of our predecessors in the Episcopate, the we inviolably adhere to the doctrines which they have transmitted on the right of Sovereigns and their full and absolute independence in the temporal order from any direct or indirect ecclesiastical power.”

Notwithstanding these protestations the ultramontane school continued their work. The Jesuits secured preponderance, and persisted in their war against liberal ideas. In France, they attained their culminating power under Pius IX. with Veillot as their mouthpiece.

In self-defence and to save France from absolutism and ecclesiastical domination, the Jesuits were expelled once more. The measure was perhaps too general and unjust, comprising almost every religious and charitable order, but no impartial reader of history can deny that if they had been allowed to continue their course, all free republican or constitutional institutions were doomed.

Montalembert, Mgr. Dupanloup, and all the most enlightened and liberal Catholics of France were denounced as worse than infidels. Veillot, the most violent, coarse and fanatical writer of modern times, who denounced and attacked all scientific progress, was upheld as the true exponent of Christian ideas.

In order to secure the diffusion of their ideas beyond the sphere of their own pupils, and to reach the community at large, the Jesuits created a so-called debating society, or association, to enlist all young men of true Catholic principles which was called *L'Union Catholique*. Every young man who could read, or write, was asked and urged to join this society, and the Jesuits were found, for months and years, entering professional offices or mercantile houses to solicit members for this society. It naturally increased to large proportions. When incorporated, every one became an active worker in the interests of the society and obedient to the Jesuits' direction. The society was presided over by a Jesuit who was always present at every sitting. No discussion was allowed except on subjects previously submitted. The arguments on the questionable side had to be communicated and examined, so that the orthodox side was triumphant always. A newspaper was founded to further their views, the *Nouveau Monde*. As the organ of this society and of

the Jesuits, it waged an incessant and terrific warfare against everything having the name of Liberal or Gallican. It was soon after the inception of this combination that the *Institut Canadien* was excommunicated. The Guibord case completed the destruction of the best library and most useful French Literary Institution in the city.

The members, composed almost exclusively of French Canadians, were threatened with excommunication, and ostracized. Families shunned them, and they were at last obliged to yield and apparently submit to this tyrannical despotism.

The same course was followed by the clergy throughout the community at large. Every parish priest became subservient, and most of them enthusiastically accepted the programme. Every professional man had to yield, and was enlisted in the ranks of this new party under penalty of losing subsistence. Violent sermons were delivered against liberal ideas everywhere until the people were brought up to the idea that religion and liberal political principles were irreconcilable.

The Jesuits with all this influence offered their assistance to the political powers of the day. It was gladly accepted on their own terms. Besides threats they offered allurements, which were almost irresistible to a young man, however independent he might be. Any one, however incompetent otherwise, who yielded submissively to their influence and consented to become their servant, was extolled and pronounced a born legislator. With the influence the society wielded over the whole community they found constituencies prepared to accept their nominees, every curé becoming a canvasser in the pulpit and in the confessional. The order exercised an almost unlimited control over families. Whenever there was a rich heiress to be found they had a proper subject to offer from their pupils to secure the happiness of each. Thus they secured the everlasting support and gratitude of the happy couple, and a guarantee of further and more effective support. The object of the *exposé* made by the writer of the pamphlet, "La Source du Mal," was to secure the unanimous and servile vote of the representatives of the Province of Quebec, in furtherance of Jesuit designs, and it was easily conceivable that with *sixty-five members voting as a unit in the Commons of Canada, any political man of common intellect could control the destinies and legislature of the Dominion of Canada.*

When Sir George Cartier thought it was time for him to resist this dictatorial power, and opposed the wishes of Bishop Bourget about the dismemberment of the parish of Montreal, this

system received a severe check. The Jesuits sincerely believed that they could annihilate him and substitute another more pliant tool.

If we consider the influence of the Jesuits on the elementary education of the people of the country, we find the same disastrous results. Until their arrival in this country we had free schools and colleges, which were comparatively liberal in their doctrines, as the writer of the pamphlet so bitterly complains of. Our parishes were under the supervision of an entirely national clergy, who participated in the feelings of the people and who were anxious to secure for their people the advantages of a good substantial education. The parish priests were thorough gentlemen, having substantial means of living, and were generally independent and had no fear of expressing their opinion to their bishop.

This was a serious difficulty to overcome; but Bishop Bourget, inspired by the Jesuits, suggested a very elementary system. The parishes were sub-divided. Any priest offering the slightest sign of independence was instantly removed and deprived of his living; each subdivision of parishes impoverished the curate, who depended upon its revenues for his living. The curate in consequence became entirely subservient to the will of the bishop. The parishioners, the *habitants*, were called upon to erect new churches at enormous cost, for which the clergy had a right to levy direct taxation upon the real estate of the parish. The plans had to be submitted to the bishop, and extravagant structures were imposed upon the poorest class of the community.

When the dismembered portions of the old parishes erected such costly churches, the churches remaining in the older portions of the parish were immediately condemned by the clerical authorities as insufficient and unsuitable. Although it remained nominally with the majority of the parishioners or land owners to decide upon the propriety of erecting a new church, the moment the priest declared that it was necessary to erect a new one, upon a representation to that effect by the bishop, they were enjoined to decide upon a new construction. If they refused to do so, as in many instances they did, the result was immediate excommunication of the whole parish, whereby no christening, no marriage, no burial, could be effected with the rites of the church. Everyone can understand that in a community like ours, threats of this

description carried out, secure immediate compliance with the orders of the hierarchy. Children and women, will weep until their fathers and husbands yield obedience.

Under our laws any bishop or priest exercising such power would be amenable to the tribunals, and enjoined to desist from such a course. But these laws were pronounced Gallican, heretical, and violating the rights, privileges and immunities of the church, hence the supreme efforts made by them in the Guibord case, and their rage when defeated in the Privy Council. But to prove their power, they commanded the Legislature of Quebec to pass an act, which enacts that the *curé* in every parish shall absolutely and exclusively decide if any party is entitled to christian burial within the cemeteries, and this act was unanimously adopted and sanctioned by a crushed and terrorised legislature.

We now see the country covered with churches of magnificent architectural proportions, which indicate immense wealth on the part of those who contributed to their erection, but which, unfortunately, only prove our poverty and want of independence. Thousands of our brave compatriots have taken up their abode in the neighboring republic, to escape exorbitant taxation for this extravagance.

In painful contrast to these magnificent structures is the village school; a miserable wooden shanty, bare, cold and cheerless; badly ventilated; completely devoid of all comforts and conveniences; presided over by a young girl of 17 or 18, drawing a miserable pittance of \$70 per annum; boarding herself. Is it a wonder that the pupils, for the most part, are withdrawn as soon as they have been prepared for their first communion at the age of ten or twelve years. Of reading, writing and arithmetic they know nothing. Is it surprising that our English-speaking compatriots are more advanced than we are.

These are some of the results of Jesuit influence in the Province of Quebec.

The excuse may be urged, that they found the soil favorable. They seek to bring our population back to the ignorance of mediaeval times, keeping them in blissful ignorance of the progress of the 19th century, substituting for modern science the study of Gury, and the sainted Liguori.

Without despotic ecclesiastical power, and a combination with the political parties, their teachings and doctrines would be harmless with an enlightened population; but with a majority,

wanting the elements of primary education, they are able to consolidate the vote as a unit and to sell it to the highest political bidder.

Their policy has succeeded to a certain extent in the Province of Quebec, thanks to the venality of our political leaders, who place party before country, and personal aggrandizement to the public welfare.

But a reaction will take place. They can never again succeed on the Continent of America in establishing a second Paraguay. And it is a wild delusion on their part to persist in an attempt to apply their doctrines to Canada. Up to this time, the result has been dissensions, bitterness, strife and desolation.

It was astounding to see that in the Parliament of Quebec not a voice was raised to protest against the incorporation of this society. It was evident that the most of the ultra-conservatives or ultramontane representatives, Mr. DeBoucherville and Consorts, hesitated, although conscious-stricken, to yield to the Jesuits demand for indemnity, and it is passing strange to see that it was a so-called Liberal Government which has secured to them both the indemnity and their incorporation. The apparent result is that, after the Jesuits, through all their manœuvres, have attempted to destroy and annihilate every Liberal sentiment, it was through the Liberal party of Quebec they have triumphed; and history will record that after thirty years of struggle with the Jesuits, the Liberal party has secured power for them in the Province of Quebec.

When we consider from a national point of view the result of their victory, it comes to this: The clergy of Quebec City at great sacrifice organized for the province of Quebec an institution of learning,--the Laval University, whose success every patriotic man desired to secure. Because of some expressions of semi-liberalty the Jesuits and the ultramontane party, their adepts raised a cry against Laval; and in order to obtain the sinews of war to destroy this apparent menace to their cherished ideas, they are establishing a rival university in Montreal, which will have the sole effect of weakening both, or to destroy Laval altogether. If unfortunately the Jesuits are successful, they will substitute, as the directing educational power in our Province, a body which has no feeling of nationality whatever, and which acknowledges no authority whatever, civil or ecclesiastical, beyond that of their own General in Rome, who is a foreigner. Having no knowledge of, or sympathy with the feelings of our community, their wants or their aspirations,

it must be obvious that our destinies in Canada—economical, social and political,—must be in accord with the civilization, and political ideas of this continent. The following extracts from *Lo Chiesa é la Stato del P. Matteo Liberatore*, D.C., D.G., Seconda Edizione corretta ed accresciuta, Napoli, 1872, show at a glance the modern policy of the church now completely under Jesuit influence.

“The state must understand itself to be a subordinate sovereignty exercising ministerial functions under a superior sovereignty, *and governing the people, conformably to the will of that Lord to whom it is subject.*” p. 11.

“It is that Sovereign Pontiff ‘the visible monarch’ of God’s realm on earth, ‘to whom every baptised person is more strictly subject than to any temporal ruler whatsoever.’” p. 14.

“The temporal sword, symbol of civil authority, has to be subordinate to the spiritual sword, symbol of priestly authority.” p. 23.

“The church is empowered to *amend and to cancel* the civil laws, or the sentences proceeding from a secular court. Whenever these may be in collision with spiritual weal, and she has the faculty to check the abuse of the executive and of the armed forces, or *even to prescribe their employment* whenever the requirements for the protection of the christian faith may demand this, the jurisdiction of the church is higher than the civil, &c.” p. 46.

“The primary condition of an efficacious alliance between the laws of the state, and the laws of the church lies in the application of *coercive means*, in every instance where spiritual penalty may be inadequate.” p. 78.

“The capital and substantial ground, wherefore *liberty of conscience must be reprobated*, is neither peace nor national unity, but in truth the obligation to profess the true faith, and thereby insure the attainment of man’s superior good. Peace and national unity may be invoked as a secondary ground (being likewise a benefit), but only on the supposition that *the true faith is preserved*. For in the contrary case the saying of Christ holds good, *I came not to send peace but a sword*; national discord being beyond comparison a lesser evil than persistence in some error regarding a point of faith.” p. 77.

Father Liberatore is one of the ablest writers of the *Civiltà Cattolica*, the authorized organ of the church, by the brief ad hoc of Pius IX, who gave the sole control of its columns to the Society of Jesus.

The secret history of the incorporation and endowment of the Society of Jesus in Quebec is curious, and affords the proof of their constant intrigues.

The writer of the pamphlet "La Source du Mal," admits that the Jesuits have been attempting to recover their property for many years. They found at last a true Conservative Minister in the Honorable Mr. DeBoucherville, with whom it was settled that they were to receive \$400,000 in lieu of their property. He was raised to power by their influence, but he could not carry out his pledge. He was replaced by others, and they also were afraid. Finding the Conservatives hesitating and timid, although willing, Mr. Mercier, one of their pupils, undertook to execute their scheme for the sake of power, for which alone he was anxious. It seemed difficult, but the obstacles were easily and magically overcome. Mr. Mercier, who entered politics as a violent Conservative, despairing of gratifying his ambition by this course, suddenly became a Liberal. His talents and energy secured him the leadership of the party. With only thirteen followers, his prospect of success was problematic. So eager was he for office that he openly offered an alliance to Mr. Chapeleau, then at war with the ultramontane faction, the Castors. The Liberals protested against this combination, and the Conservatives, foreseeing no favorable results, declined the offer. After this Mr. Mercier conceived the idea of another combination. The bond was made with the Jesuits, he promised to secure their desired object. He apparently claimed to be the leader of the Liberal party, and was declared at a meeting in the hall of the Jesuits "the man of Providence." He now studiously avoided the term of Liberal for himself and for the party which he was leading. He found ready-made followers in the ultramontane or the castor faction, who publicly disclaimed any taint of Liberal ideas, and who were promised complete sway. Then Mr. Mercier announced the formation of the national party in which the last vestiges of liberalism disappeared. He continued his work, and to secure popular opinion he took advantage of the Riel cry, as all know. He fulfilled his obligation. The Jesuits were incorporated. The endowment was obtained. Most reactionary measures were carried. Everything the ultramontane clergy claimed was granted. His Eminence Cardinal Taschereau was publicly snubbed. Not a single measure of reform promised was effected or even attempted. The ultramontanes were dominant and satisfied. "The man of Providence" enjoyed the

sweets of office and with the menace of seeing the so-called Conservatives restored to power, he secured the silence and submission of the Liberals who assisted at their own funeral.

In the words of a recent writer on the Jesuit question: "Silently but ruthlessly that stealthy organization, which calls itself the Society of Jesus—in grim pursuit of what it also calls the Greater Glory of God—has laid siege to, broken into, and razed these glorious and venerable sanctuaries in Italy, in Germany, and above all in France, whence, during generations, there had beamed forth across the wide plain of the Catholic world, with the calmly luminous glow of purified light, the mellow gleam of a religious sentiment, which did not divorce the fervor of Catholic piety from candid learning and heart-felt attachment to liberties, any more than it considered essential for the triumph of the faith to propogate a belief in coarse superstitions, and to fortify the church by a network of trickeries."

All that remains to restore the old order of things is for the Liberal party to separate from its present leadership, and reconstitute the party on the basis of the original platform—so nobly fought for by the Papineaus and Dorions of old—true Canadians and true Liberals.

The conclusions of the author of the pamphlet have, in this year of 1889, been fully realized. The Jesuit Fathers were incorporated in 1888, and \$400,000 has been awarded to them out of the Provincial Treasury, to which they were not legally entitled. Thus the union of church and state is recognized. The authority of the Pope to interfere in and regulate our Provincial affairs has been officially recognized on our statute book. The Roman Catholic Schools are now completely under clerical control. The mild Christian rule of the good Sulpicians has been superseded by that of the Jesuit Fathers. The noble and princely revenues of the Seigniories of Montreal and Two Mountains, left in trust to the Sulpicians by the kings of France, as an endowment for the supports of schools and church for the benefit of the Roman Catholics of the Island of Montreal and the Seignior of Two Mountains, are now diverted from their original destination. Roman Catholic real estate, formerly exempt from school taxes and the cost of public worship, is now taxed for these purposes. The revenues of these seigniories is now finding their way to Rome to erect a stately college, and doubtless to benefit other foreign countries.

The rule of the Sulpicians was a mild, beneficent, and christian administration. The Gentlemen of the Seminary of St. Sulpice were, and still are, respected by our Protestant brethren, and loved by the Roman Catholics for their broad charity and uniform christian spirit. Formerly, when the Seminary of St. Sulpice took charge of public worship and education, the Grey Nuns of orphans, and helpless old people, the sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame, the Hotel Dieu Hospital, and the instruction of young children, every thing went on peacefully enough. The clergy devoted themselves to the spiritual care of their flocks and eschewed politics. With the advent of the Jesuits came the ultramontane doctrine, that the church dominates the state. The country is swarming with new religious orders. In 1868 the item of charities, assisted from the provincial revenue, numbered twenty-nine institutions. The public accounts of 1888 contain over one hundred. Public money is taken to build and support convent and religious schools all over the country. A large number of these communities are simply commercial corporations carrying on the patent medicine business, printing, public laundries, shirt and collar manufactories, carriage, harness, and boot and shoe factories. The majority of the conventual educational institutions are carried on for profit. And all with marked success, as is evidenced by the ever-increasing size and number.

The competition of these institutions paying no taxation or wages has the effect of lowering the standard of wages amongst the laboring classes with whom they compete directly. Exempt from taxation, these institutions are multiplying with great rapidity.

In portions of the City of Quebec, the real estate in private ownership has depreciated so much as to be unprofitable to hold. And the oldest city of the Dominion is fast losing its population and commerce. If no change of policy is adopted, it is only a question of time when Montreal will be sorely embarrassed by the uneven load of taxation consequent upon this policy of exemptions. The value of Real Estate in Montreal in 1887 was \$78,533,386, and the exemptions \$17,921,665.

It is a recognized fact that no Government can hold office in Quebec without the support of the clergy; and Provincial Legislation is subject always to ecclesiastical approval. We have seen, during the last session of the Legislature at Quebec, the Ministry of the day, submitting a bill on vital statistics, for confirmation and approval, by the Bishops, and their want of confi-

dence in the politicians was shewn by their initialing the various sections of the bill to prevent its being altered or amended in the Legislature.

Provincial politics have degenerated into an unseemly scramble for the support of the clergy in elections; scandals in the Government administration abound; one administration succeeds another, each more corrupt than its predecessor. The growing generation of politicians is being trained up as opportunists, and political power is sought after for the pecuniary advantages to be derived therefrom. Good government, and the economical administration of the public revenue, are subordinate to the duty of subsidizing and enriching party friends out of the public purse. If one Government takes ten thousand dollars from a Government contractor for electoral corruption, the succeeding Government takes twenty thousand in the same way. The scandal being discovered, the only regret expressed for this plundering of the poor tax-payers is that the scandal became public.

A great excitement exists on account of the sum of \$400,000 being awarded to the Jesuits, on account of a pretended claim of over eighty years standing. The Government of the day, composed of Ultramontanes and Liberals, while denying the legality of the claim, paid it out of regard to the moral obligation involved.

A stranger to our politics might be deceived by this laudable plea, into supposing that lofty dictates of honor guide the party in power in their decision. No such thing! The sum thus taken from the public treasury was nominally devoted to the payment of a so-called equitable claim for restitution. In reality it was to secure the support of the hierarchy to the party in power at the next election. This is clearly shewn by the division of the spoils; only \$160,000 of this sum is to be given to the Jesuits, the balance to the Bishops of the Province.

Ecclesiastical interference in the politics of the Province of Quebec has produced disastrous results. It has completely destroyed all independence of character in the politicians, and it has lowered the standard of our representatives. The church supports the party which will give the largest grants to its religious and educational institutions. The politician may despoil the public treasury to his heart's content. The pulpit is silent. But if the public representative proposes to modernise, or improve our system of elementary education, or to develop the

intelligence of his countrymen by trying to bring them up to the standard of the 19th century progress, he will be denounced as impious and heretical. There is no longer any independence of thought or action amongst our so-called statesmen, we are simply transforming our public men into trimmers, opportunists and hypocrites. The boodler was unknown under the regime of the Papineaus and the Cartiers. It is a modern creation. The church has suffered by contact with the politicians. Its attempt to dominate the state, and direct our Legislators, has resulted in a marked deterioration in the morals of our public men.

Is it not time for the church to abandon its dream of temporal rule, and return to its proper sphere of spiritual teaching, and the promotion of public morality?

One word, in conclusion, to our English speaking compatriots. For years a noble band of our French-speaking brothers fought for progress and the advancement of their countrymen. They were denounced, persecuted, and ostracized by their clergy. During all this time the English-speaking vote was for the most part cast against this band of heroes and reformers, and the present state of public affairs in the Province of Quebec is the result.

The grand old Liberal party, composed of as good Catholics as any, who asked only the separation of state and church, and the liberty to educate and promote the material interests of their countrymen, were entitled to the support of all good and thoughtful men.

In their struggle they hoped for and expected the support of their English-speaking fellow countrymen. They did not receive it. May we not hope that the lesson will not be lost, and that so soon as the old Liberal flag is raised again by true patriots, all true Canadians will rally more strongly to its support.

TO THE READER.

Please notice that Clause No. 4 on this page should read as follows :—

4. On such settlement being effected, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may pay, out of any public money at his disposal, a sum of sixty thousand dollars to the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction to be invested by the said Committee.

The interest from said investment shall be annually apportioned by the Protestant Committee, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, among the Protestant institutions of superior education, in addition to and in the same manner as any sums now granted by law for the purpose of Protestant superior education in this Province.

of this Province subject of  
enquiries concerning  
public matters.

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NOTES and PROCEEDINGS and TESTIMONIALS of WITNESSES

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1892

# ROYAL COMMISSION

Issued under the Great Seal of this Province of Quebec, the eleventh day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two, to make enquiry into different matters and things, concerning the good government of this Province, under the authority of article 596 and following of the Revised Statutes of this Province subject of enquiries concerning public matters.

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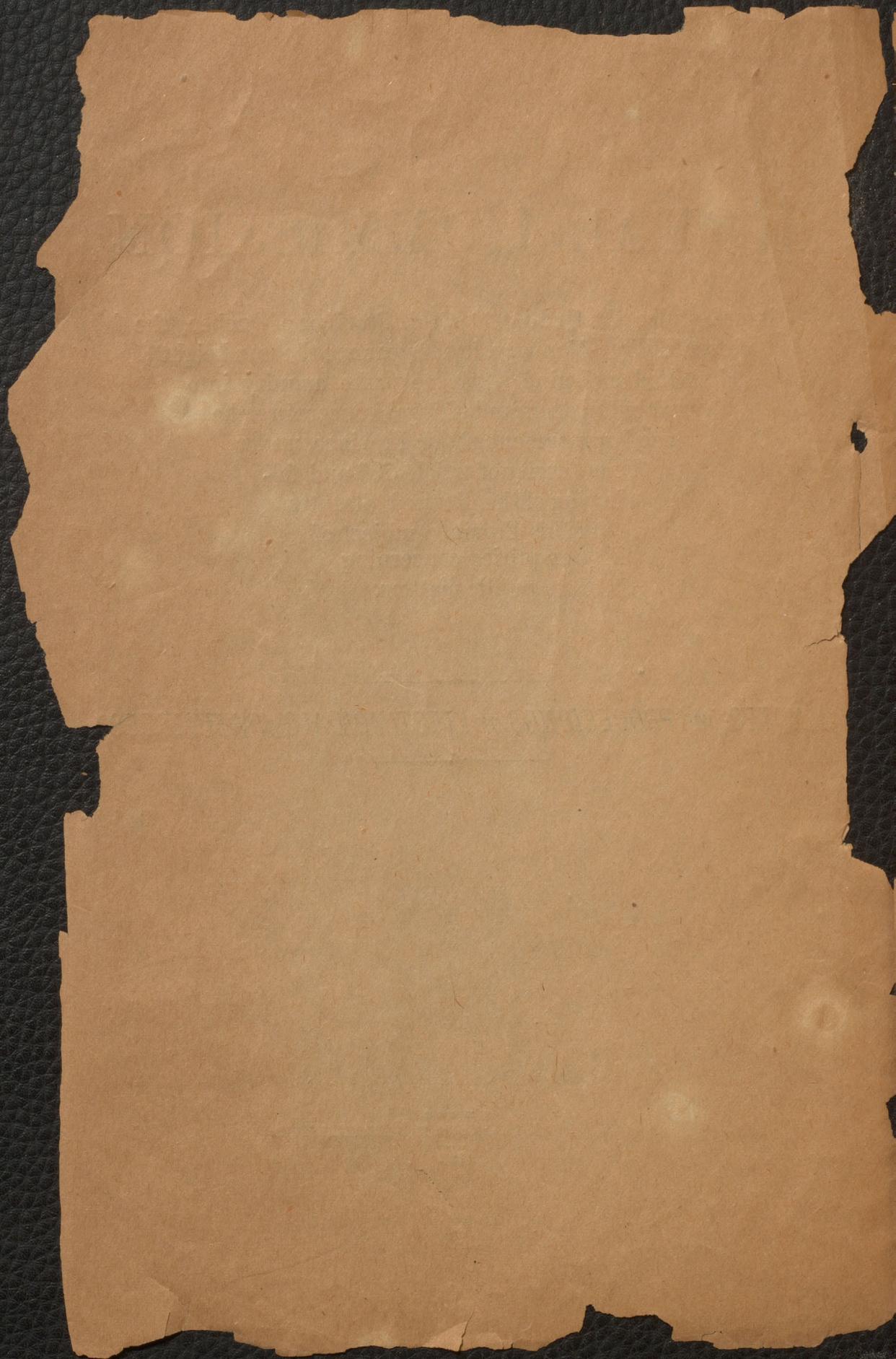
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## NOTES AND PROCEEDINGS AND TESTIMONIALS OF WITNESSES

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### 1ST SITTING

The twelfth day of January, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety two,

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### BEFORE :

The Honorable MR. JUSTICE MATHIEU,  
" DONALD MACMASTER,  
" DAMASE MASSON,

*Commissioners.*

The Commission begins its sittings at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, in the Criminal Court Room of the Court House, at the City of Quebec.

The president announces that Edmond Lortie, of the City of Quebec, Esquire, advocate, has been named Secretary to the Commission and has taken the oath of office.

The Secretary reads in French and in English the proclamation published in an extra of the *Official Gazette*, concerning this commission.

CANADA,  
 PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, }  
 (L. S.)

A. R. ANGERS.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of United Kingdom of Great Britain and  
 Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

To all to whom these presents shall come or whom the same may concern  
 —GREETING:

## PROCLAMATION

TH. CHASE CASGRAIN, }  
*Atty. Genl.* }  
 Executive Council for Our Province of Quebec, and by an Order of Our  
 Lieutenant Governor in Council, it is declared as follows:

WHEREAS, according to the constitution, the payment of public funds cannot be made unless when it has been previously authorized by a vote of the Legislature, or unless, in certain urgent and unforeseen cases, a special warrant has been issued by competent authority and with the formalities required by law.

WHEREAS the credit of the Province, when there are no funds in the Treasury for carrying on the public service, cannot be pledged, unless by adopting the method prescribed by article 743 of the Revised Statutes of the Province of Quebec;

WHEREAS it is notorious that since the twenty-seventh of January, 1887, a great number of letters of credit, promises to pay, guarantees or engagements have been issued, made and signed by different persons, who occupied up to the 16th of December, 1891, the office of members of the Executive of this Province, and that without the authority of an Order-in-Council and without the formalities required by law;

WHEREAS the credit of the Province has been and is seriously affected by the issue of such letters of credit, promises to pay, guarantees, engagements and acknowledgments;

WHEREAS there is reason to believe that certain subsidies voted to Railway Companies, and for other public purposes, have been received and taken by persons who had no right to take them or to receive payment thereof;

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WHEREAS there is reason to believe that, since the 27th January, 1889, large sums of money have been levied, collected and exacted, to the detriment of the Treasury and of the public interest, by certain persons, or for the benefit of certain persons, from railway companies to whom subsidies had been voted by the Legislature, from public contractors dealing with the aforesaid members of the Executive, from aspirants to employment and for government favors, and, in general, from those having claims against the Province ;

WHEREAS certain contracts or engagements, as well for public enterprises as for merchandise to be sold, furnished and delivered to the Province, have been made, taken and signed in the name of the Province, involving a very considerable expenditure of the public funds, without the authorization of the Executive of this Province and without its knowledge ;

WHEREAS, in connection with certain payments to be made by the Government of this Province, and certain sums to be voted by the Legislature, there is reason to believe that considerable amounts have been illegally and wrongfully exacted, levied and collected by persons since the 27th January 1887 ;

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the good government of this Province that an enquiry should be made into the subjects above mentioned ;

AND WHEREAS We have deemed it advisable, in the interest of the good government of Our said Province, that such enquiry be made;

NOW KNOW YE, that by and with the advice of the Executive Council of Our Province of Quebec, and under the authority of article 596 and following of the Revised Statutes of Our said Province, on the subject of enquiries concerning public matters, We do constitute and appoint the Honorable Michel Mathieu, Judge of the Superior Court, Donald MacMaster, advocate and Queen's Counsel, Damase Masson, merchant, all three of the city of Montreal, commissioners to enquire into the matters and things hereinafter enumerated :

A. Into the facts and circumstances which have preceded, accompanied caused and followed the making, signing, and granting of pretended contracts or engagements between any former members of the Executive of this Province and any other person, as follows, to wit :

1. An alleged engagement dated at Quebec, February 23rd, 1891, signed by Honorable Honoré Mercier, heretofore Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, and by which J. A. Langlais was to furnish for four years the stationery in all the public offices of the Province at Quebec.
  2. An alleged engagement dated at Quebec, February, 10th, 1891, signed by Honorable Charles Langelier, heretofore Provincial Secretary, by which the said Charles Langelier agreed to buy from J. A. Langlais 50,000 copies of the volume entitled "Le Sylviculteur Illustré" French version, for the price of \$25,000.
  3. An alleged engagement dated at Quebec May 2nd, 1891, signed by the Honorable Charles Langelier, heretofore Provincial Secretary, and by which the said Charles Langelier agreed to buy from J. A. Langlais 10,000 copies of the volume entitled "The Sylviculteur Illustré" English version for the price of \$5,000.
  4. An alleged engagement dated at Quebec, 16th of February 1891, by which the Honorable Pierre Garneau, heretofore Commissioner of Public Works of the Province of Quebec, entrusted to Philippe Vallière, of the city of Quebec, the manufacture of furniture and the purchase of utensils intended to be used to furnish the Court House in Montreal, the McGill and Laval Normal Schools, at Quebec and at Montreal, and the new prison for the District of Montreal.
  5. A contract dated at Quebec, the first of September 1890, before Mr. Cyrille Tessier, Notary, for the construction of an additional storey to the Court House, at Montreal, between the Government of the Province of Quebec and Charles Berger, and all the sub-contracts relating thereto.
  6. The payment to G. H. Dechesne, by the Department of Public Works, of the sum of \$500 on the 28th, Oct 1890 and of the sum of \$300 on the 23rd, February, 1891, under the pretext that lumber was to be furnished to the said Department by the said G. H. Dechesne.
  7. The purchase from P. N. Breton, at Montreal, on the 15th, of April, 1891, of a certain collection of coins and medals and 2,000 copies of a book entitled "*Le collectionneur*".
- B. Into the facts and circumstances which preceded, accompanied, caused and followed the making, signing, execution, issue and negociation

of the following letters of credit, promises to pay, guarantees, acknowledgments, requisitions and agreements, which have been presented to the Treasurer of the Province by divers public corporation and divers persons, and which now appear as claims against the Government, to wit, those mentioned in schedule (A) hereunto annexed :

#### SCHEDULE A

(1) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor, of J. A. Langlais, dated 10th, February, 1891 .....	\$ 25,000 00
(2) Letter of Credit of Prime Minister in favor of J. A. Langlais, dated 23rd, February, 1891, due 1st, September, 1891.....	30,000 00
(3) Letter of Credit of Prime Minister in favor of J. A. Langlais, dated 23rd, February, 1891, due 1st, March, 1892.....	30,000 00
(4) Approved Account of Cyrille Dugal, against Provincial Registrar's office, dated 30th, June 1891.....	989 73
(5) Approved Account of Victor Lafrance against Provincial Registrar's Office, dated 6th, March, 1891.....	37 60
(6) Approved Account of Victor Lafrance against Department of Public Instruction, dated 14th, May, 1891.....	1,388 25
(7) Approved Account of Victor Lafrance against Department of Public Instruction, dated 13th, July, 1891.....	587 51
(8) Requisition No. 98 Crown Lands Department, " Surveys Branch" dated 1st, May, 1891, in favor of Elzear Boivin....	1,000 00
(9) Requisition No. 99, Crown Lands Department " Surveys Branch," dated 4th, May, 1891, in favor Elzear Boivin.....	285 33
(10) Requisition No. 100 Crown Lands Department, " Surveys Branch," dated 6th, May, 1891, in favor of J. O. Lacoursière.....	500 00
(11) Requisition No. 101 Crown Lands Department, " Surveys Branch," dated 6th, May, 1891, in favor of L. P. de Courval.	1,000 00
(12) Requisition No. 102 Crown Lands Department, " Surveys Branch," dated 30th, June, 1891, in favor of Horace Archambault.....	5,157 88

(13) Requisition No. 96 Crown Lands Department, "Surveys Branch," dated 25th, April, 1891, in favor of John Bignell.	\$1,200 00
(14) Letter of Commissionner of Public Works dated 26th, May 1890 advising Bank that the sum of \$30,000 transferred to it by the "Société Anonyme Internationale de Construction et d'Entreprise de Travaux Publics" of Brussels, would be paid by the Government, without interest, on the 15th April, 1892.....	30,000 00
(15) Approved Account of L. J. Demers & Frère against Provincial Secretary's Dept. for \$1200,00, transferred to Bank and payable 15th, July 1891.....	1,200 00
(16) Approved Account of C. E. Roulean against Provincial Secretary's Dept. for \$170,00, dated Oct. 1890 and payable 15th, July 1891.....	170 00
(17) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary dated 27th, Oct. 1890 in favor of J. B. Provost for \$2851,20 transferred to Bank, \$1500,00 on a/c of which has been paid, the balance, \$1351,20, being payable after 1st, July 1892.....	1,351 20
(18) Accepted Account of L. J. Demers against Provincial Secretary's Dept. for \$500,00, transferred to Belleau & Co., and by them transferred to Bank, payable in 1893, (15th, July).....	500 00
(19) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary's dated 17th, July 1891 in favor of J. I. Tarte, payable at 4 months, transferred to Geo. Demers and by him transferred to Bank.....	3,000 00
(20) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor of Cadieux & Derome, dated 11 Nov. 1890 for \$2,000.....	2,000 00
(21) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor of Cadieux & Derome, for \$3,000, dated 24th, Nov. 1890, transferred to Bank and payable after 1st, July 1891.....	3,000 00
(22) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor of Cadieux & Derome, for \$2,500,00 dated 20th, Dec. 1890, payable after 15th, July 1892.....	2,5000 00

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|--|------------|
| (23) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor of E. Sénécal & Fils, dated 12th, Dec. 1890, transferred to Bank and payable after 1st, July 1891.....  | \$1,400 00 |
| (24) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary dated 22nd, January, 1891, in favor of E. Sénécal & Fils, for \$2,750.00, and by them transferred to Bank.....   | 2,750 00   |
| (25) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary dated 15th, April 1891, in favor of P. N. Breton, for \$5,000.00, payable after 15th, July 1891.....   | 5,000 00   |
| (26) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary, dated 26th, May 1891, in favor of A. Buies.....   | 300 00     |
| (27) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary dated 7th, November, in favor of Belleau & Co., payable after 15th, July 1892.....   | 300 00     |
| (28) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary, dated 29th, September, 1890, in favor of Ulric Barthe, payable 10th, July 1891 .....  | 300 00     |
| (29) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary, dated 25th, June 1891, in favor of Louis Fréchette, payable 1st, January 1891.  | 1,500 00   |
| (30) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary, dated 13th, November, 1890, due 1st, July 1891, and renewed 15th, July 1891 by Draft of L. J. Demers & frère on Provincial Secretary, due 18th, January 1892.....   | 3,125 00   |
| (31) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary, in favor of J. D. Vincent dated 23rd, April, 1891, due 15th, January, 1892..  | 400 00     |
| (32) Approved Account of Joseph Dugal against Provincial Registrar's office, for \$389.16 payable after 1st, July, 1891.....   | 389 16     |
| (33) Draft of A. F. Carrier for \$800.00 dated 18th, May, 1891, on Louis Simoneau, Accountant of Legislative Assembly, and accepted by the latter, to the order of Honorable C. Lange-<br>lier, endorsed "Charles Langelier," & "A. F. Carrier," due<br>4th, November, 1891 and protested for non-payment..... | 800 00     |
| (34) Acknowledgment and decision 9th, January, 1891, by Honorable M. Mercier of claim of Mr. Whitfield & Denis <i>re</i> Mo-   |            |

del Farm and promise of 16th, January, 1891, by M. Mercier to pay same after next session.....	\$2,145 00
(35) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of J. B. A. Gignac, dated June, 25th, 1891 for.....	154 00
(36) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of J. E. A. Gignac, dated June, 25th, 1891 for.....	450 00
(37) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of J. O. Lacoursière, dated July, 9th, 1891 for.....	250 00
(38) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of L. Stein, dated Aug. 7th, 1891 for.....	450 00
(39) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan, dated August, 11th, 1891 for.....	482 36
(40) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of C. A. Larue, dated 11th, August, 1891 for.....	200 00
(41) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of L. P. de Courval, dated 19th, August, 1891 for.....	500 00
(42) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of C. A. Larue, dated 21st, August, 1891 for.....	400 00
(43) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan, dated August, 27th, 1891 for.....	964 25
(44) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of R. Rinfret, dated October, 5th, 1891 for.....	432 00
(45) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Dept. in favor of J. P. Mullarkey, dated 7th, Oct., 1891 for.....	1,400 00
(46) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of L. Stein, dated 12th, October, 1891 for.....	300 00
(47) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan, dated October, 20th, 1891 for.....	300 00
(48) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan, dated October, 20th, 1891 for.....	78 00
(49) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of L. N. Desrosiers, dated October, 22nd, 1891 for.....	400 00

(50) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan for.....	\$ 274 00
(51) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of C. A. Larue, dated November, 4th, 1891 for.....	245 52
(52) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan, dated November, 14th, 1891 for.....	579 00
(53) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of L. Stein, dated 18th, November, 1891 for.....	72 00
(54) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of F. X. Fafard, dated 19th, November, 1891 for.....	250 00
(55) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of A. T. Genest, dated 5th, December, 1891 for.....	975 00
(56) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of H. O'Sullivan, 10th, December, 1891 for.....	500 00
(57) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of J. B. Rouillard, dated 10th, December, 1891 for.....	450 00
(58) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of J. B. Charleson, dated 16th, December, 1891 for.....	2,794 00
(59) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of C. J. Burroughs, dated 15th, December, 1891 for.....	800 00
(60) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of J. G. Bignell, dated 17th, November, 1891 for.....	200 00
(61) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Department in favor of E. O'Sullivan, dated 27th, November, 1891 for.....	71 14
(62) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Departement in favor of A. Morissette, for Desaulniers & Leblanc, dated 14th, December, 1891 for.....	530 00
(64) Letter of Credit issued by Crown Lands Departement in favor of C. J. Burroughs, dated 15th, December, 1891 for...	200 00
(64) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor of Jos. Dussault, payable 15th, July, 1892 for.....	900 50

(65) Letter of Credit of Provincial Secretary in favor of Jos. Dussault for \$6,000, on account of which \$4,500 has been advanced by Bank.....	\$4,500 00
(66) Approved account of Victor Lafrance, against the Department of Public Instruction for \$1,014.82, payable 15th, July, 1892.....	1,014 82
(67) Order of Hon. J. E. Robidoux, S. P. for 300 copies "History of Montreal," payable August, 1891.....	300 00
(68) Account of H. J. J. B. Chouinard against Departement of Provincial Registrar, approved by Provincial Secretary, for \$200.00, payable 15th, July, 1891.....	200 00
(69) Account of Louis Lamontagne, against Provincial Registrar's Departement, approved by J. C. Langelier, Deputy Provincial Registrar, payable 1st, July, 1891.....	150 00
Total.....	\$181,253 05

C. Into the facts and circumstances which have preceded, accompanied, caused and followed the obtaining, receipt, payment and distribution of certain subsidies or grants to the following railway companies to wit

1. \$28,546 to the Honorable H. Mercier, h. retofore Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec, for the Baie des Chaleurs Railway Company, on the 26th, of November, 1890.

2. \$32,140. To the Temiscouata Railway Company, on the 8th, of May, 1890.

3. \$7,700 to Joseph Boivin, Assistant-Secretary of the Province of Quebec, for the Drummond County Railway Company, on the 16th, of June, 1890.

4. \$5,000 to the said Honorable H. Mercier, for the Drummond County Railway Company, on the 8th, of September, 1890.

5. \$14,946 to the said Honorable H. Mercier, for the Montreal and Ottawa Railway Company, on the 14th, of February, 1891.

6. \$37,800 to the said Honorable H. Mercier, for the Great Northern Railway Company, on the 14th, February, 1891.

7. \$20,000 to the Hereford Railway Company, on the 1st, of June 1891.

8. \$25,000 to the Canada Atlantic Company, on the 1st, of June 1891

9. \$160,000 to the said Canada Atlantic Railway Company, on the 30th, of June, 1891.

10. \$112,500, to the Banque du Peuple, to reimburse it for sums of money by it previously advanced to the trustees, Raymond Prefontaine, esquire, M. P., François Xavier Choquette, esquire, advocate, and Charles N. Armstrong, contractor, all of Montreal, in virtue of the letter of the Honorable H. Mercier, then Prime Minister, dated the 6th, of July, 1887, in connection with the construction and equipment of the Montreal and Sorel railway.

D. Into the facts and circumstances which preceded caused and followed the gifts, loans, advances or payments of the following sums by John Patrick Whelan or by the firm of Whelan & Ford, or by Daniel Ford, to wit :

(1) To the Honorable Honoré Mercier, heretofore Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec.....	\$13,750
(2) To the said Honorable Honoré Mercier and to C. A. Beausoleil, M. P.....	22,500
(3) To the said honorable Honoré Mercier and to Ernest Pacaud, journalist of Quebec.....	17,000
(4) To Achille F. Carrier, M. P. P.....	2,660
(5) To the Honorable Charles Langelier, heretofore Secretary of the Province of Quebec.....	2,500
(6) To the Honorable Pierre Garneau.....	4,950
(7) To the Honorable Arthur Turcotte, formerly Attorney-General of the Province of Quebec.....	2,650
(8) To R. Prefontaine, and his partners.....	18,500
(9) To the Honorable James McShane.....	7,100
(10) To the said Honorable Honoré Mercier.....	2,500
(11) To the Honorable C. A. P. Pelletier, Senator.....	2,500
(12) To Ernest Pacaud aforesaid.....	10,000
(13) To Ernest Pacaud aforesaid.....	5,000

E. Into all the facts and circumstances which are of a nature to make know by what system, proceeding or method, by what intermediaries and

conditions, contracts, subsidies, positions, advances of public moneys, leases of rivers, and generally the patronage of the Government or of the Departments have been obtained or granted from the 27th, of January, 1887, to 16th, of December, 1891 ;

And for that purpose, under the authority of the said article 596 and following of the Revised Statutes of Our Province of Quebec, We do give to the said commissioners, all the powers granted in and by the said articles, and particularly the power of summoning before them any witnesses and of requiring them to give evidence on oath, orally or in writing and to produce such documents and things as they may deem requisite to the full investigation of the matters into which they are appointed to examine, and we do authorise the said commissioners to employ a clerk, stenographers and other officers who may be required, to report upon the proof, from time to time upon each particular case herein above specified, and to cause the minutes of their proceedings, the proof and their report to be printed.

And we do order that the sittings of the said commission be held in the city of Quebec, or elsewhere, in Our said Province, if the ends of justice require it.

Of all which Our loving subjects, and all others whom these presents may concern, are hereby required to take notice and to govern themselves accordingly.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of Our said Province of Quebec to be hereunto affixed : WITNESS, Our trusty and Well-Beloved the Honorable AUGUSTE REAL ANGERS, Lieutenant-Governor of our said Province of Quebec.

At Our Government House, in Our City of Quebec, in Our said Province of Quebec, this ELEVENTH day of JANUARY, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two, and in the fifty-fifth year of Our Reign.

By command,

(Signed)

LOUIS P. PELLETIER

Secretary.

The Secretary reads the oath of office taken by the Commissioners, as follows :

I swear that I will exactly and faithfully fulfill, to the best of my ability the office and duties of Royal Commissioner, to inquire into and report on divers subjects and matters relating to the good government of the Province of Quebec, under the authority of articles 596 and following, of the Revised Statutes of the said Province, relating to inquiries concerning public matters. So help me God.

(Signed)

M. MATHIEU

CANADA,  
PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, }  
DISTRICT OF QUEBEC.

CITY OF QUEBEC.

I, the undersigned, Commissioner *per dedimus potestatem*, do hereby certify that Michel Mathieu, of the City of Montreal, Judge of the Superior Court, appeared before me the 11th, day of January instant and took, and subscribed to the oath of a Royal Commissioner, to enquire into and report on divers subjects and matters relating to the good government of the Province of Quebec, under the authority of articles 596 and following, of the Revised Statutes of the said Province relating to enquiries into public matters, the whole in accordance with the law in such case made and provided.

(Signed)

GUSTAVE GRENIER.

*Commissioner per ded. pot.*

Quebec, 11th January, 1892.

I swear that I will exactly and faithfully fulfill, to the best of my ability the office and duties of Royal Commissioner, to enquire into and report on divers subjects and matters relating to the good government of the Province of Quebec, under the authority of articles 596 and following, of the Revised Statutes of the said Province, relating to enquiries concerning public matters. So help me God.

(Signed)

D. MACMASTER.

CANADA,  
 PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, }  
 DISTRICT OF QUEBEC.

CITY OF QUEBEC.

I, the undersigned, Commissioner *per dedimus potestatem*, do hereby certify that Donald MacMaster, Queen's Counsel and advocate, of the City of Montreal, appeared before me the 11th, day of January instant and took, and subscribed to the oath of a Royal Commissioner, to enquire into and report on divers subjects and matters relating to the good government of the Province of Quebec, under the authority of articles 596 and following, of the Revised Statutes of the said Province relating to enquiries into public matters, the whole in accordance with the law in such case made and provided.

(Signed)

GUSTAVE GRENIER,

*Commissioner per ded. pot.*

Quebec, 11th January, 1892.

I swear that I will exactly and faithfully fulfill, to the best of my ability the office and duties of Royal Commissioner, to enquire into and report on divers subjects and matters relating to the good government of the Province of Quebec, under the authority of articles 596 and following, of the Revised Statutes of the said Province, relating to enquiries concerning public matters. So help me God.

(Signed)

D. MASSON,

CANADA,  
 PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, }  
 DISTRICT OF QUEBEC.

CITY OF QUEBEC.

I, the undersigned, Commissioner *per dedimus potestatem*, do hereby certify that Damase Masson, Merchant, of the City of Montreal, appeared before me the 11th, day of January instant and took, and subscribed to, the oath of a Royal Commissioner, to enquire into and report on divers subjects and matters relating to the good government of the Province of Quebec, under the authority of articles 596 and following, of the Revised Statutes of the said Province relating to enquiries into public matters, the whole in accordance with the law in such case made and provided.

(Signed)

GUSTAVE GRENIER,

*Commissioner per ded. pot.*

Quebec, 11th January, 1892

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Mr. Justice Mathieu announces that the Commission is prepared to hear any request that may be submitted.

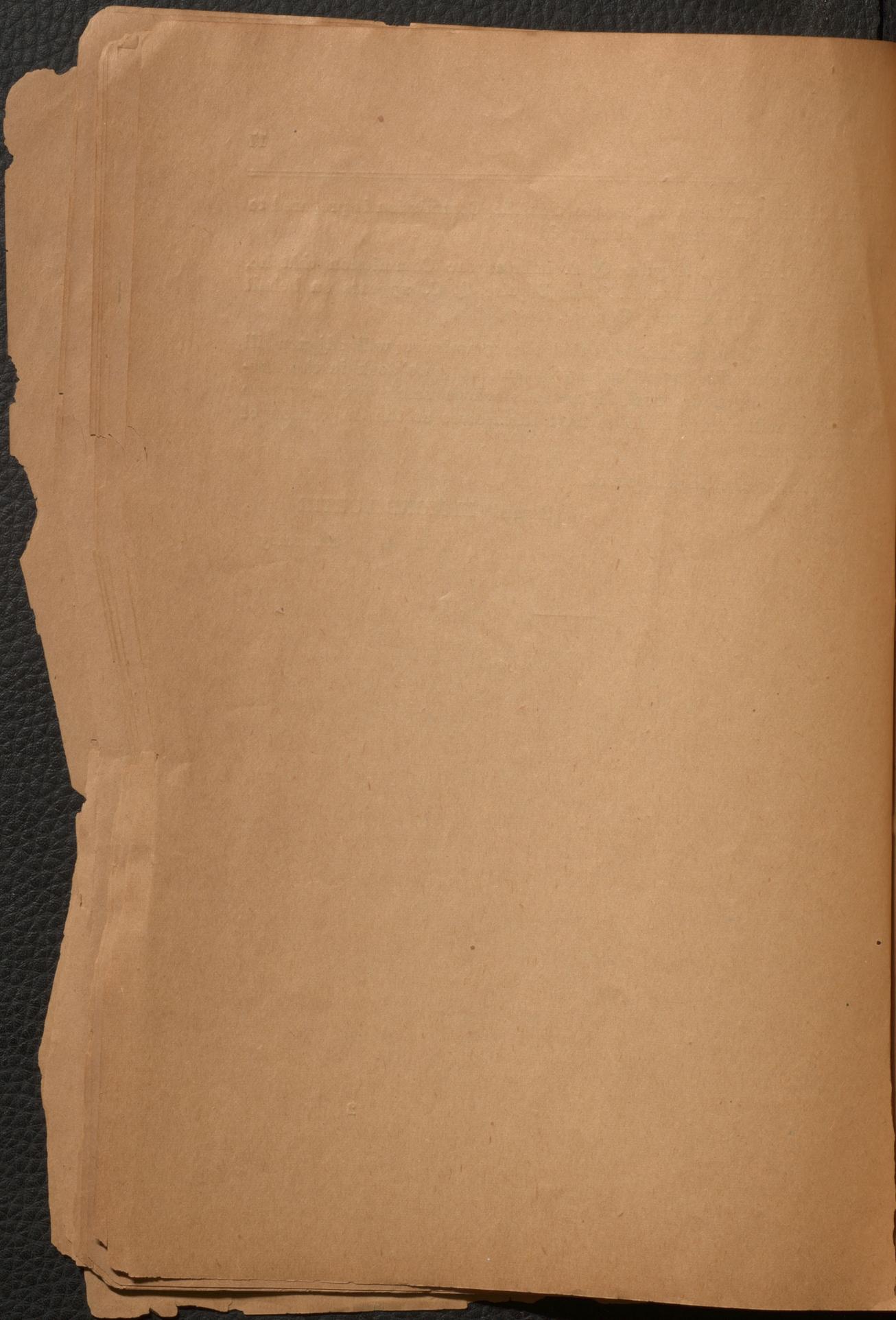
Isidore N. Belleau, Esquire, Q. C. informs the Commission that he, with his colleague, Gustavus G. Stuart Esquire, Q. C., appears on behalf of the Honorable the Attorney General.

Mr. Justice-Mathieu announces that the commission will adjourn till Monday the eighteenth day of January instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and that in the interval, the persons whose names appear in the proclamation will receive notice to hold themselves at the disposition of the Commission.

The Commission then adjourns.

(Signed) EDMOND LORTIE

Secretary



# ROYAL COMMISSION

Issued under the Great Seal of this Province of Quebec, the eleventh day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two, constituting and appointing Honorable Michel Mathieu, Judge of the Superior Court, Donald MacMaster, advocate and Queen's Counsel, Damase Masson, Merchant, all three of the City of Montreal, Commissioners, to make inquiry into different matters and things, concerning the good government of this Province, under the authority of article 596 and following of the Revised Statutes of this Province, subject of enquiries concerning public matters.

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## NOTES AND PROCEEDINGS AND TESTIMONIALS OF WITNESSES

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### 2ND SITTING

The eighteenth day of January in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety two.

BEFORE :

L'Honorable MR JUSTICE MATHIEU,  
" DONALD MACMASTER,  
" DAMASE MASSON,

Commissioners.

The Commission meets at 10 o'clock. The following attorneys are present: Mr. I. N. Belleau, Q. C. and G. Stuart, Q. C. on behalf of the Attorney-General.

Mr. Narcisse Hamel, advocate, Q. C. asks the Commission the permission to appear on behalf of la Caisse d'Economie de Notre Dame de Quebec. Granted.

The president informs the attorneys that the commissioners intend to

proceed with the investigation as quickly as possible, in order not to delay both political and business men therein concerned.

Mr. G. Stuart asks to proceed with the Langlais contract,

The names of the following witnesses, who have been summoned, are then called: P. B. Dumoulin, P. Vallière, J. A. Langlais, P. G. Lafrance, L. C. Marcoux, E. E. Webb, Felix Campeau, Jos. Boivin, L. Simoneau, E. Sénécal.

#### EVIDENCE OF M. J. BOIVIN.

JOSEPH BOIVIN, of the City of Quebec, Assistant-Secretary of the Province of Quebec, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

*By Mr. Stuart Q. C.*

Q. You are Assistant-Secretary of the Province, are you not ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Since how many years ?

A. I was appointed on the 13th May, 1890.

Q. As such, have you the custody of the papers and records belonging to the Department of the Provincial Secretary ?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you tell the Commissioners what was the first step taken in this matter, and read them the letter by which the Prime Minister gave notice of the contract to Mr. Langlais ?

A. The first letter to be found in the record bears date the 23rd February, 1891. All these letters were filed together in the Secretary's Department on the 13th March, but the first letter is dated the 23th February, 1891, and reads as follows :

Quebec, 23rd February, 1891.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that after having conferred with my

colleagues, I am authorized to tell you that the Government has decided to grant you for the space of four years dating from the 1st March next the supplying of all the paper required for all the public offices under our control. Instructions will forthwith be given to that effect to all the public offices in the Legislative Assembly Building, to the Prothonotary's office, that of the Sheriff and the Police Court at Quebec, and to the offices of the Prothonotary, the Sheriff, the Police office, and of the District Magistrates, at Montreal. Instructions will also be given to the registrars of the different districts of the Province as well as to the Government printers to purchase from you in future paper bearing a special mark. You will be paid for this paper at current rates.

This only applies to the paper required in the Departments and other public offices above mentioned, and in no wise the printing of such paper which shall be done wherever the Government shall decide.

I have the honor to be

Yours Truly,

(Signed) HONORE MERCIER

J. A. LANGLAIS,

Stationer, Quebec.

Q. Did Mr. Langlais answer this letter and on what date ?

A. Mr. Langlais answered the same day, the 23rd February, 1891, by the following letter :

Quebec, 23rd February, 1891.

To Hon. HONORE MERCIER,

Prime Minister,

Quebec.

Mr. Prime Minister,

I have just received your letter bearing this day's date, by which you entrust to me for the space of four years, from the 1st March next, the supplying of all the paper required in the public offices under the control of the Government.

As the carrying out of this contract will necessitate considerable advances on my part, I request the favor of being allowed facilities to obtain

discount from the banks. Would you kindly tell me, after taking into consideration the importance of the contract, what amount you will be able to advance me and when ?

You will thus greatly oblige,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. LANGLAIS.

Q. What answer did the Prime Minister give ?

Office of the Prime Minister,

Province of Québec.

Quebec, 23rd February, 1891.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of this date asking me to afford you facilities to obtain from the banks the advances necessary to enable you to execute your contract for the furnishing of all the paper required in the public offices under our control. I have no objection to accede to your request. Taking into consideration the importance of the contract and the average of the sums paid for this object in the past, I may tell you that the Government will pay to you or to your order the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) within six months from this date, that is, counting from the 1st March next.

I have the honor to be

Yours truly

(Signed) HONORÉ MERCIER.

J. A. LANGLAIS,

Bookseller, Quebec.

Q. Did Mr. Langlais answer this letter on the same day ?

A. The same day.—Here is his letter :

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Quebec, 23rd February, 1891.

Honorable HONORÉ MERCIER,

Prime Minister, Quebec.

Mr. Prime Minister,

I have just received your letter which you are kind enough to inform me that the Government will pay me a sum of \$30,000 within six months from the 1st. March next for the furnishing of all the paper required in the public offices. I take the liberty of pointing out that at the expiration of these six months there will certainly be due me by the Government a far more considerable sum than the \$30,000 promised. It seems to me you might, without involving the interests of the Government, pay me at that time a sum of at least \$60,000.

Trusting that you will accede to my just request.

I have the honor to be

Yours truly

J. A. LANGLAIS

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Q. Did the Prime Minister answer the same day ?

A. Yes ; here is his answer.

Office of the Prime Minister,

Province of Quebec,

Quebec, 23rd February, 1891.

Sir,

I have just received your letter by which you tell me that you find the promise of a payment of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) within six months, on account of the contract, insufficient, and in which you ask me to double the amount.

I regret to have to tell you that I cannot accede to your request. In my opinion this (sic) thirty thousand dollars would be sufficient to pay for what you would then have furnished to the Government. I have no

objection, however, to tell you that the Government will pay to you or to your order an additional sum of \$30,000 in a year, dating from the 1st March next.

In the hope that this will be sufficient to enable you to carry out your contract faithfully, believe me

Yours sincerely,

HONORÉ MERCIER,

Prime Minister.

J. A. LANGLAIS,

Bookseller,

Quebec,

Q. By order of date what follows in the record ?

A. As I said a moment ago, it is the registering of this correspondence in our department on the 13th March.

Q. There is no letter showing this registering ?

A. No. It was transmitted by the interim Prime Minister at the time, the Hon. P. Garneau.

Q. I believe you sent a circular about the 19th. March asking of them a statement of the stationery they would require, did you not ?

A. Yes, sir, at the request of the interim Prime Minister, who himself prepared this draft of it in his office. I sent it to all the departments of the Court House, and to the offices of the Prothonotary and of the Sheriff at Quebec and Montreal. I did not send it to the registrars, offices of the Province.

Q. Amongst the documents of record have you a letter of the then interim Prime Minister on the subject of this contract, and if so, please read it.

A. Yes, here is the letter.

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Quebec, 17th, April, 1891.

Honorable CHARLES LANGELIER,

Provincial-Secretary.

My Dear Colleague,

I have just sent the documents of record 140½ of the Prime Minister's office, to wit, three letters of the Honorable Mr. Mercier (copies) and two letters of Mr. Langlais, bookseller, relating to the supplying of paper to the Government offices, and I beg of you to give effect to this correspondence agreeable to what was decided by the Prime Minister

Truly yours

P. GARNEAU.

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Q. According to this letter it would appear that it was only on the 17th April that the record was transmitted to the department of the Provincial-Secretary, would it not ?

A. After the drafting of the circular and the sending of the circular on the 19th. March, on the return of the Hon Mr. Langelier from the United-States, I believe I sent him the record with that letter.

Q. There is still, I believe a record in your department, relating to this contract, is there not ?

A. Yes ; it is a letter of date the 15th. May, 1891, from the Hon. P. Garneau, interim Prime Minister.

Q. Please read it.

A. Quebec, 15th May, 1891,

To the Honorable Sir,

My Dear Colleague,

I have the honor to ask you to kindly give instructions in your department to the effect that no purchase of stationery, office requisites, &c

be made without an order signed either by you or your deputy-minister

I have the honor to be

Yours faithfully

P. GARNEAU,

Prime Minister *ad interim.*

Q. Now, I see that there is an endorsement on the cover of this record. Will you read it, if you please ?

A. Yes, this is the endorsement :

This note reads as follows :

11 November, 1891.

Mr. Secretary decides that the binding is not to be given to M. J. A. Langlais. The question of requisites although not mentioned in the contract, is optional, but the intention of the Government is to deal liberally with Mr. J. A. Langlais.

Q. In whose hand-writing is that endorsement ?

A. It is my writing.

Q. By whose order was this written ?

A. This note was made without instructions from any body, but was made in this way : I wanted to obtain the opinion of the Minister in order to know whether we were, in our department, bound to buy the office requisites from Mr. Langlais. There was a division of opinion in the office as to the interpretation to be given to the contract ; so on the 11th November, as there was an order to be given for binding, I went to the Minister and I noted on the spot the exact words of his answer in order that I might know myself what to do in giving orders in the department. I copied his own words. As to the explanation which he gave me in the last words which I underlined—"to deal liberally with Mr. Langlais"—here is what I understood : It was that although not bound to give the patronage of the requisites to Mr. Langlais, the Government was desirous that purchases should be made from Mr. Langlais as from other booksellers, and even more. In the departments we buy from several booksellers, from two or

three sometimes, and it was the intention of the Government, from what the Provincial Secretary told me in the month of November, "to deal liberally"; that is to say, to buy office requisites from Mr. Langlais in as large quantities as possible, to give him more patronage than to other booksellers. That is what I understood.

Q. Will you say if, after the 23rd. February, 1891, paper and stationery was bought from Mr. Langlais only, or if you continued to buy from other booksellers?

A. I can only speak for my department. For the letter blanks and the envelopes which were printed for us by the printer Vincent, Mr. Vincent had instructions to purchase the paper from M. Langlais, but I think he had to pay Mr. Langlais himself, and Mr. Vincent charged us for the paper.

Q. Can you say for what amount stationery was purchased from that date from other booksellers than Mr. Langlais?

A. The account current of the Secretary's Department with Vincent's firm, from the 21st. February, 1891, to November last, amounts to \$690.65.

Q. From the 23rd. February?

A. Yes, from the 23rd. February.

Q. Since that date did you give any orders to Mr. Langlais for which he was paid by the department?

A. No.

Q. Have you a statement sent in by Mr. Langlais or a memorandum of what he furnished to all the departments under his contract?

Q. No I have only what he furnished to our department. It is a copy of the statement that Mr. Langlais drew up. I think the original prepared by Mr. Langlais is in the hands of the Provincial Secretary.

Q. What is that amount?

A. The amount is \$41.59.

Q. You have not got the original?

A. No, I have not got the original of that.

Q. Has there been registered in your department any Order-in-Council in any way relating to the contract in question?

A. No, sir.

And further deponent saith not.

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**EVIDENCE OF M. G. GRENIER**

GUSTAVE GRENIER, of the City of Quebec, Clerk of the Executive Council, aged 44 years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q. You are Clerk of the Executive Council ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. As such you have the custody of all Orders-in-Council passed by the Executive Council ?

A. Yes.

Q. Please state whether an Order-in-Council was passed authorizing the contract between the Government and Mr. J. A. Langlais for furnishing paper and stationery to the public departments in the year 1891 ?

A. No, there was none passed.

Q. Is there anything in your department that refers to the contract ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you any official knowledge of it ?

A. No.

And further deponent saith not.

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**EVIDENCE OF M. L. C. MARCOUX,**

LOUIS CYRILLE MARCOUX, of the City of Quebec, Secretary Treasurer of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Quebec, aged 39 years being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

*By M. Gustave G. Stuart Q. C. :*

Q. You are Secretary-Treasurer of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Quebec ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Has the Caisse d'Economie in its possession certain letters called letters of credit discounted by Mr. J. A. Langlais and having reference to a contract between the Government of the Province of Quebec and the gentleman for the furnishing of paper ?

A. La Caisse d'Economie does not discount, but la Caisse d'Economie made loans to Mr. Langlais on the collateral security of certain letters of credit. I have these letters here.

Q. Will you have the kindness to produce those which refer to this contract in particular ?

A. Here they are.

Q. Will you state whether they are the original letters bearing date the 23rd. February, 1891, addressed to J. A. Langlais and signed by Honoré Mercier, Prime Minister, of which copies were read by Mr. Boivin, the witness just heard ?

A. They are the original, and I think the copies which have been read correspond with the originals, but I did not follow while they were being read.

Q. Will you then have the kindness to read the letters of credit ?

A. (The witness reads.)

Office of the Prime Minister,

Province of Quebec,

Quebec, 23rd. February, 1891.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that after having conferred with my colleagues, I am authorized to tell you that the Government has decided to grant you for the space of four years from the 1st. March next the supplying of all the paper required for all the public offices under our control. Instructions will forthwith be given to that effect to all the public offices at the Legislative Assembly building, at the Prothonotary's office, at the office of the Sheriff and of the Police Court, at Quebec, and to the offices

the Prothonotary, the Sheriff, to the Police office and of the District Magistrates, at Montreal. Instructions will also be given to the Registrars of the different districts of the Province as well as to Government printers to purchase from you in future paper bearing a special mark. You will be paid for this paper at current rates.

This only applies to the paper required in the departments and other public offices above mentioned and in no wise to the printing of such paper, which shall be done wherever the Government shall decide.

I have the Honor to be

Yours truly,

HONORÉ MERCIER.

J. A. Langlais, Esq.

Bookseller,

Quebec.

Second letter—letter of credit :

Office of the Prime Minister,

Province of Quebec,

Quebec, 23rd. February, 1891.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of this date asking me to afford you facilities to obtain from the banks the advances necessary to enable you to execute your contract for the supplying of all the paper required in the public offices under our control. I have no objection to accede to your request. Taking into consideration the importance of the contract and the average of the sums paid for this object in the past, I may inform you that the Government will pay you or to your order the sum of \$30,000 within six months from this date, that is, counting from the 1st. March next.

I have the honor to be,

Yours truly,

(Signed) HONORÉ MERCIER.

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J. A. LANGLAIS,

Bookseller, Quebec.

This letter is endorsed : Payable to the order of La Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Quebec.

J. A. LANGLAIS,

There is a second letter of credit which reads as follows :

Office of the Prime Minister,

Province of Quebec,

Quebec, 23rd. February, 1891.

Sir,

I have just received your letter in which you tell me that you find the promise of a payment of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) within six months, on account of the contract, insufficient and in which you ask me to double the amount.

I regret to have to tell you that I cannot accede to your request. In my opinion this sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) would be sufficient to pay for what you would then have furnished to the Government. I have no objection, however, to tell you that the Government will pay to you or to your order an additional sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000), within a year from the 1st. March next.

In the hope that this will be sufficient to enable you to carry out your contract faithfully, believe me

Yours truly

(Signed) HONORÉ MERCIER,

Prime Minister.

M. J. A. LANGLAIS,

Bookseller, Quebec.

Endorsed : Payable to the order of La Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec,

J. A. LANGLAIS

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Q. At what date was the first of these letters transferred to your bank ?

A. On the 23rd, February, 1891, as appears by the agreement of loan signed by M. Langlais.

Q. To guarantee an advance of how much ?

A. Of \$30,000 payable on the 1st September, 1891.

Q. I see that on the contract of loan there is an agreement permitting or obliging the bank to reimburse the interest in the event of the advance being repaid before maturity of the loan, is there not ?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you read that part of the contract ?

A. (The witness reads) : " If this loan be reimbursed before its maturity, the interest paid in advance will be reimbursed at the rate of 60/0. A month's notice will be exacted for the reimbursement before maturity."

Q. Have you the books of the bank in which the account of Mr. Langlais is entered ?

A. Mr. Langlais has no deposit account at the Caisse d'Economie. He simply made loans from the Caisse.

Q. How was this sum paid to him by the Caisse ?

A. By a cheque to his order drawn on La Banque Nationale.

Q. Have you the cheque ?

A. No, we do not withdraw cheques from La Banque Nationale, and the cheque should be with our other cheques at La Banque Nationale.

Q. Was this cheque drawn on the same day as the loan was made, the 23rd, February ?

A. Without doubt. Mr. Langlais got the loan, and I gave him the proceeds of the loan by a cheque to his order—an official cheque of La Caisse d'Economie drawn on La Banque Nationale.

Q. The two loans ?

A. The two loans

Q. Well, will you state if, on the same date, he got another loan of \$30,000, guaranteed by the second letter of credit ?

A. On the 23rd, February, Mr. Langlais got another loan of \$30,000 payable the 1st, March, 1892. The proceeds of the first loan was handed to Mr. Langlais, with the proceeds of the first loan, by a cheque to his order on La Banque Nationale.

Q. This contract contains the same clause as the other as to the payment before maturity ?

A. Yes.

Q. When was the cheque paid ?

A. I cannot say.

Q. When was La Caisse d'Economie charged with the cheque by La Banque Nationale ?

A. It is this way : There is no mention in our bank books of the date on which the cheques were charged to us. We make in our bank book entries of all the cheques drawn on the bank, and the bank enters all the deposits, and if they are paid after some days delay, it is a question for the bank. We ourselves do not keep a record of the date itself of the cheques. The cheques may be outstanding for some days and they may be paid the same day : that I cannot say.

Q. Did any correspondence pass between you and Mr. Langlais on the subject of this loan or of the amount which he owed the bank ?

A. I believe I sent him word one day, asking him to call at the office in connection with this loan, I have not brought a copy of the letter. The fact is, it was simply a notice to call at the office.

Q. Did you give notice to the Government or to any of the departments of the Government of the Province of Quebec that you held these letters of credit ?

A. When the loan was made ?

Q. Or after.

A. We did not give notice to the Government that these loans had been made, except that in the month of August we addressed a letter to the Hon. Mr. Mercier, Prime Minister, informing him that the letters of

credit which had been signed by him in favor of Mr. Langlais had been negotiated at the Caisse d'Economie.

Q. Did you receive an answer to this letter ?

A. I received no official answer ; Mr. Mercier's secretary, whom I met, told me that the letter had been received.

Q. About what date—some days after the sending of the letter ?

A. Some days after. I could not precise the date.

Q. Did you, at a subsequent date, write a second time ?

A. On the 9th, September we addressed a second letter to Hon. Mr. Mercier.

Q. Would you be kind enough to read that letter ?

A. That letter reads as follows :

Québec, 9th, September, 1891.

Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec.

To the Honorable Honoré Mercier,

Prime Minister of the Province of Quebec,

Quebec.

Mr. Minister,

On the 14th, August last, I had the honor to inform you that two letters of credit of \$30,000, signed by you, in favor of J. A. Langlais, bookseller, the 23rd, February, 1891, had been negotiated at La Caisse d'Economie and that one of these letters of credit was to fall due on the 1st, September instant. This letter of credit has not yet been paid. We did not exact payment from Mr. Langlais on the 1st, September instant, because a delay of some days was asked in order to permit the verification of the accounts for stationery delivered to the Government.

As we consider the delay granted a very reasonable one, and above all since we made arrangements to provide for the payment of this letter of

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credit at its maturity, I have to ask you to give the necessary instructions for the payment of the \$30,000 to the Caisse d'Economie without delay.

Awaiting a favorable answer,

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

L. C. MARCOUX,

Secretary.

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Q. Did you receive an answer to this letter ?

A. We received no answer.

Q. This letter of credit is on sufferance ?

A. The letter of credit is on sufferance.

Q. Is there anything in the books of the bank by which it could be established to whom any part of this sum of money advanced to Mr. Langlais was paid by him ?

A. I can see nothing at all in the books of the bank. A part from the interest, the amount was paid to him by a cheque to his order.

Q. There is nothing else in the books of the bank on this subject ?

A. Nothing at all, to my knowledge ; and I do not believe that there is anything at all.

Q. If I understood your answer, you said that there was no deposit account ?

A. There is no deposit account. The Caisse d'Economie only made these loans. It is only a borrowing account.

And further deponent saith not.

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## EVIDENCE OF M. E. MAILLOUX.

ELIAS MAILLOUX, of the City of Quebec, Accountant of the Department of Public Works, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q. You are a Civil Service Employee, are you not ?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What position do you occupy ?

A. Accountant of the Department of Public Works.

Q. Will you states what quantity of stationary was bought by your department from the 23rd February, 1891, to the end of the year, what amount and from whom ?

A. We purchased that is to say I paid, I would not say purchased because there may be accounts not paid—I bought and paid for \$710.47.

Q. From what book-seller ?

A. From J. A. Langlais ?

Q. Did you purchase from other stationers than Mr Langlais ?

A. Very little, if any.

Q. When, if I understand rightly, the Department of Public Works has purchased, from the 23rd February, 1891, to the end of the year, from J. A. Langlais, for the sum of \$710.47 and paid him that amount ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You paid nothing to other stationers, at all events ?

A. We paid some small amounts.

Q. Forming a total of how much ?

A. I do not know.

By Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. Do you say that these \$710.47 were paid without being deducted on the letters of credit ?

A. It was paid a part from the letters of credit.

And further deponent saith not.

**EVIDENCE OF M. LAURENT SIMONEAU.**

LAURENT SIMONEAU, of the City of Quebec, Accountant of the Legislative Assembly, being duly sworn, doth depose and say :

Q. You are a civil employee, Mr. Simoneau ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What position do you occupy ?

A. Accountant of the Legislative Assembly.

Q. Will you state if there has been stationery furnished to the Legislative Assembly for which you have paid from the 23rd February, 1891, to the end of the year ?

A. Yes, sir, there was some paid for.

Q. To whom and for what amount ?

A. There has been paid to Mr. I. P. Dery \$322.26; Filteau & Frère \$161.85; to F. X. Garant \$77.70; and to J. A. Langlais, \$2,892.81.

Q. If I understand you rightly, these are sums which have been paid ?

A. That I paid.

Q. From the 23rd February, 1891, to the 31st December, 1891: during the month of January I did not pay any ?

Q. About what date was Mr. Langlais paid the \$2,892.81 ?

A. On the 1st October I paid Mr. Langlais \$899.45, the second November \$866.26, and the 2nd November again, \$1,127.10.

Q. Are those all the amounts that have been paid for stationery ?

A. All the sums that I paid for stationery.

Q. Do you know if there are other accounts for stationery which have not yet been paid ?

A. Yes.

Q. To whom ?

A. To Mr. Langlais.

Q. To any others ?

A. No, I do not see any.

Q. Do you know if the payments which you made were for stationery which had been furnished quite recently ?

A. That I cannot say : it is the chief clerk of the who offices will tell you that ; I know nothing about that.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. Who approves the accounts in your department ?

A. It is the chief clerk of the offices, Mr. Judge, who certifies them then they are approved by the President of the Legislative Assembly.

Q. At the time you made these payments you did not know that advances had been made to Mr. Langlais ?

A. I did not know that.

By Attorney :

Q. Were you ever informed that advances had been made to Mr. Langlais ?

A. I did not know it.

And further deponent saith not.

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**EVIDENCE OF M. A. E. DEMERS.**

A. E. DEMERS, of Lauzon Village, Levis, Civil Service Clerk, being duly sworn, doth depose and say :

Q. Do you receive the stationery for the Legislative Assembly ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. It is under your control ?

A, Yes, sir.

Q. Will you state about what date the stationery supplied by Mr Langlais from the 23rd February was delivered to your Department ?

Q. Will you look at the accounts ?

A. I cannot state exactly the date. I think it is the end of August or the beginning of September. You will see that by the accounts.

Q. Would you look at the accounts ?

A. The first goods were received on the 19th September : the order may have been given some days before—a fortnight before.

Q. What is the total value of the goods delivered by him from the 23rd February 1891 ?

A. \$6,187.56.

Q. On which he was paid how much ?

A. On which he was paid \$3,016.61.....that is, no.....I cannot say that he was paid \$3,016.61 : I certified the accounts for \$3,016.61 ; but he was paid \$2,892.81 according to the statement of the accountant. There were accounts certified to the amount of \$3,016.61.

Q. Since the 23rd February 1891, did your Department buy stationery from other stationers ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. From whom and for what amounts ?

A. We bought from Mr. Dery to the amount of \$322.26 ; from Filteau & Brother, \$161.85 ; from Mr. Garant, \$77.70 ; and from Mr. Langlais to the amount already mentioned.

Q. These purchases were between the month of April and the month of June, I believe ?

A. From the other parties, yes, sir. The last payment was made on the 26th, June.

Q. Have you had occasion to make a statement of the total value of the stationery used in the course of a year by the different public departments, including the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council ?

A. I made a statement two or three years ago, I believe, when they wished to make a reduction of from ten to fifteen thousand dollars on the expenses, so as to ascertain if this reduction could be made and, without affirming the amount, I think the expenses were about \$20,000.

Q. That was for the whole ?

A. All the Ministers, the Legislative Assembly and the different departments—all that is included under the item of stationery.

Q. Including the paper for the Queen's Printer ?

A. It was for all the departments. I took all the items mentioned under "Stationery," and they amounted to about \$20,000.

Q. Under the designation of stationery do you include the office requisites ?

A. Stationery.

Q. Will you state if the prices charged by Mr. Langlais, according to the accounts remitted to the Legislative Assembly, are the wholesale or retail prices of such goods ?

A. They are the retail prices ; with us, wholesale prices are not mentioned.

And further deponent saith not.

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#### EVIDENCE OF MR. P. G. LAFRANCE.

PIERRE G. LAFRANCE, of the City of Quebec, Cashier of La Banque Nationale, aged 54 years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

By Mr. Gustavus G. Stuart, Q. C. :

Q. Mr. Lafrance, will you state to the Commissioners if, about the 23rd, February, 1891, there was deposited at your bank by Mr. Langlais a sum of about \$60,000 ?

A. Mr. Langlais dit not make such a deposit on that day nor about that date.

Q. Did he deposit any sum at the bank about that time ?

A. I have not yet had Mr. Langlais account prepared, but, at the

request of Mr. Hamel, I saw a deposit which was made on the 24th, February, 1891, of the sum of \$5,778.00. That was the largest deposit made that month.

Q. There was a cheque for \$60,000, less the discount, drawn by La Caisse d'Economie on La Banque Nationale on the 23rd, February, 1891. Will you say if this cheque was said by the Bank and to whom ?

A. On the 23rd, February, 1891, there was drawn by La Caisse d'Economie on La Banque Nationale a cheque for the sum of \$56,772.33, to the order of J. A. Langlais.

Q. To whom was this cheque paid ?

A. This cheque was paid the following day, the 24th, February 1891 to the Union Bank of Lower Canada, who deposited it at La Banque Nationale.

Q. About that date were there deposited other cheques of La Caisse d'Economie in favor of Mr. Langlais ?

A. I cannot say without examining the cheques. I did not remark any other deposits.

Q. Did Mr. Langlais keep a deposit account at your bank ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You said that there was deposited about that date a sum of \$5,778; was this sum placed to the credit of Mr. Langlais, account ?

A. It was deposited to the credit of Mr. Langlais.

Q. Are you in a position to state in what way this sum was withdrawn by him ?

A. I cannot say it without giving a copy of Mr. Langlais' account.

Q. Would you have the kindness to furnish a copy and to bring with you Mr. Langlais' cheques in the event of your having them ?

A. Yes.

Q. Please say how the cheque of \$56,772.33, deposited, as above mentioned, is drawn ?

A. Here is the way the cheque reads :

No. 19071

\$56,772.33                      La Caisse d'Économie de Notre Dame de Quebec

To the Cashier of La Banque Nationale,

Pay to the order of J. A. Langlais, Esq.

Fifty-six thousand seven hundred and seventy-two 33/100 Dollars.

L. C. MARCOUX,

O. L. ROBITAILLE,

Secretary-Treasurer.

President.

(Stamped) La BANQUE NATIONALE,

Paid, February 24, 1891.

Quebec.

(Endorsed) J. A. LANGLAIS.

(Stamped on back) : For credit of Union Bank of Canada, Quebec.

No. 2

E. WEBB,

Cashier.

And further deponent saith not.

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**EVIDENCE OF Mr. F. CAMPEAU.**

F. CAMPEAU, of the City of Quebec, Accountant of Contingencies, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

*By Mr. G. Stuart Q. C. :*

Q. You are a Civil Service employee, Mr. Campeau ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What position do you occupy in the Civil Service ?

A. The position of accountant of contingencies.

*Mr. Justice Mathieu :*

Q. Of the Legislative Assembly ?

A. I beg your pardon, of the departments.

Q. Of all the Departments ?

A. Of all the Departments.

By Mr. Stuart :

Q. As such, the accounts for stationery furnished to the Departments or some of them come before you ?

A. Accounts of each Department come before me, and I certify them : the deputy chief of each Department certifies the accounts, he sends them to me, and I pay them.

Q. Will you state how much you have paid for stationery from the 23rd, February 1891 to the end of the year ?

A. In the Lieutenant Governor's Department there was expended \$255,52.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :—You are giving a statement of the expenditure from the 23rd, February 1891 to the 16th, December 1891 ?

A. Yes. I pay for all the Departments. The first amount was paid to Morton, Phillips & Co ; then to Holliwell, Dawson & Co. and A. O. Raymond.

Department of the Executive Council—\$243.33 ; Morton, Phillipps & Co ; Holland, Bros, & Young, I. P. Dery.

President of the Executive Council—\$50.74 ; Holland, Bros & Young, Filteau, Elzéar Vincent, Chs. F. Davidson, Filteau & Frère.

Provincial Secretary Department—\$749.56 ; Wyse & Co, Holland Bros. & Young, J. A. Langlais, I. P. Dery, Wyse & Co. Spackman & Co., Filteau & Frère.

*Mr. Justice Mathieu :*

Q. What is the amount of Mr Langlais' account comprised in that sum ?

A. \$123.63.

Provincial Registrar— \$397.95 ; Spackman & Co., I. P. Dery.

Attorney General's Department— \$380.00 ; Filteau & Frère, Spackman & Co., H. Jacob, I. P. Dery, Elzéar Vincent, Lyon & Paterson, Holland Bros. & Young, T. Lyon.

Treasury Department — \$274.72 ; Wyse & Co., Spackman & Co., C. Holiwell, Dickson & Co., Elzéar Vincent, Robertson & Co., Dawson & Co.

Auditor's Office :— \$308.68 ; Elzéar Vincent, Filteau & Frère, H. Jacob, J. A. Langlais, Lyon & Paterson, Wyse & Co., E. Hart & Co.

Controller's Office, Treasury Department : \$287.93 ; F. X. Garant, Filteau & Frère, Drysdale & Co. Rice, Sharpley & Son, J. A. Langlais, Spackman & Co., Elzéar Vincent.

Crown Lands Department : \$3,715.82 ; With reference to this I may say that there are two accounts for stationery and printing, the details of which I have not got. As I have the entire account I put the stationery and the printing. The whole amounts to \$3,715.82 ; L. Drouin & Frère, Rice, Sharpley & Co., J. A. Langlais, Lyon & Paterson, Elzéar Vincent, Pruneau & Kirouac, F. L. Parent.

Department of Public Works :— \$1,018.97 ; L. Drouin & Frère, P. Gauvreau, J. A. Langlais, H. Jacob, Elzéar Vincent.

Department of Agriculture and Colonization : \$666.70 ; J. B. Rolland Filteau & Frère, Elzéar Vincent.

Department of Public Instruction : \$837.76 ; Filteau & Frère, J. A. Langlais, Spackman & Co., Dawson & Co., George Bishop & Co., T. J. Moore & Co., T. Lyon.

The total of these different amounts is \$11,197.68.

By Mr. Stuart :

Q. That does not comprise the sums which have been paid by your Department ?

A. As accountant of the contingencies for these different departments, I produce as Exhibit No. 1 the statement which I have just read.

Mr. Justice Mathieu : Q. I would like to have some explanations.

You say that you paid these different amounts : does the Treasurer not pay ?

A. I am the accountant for the unforeseen expenses of all the departments.

Q. Have you money at your disposition ?

A. I have cheques at my disposition.

Q. How ?

A. Cheques which I give on a certificate of the deputy-chiefs of the departments.

Q. You yourself draw on the funds of the Province, and it is paid ?

A. Yes.

Q. That does not go through the Treasurer's office ?

A. Each department issues a warrant. When I have no more funds, I write to the department saying that I have no funds.

Q. And you expend the amount which is put at your disposal, as you see fit, without control ?

A. I am controlled by the Auditor.

Q. Does each amount that you pay not go through the Auditor's office, in order to see if it is voted by the Assembly ?

A. The amount is voted *en bloc*.

Q. The Auditor does not control your payments at all ?

Q. He controls them after I have paid them. The money comes from the Treasury Department. The warrant comes to me from the Treasury Department.

Q. He controls but after it is paid ; so that if you exceed the appropriation, or if you pay amounts which are not authorized, it is paid and then controlled ?

A. Each Department controls its expenses, has the control of its contingencies. From the moment that they send me a certificate, I take it for granted that the certificate is correct.

Q. You did not know that advances had been made to Mr Langlais you had not knowledge of the contract which had been passed between the Government and Mr. Langlais, when you made these purchases and paid these amounts ?

A. I did not purchase, I paid.

Q. When you paid these amounts you had no knowledge of the contract existing between the Government and Mr. Langlais ?

A. I knew it indirectly, like that.

Q. Did you know that considerable advances had been made to Mr. Langlais ?

A. I did not know that: I only knew the part that concerned myself and having seen it on the news papers.

And further deponent saith not.

#### EVIDENCE OF MR. E. LEPAGE.

ENOCH LEPAGE, of the City of Quebec, Accountant of the Department of Crown Lands, of the Province of Quebec, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q. Will you state what amount the Department of Crown Lands has paid to Mr. Langlais for stationery from the 23rd February, 1891, to the end of the year ?

A. \$4,451.30.

Q. Was that sum given as an advance to Mr. Langlais ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What amount and when ?

A. On the 2nd November our contingency fund in the hands of Mr. Campeau was exhausted; I paid to Mr. Langlais \$1,281.60 out of a special fund; of this there was \$500 for which Mr. Langlais was to furnish goods later on.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. For what purpose was this special fund destined ?

A. It is the balance of the appropriations which remain on hand each year, and which is deposited in the bank in the name of the Commissioner of Crown Lands under the title of "Special Fund;" when the appropriation for the contingencies or other branches are short, we draw on this fund and reimburse it when the contingencies are voted.

Q. When the fiscal year has expired and an appropriation voted by the Legislature has not been expended, do you not deposit that to the credit of the Treasury Department ?

A. It has not been done these late years.

Q. Is that the rule ?

A. It is the law.

By Attorney :

Q. By whose order was this advance made ?

A. By the Commissioner himself, Mr. Duhamel.

Q. Is that advance still due to the Department by Mr. Langlais ?

A. Mr. Langlais supplied a great deal of goods since that, but he has not yet given the account ; he must have supplied a great deal more than that amount.

Q. Since what date ?

A. Since that date there.

Q. The second November ?

A. Since the 2nd November.

Q. 1891 ?

A. 1891.

Q. Are you in a position to state for about what amount he supplied things ?

A. No ; I know that he supplied a great deal, particularly in the beginning of December, but I cannot say what amount.

Q. What portion of this account of \$4,451.30 was paid out of the contingencies by Mr. Campeau ?

A. \$1,281.60 was paid out of the " Special Fund " and \$400 out of the fund furnished by the Cadastral Branch.

Q. Well, except the sums of \$1,281.60 and \$400, the balance of the \$4,451.30 has been paid by Mr. Campeau ?

A. Yes. This amount of \$1,000 was an advance ; on the 10th August there was an advance made of \$1,000. On the 2nd November he came with an advance of \$1,781.60 ; upon that he was paid \$1,281.60 out of the "Special Fund," leaving a balance of \$500 on the advance which he got on the 11th August.

Q. Then, there would remain due, according to the books of the Department, \$500 ?

A. On the 2nd November he owed \$500.

Q. The balance of the \$1,000 which had been advanced to him on the 11th August ?

A. Yes.

Q. And you state that since that date he has delivered goods for an amount which you believe exceeds \$500 ?

A. Yes, certainly.

Q. Had you any knowledge that advances had been made to Mr. Langlais on account of stationery that he was to furnish ?

A. Not apart from what I have just said.

Q. That is, the \$1,000 ?

A. Yes, Generally, I did not occupy myself with the contingencies ; I had an assistant, Mr. Parent, and it was he who had charge of the stationery ; I never had anything to do with it ; it is only since the month of October that I have had anything to do with it : he died in the beginning

of October, and I have looked after it since. The statement which I give there is one which I have taken from the books of Mr. Parent.

Q. You knew nothing at all about the advance of \$60,000 which had been made?

A. No, sir.

The statement just referred to by the witness is now produced as Exhibit No. 2.

And further deponent saith not.

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**EVIDENCE OF Mr ARTHUR DIONNE.**

ARTHUR DIONNE, of the City of Quebec, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q. What position do you hold, Mr. Dionne ?

A. I am a law student, and at present, I am private secretary to Mr. Pelletier.

Q. Is it to your knowledge that Mr. Langlais gave a statement of the total amount of stationary furnished by him to the Departments under the contract of the 23rd, February 1891 ?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. Will you look at the statement now shewn you and say if that account is a copy of the original which you yourself have verified ?

A. Yes Sir ; I believe that is it.

Q. Are you certain that is it ?

A. Yes. I am very certain that that is it ?

Q. Where is the original ?

A. I do not know where the original is : it must be in the hands of Mr. Pelletier.

Q. Were you present when Mr. Langlais stated that he had supplied for an amount of \$11,705.93 in all ?

A. I saw him sign, myself.

Q. At the foot of the statement of which this is a copy ?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it the amount which he furnished and for which he was not paid by the letters of credit or does this amount take in the items for which he was paid a part from the letters of credit ?

A. It is the amount which he furnishes.

Q. To be imputed on the letter of credit ?

A. I do not know.

The statement above mentioned is produced as Exhibit No. 3.

And further deponent saith not.

#### EVIDENCE OF Mr. WEBB.

EPHRAIM ELLIOTT WEBB, of the City of Québec, Cashier of the Union Bank of Canada, aged 38 years, who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose :

Q. You are cashier of the Union Bank of Canada ?

A. Yes.

Q. And you occupied this position in the month of February last ?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you state whether there was deposited in your bank in Québec a cheque drawn by La Caisse d'Economie on La Banque Nationale to the order of J. A. Langlais for \$56,772.33 ?

A. There appears to have been a cheque sent into La Banque Nationale

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nale from us on the twenty-third—the night of the 23rd or morning of the 24th February for that amount, but I could not give particulars of the cheque without seeing it.

Q. To whom was this cheque deposited ?

A. According to the account it appears that a portion of it went to Mr. Pacaud's account, and the balance, I presume, must have been drawn in cash. On the 23rd February a deposit of \$24,500 was placed to the credit of Mr. Pacaud's account. The deposit slip is apparently made out by our paying-teller, so I presume a larger cheque handed to him, and the balance paid over the counter in cash.

Q. Who is your paying-teller ?

A. Mr. John Laird Jr.

Q. He is ill just now ?

A. He has been ill for the three or four weeks.

Q. You say this sum of \$24,500 was part of this cheque of \$56,772.33 drawn upon La Banque Nationale ?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you any means of tracing the balance of that \$56,772.33 ?

A. No. I have examined the books, and I see no other explanation than that it was paid over the counter in cash.

I have a copy of Mr Pacaud's account from February 1891 to December 31st, 1891.

Witness exhibits copy of account.

Q. Have you got the cheques drawn by Mr Pacaud on this account during that time ?

A. No. they have been returned to him.

Q. At what date were they returned ?

A. It was shortly before Mr. Pacaud left for Europe : I don't remember the exact date.

Q. In the month of August last ?

A. I think about that time.

Q. Just about the time of the investigation before the Senate in the matter of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway ?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you able to state whether any cheques drawn by Mr. Pacaud upon the account were deposited to any other account in your bank ?

A. No, I could n't say.

Q. Would any investigation of the books of the bank disclose whether any deposits of monies arising from this account were made ?

A. I don't see how it would be possible to trace any of them without the cheques.

Q. Would the deposit slips not shew ?

A. Not without the cheques, the deposit slips would not shew where the money came from.

Q. The cheques would not be identified in any way.

A. No.

Mr. Justice Mathieu : Is it to your knowledge that Mr. Pacaud gave any value or any consideration for the amount of \$24,500 deposited on that day ?

A. No, I could n't say.

Mr. Stuart :

Q. Can you say whether at that time any notes were retired by Mr. Pacaud—either his own or other notes—out of the money ?

A. By investigating the books I might see whether any notes were retired on the dates on which these cheques were issued—any notes of Mr. Pacaud's or on which his name appears.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. But you could not see without having the cheques whether they are connected with this money ?

A. Not unless it was some special large amount.

Mr. Stuart :

Q. I notice in the account that there was transferred to Montreal, on the 24th February, a sum of \$25,000, is that so ?

A. Yes, on the 24th February there appears to have been a transfer.

Q. To what bank would that transfer have been made ?

A. I presume it would have been made through our Montreal office.

Q. Did Mr. Pacaud keep an account at your Montreal office ?

A. No, I think not.

Q. Was there one opened by him at that time ?

A. I think not. I think the transfer was probably made to our Montreal office to the credit of some other party.

Q. Or another bank ?

A. Or another bank.

Q. Are you able to tell us to whose credit the transfer was made or to what bank ?

A. I will go down to the bank and investigate the account.

Q. Kindly take a note of it and do so.

I notice that on the 26th February there is a note for \$20,000. Was that discounted by the Bank ?

A. I think so.

The credit entered of \$19,943 would probably be the renewal of the previous discount of \$20,000, and this note of \$20,000, would be the one charged on the same date.

Mr Justice Mathieu : There was a note of \$20,000 that matured on that day ?

A Yes, it appears by the account. It was a renewal of a note of \$20,000 which matured that day, and the original note was charged to the account.

Mr Stuart : Can you now state what security, if any, was held by the bank for that discount ?

A. No, I would have to investigate that.

Q. Would you kindly do so and see if it has anything whatever to do with the matters now before this Commission ?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you state how much was withdrawn out of this deposit of \$24,500 on the 24th, and 25th, February ?

A. About \$15,000.

Q. Will you kindly look at the cheque now produced being that drawn by the Caisse d'Economie on La Banque Nationale, to the order of J. A. Langlais, dated 23rd, February, 1891 for \$56,772.33 and state whether that it is the cheque which passed through your bank and out of which the \$24,500 were deposited to the credit of E. Pacaud ?

Witness takes communication of cheque.

A. It is.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. You say about \$15,000 were drawn from that account between the 24th and 26th, February ; I see now that \$25,000 were sent to Montreal out of Mr Pacaud's account.

A. The question was on a transfer of \$25,000. The way I ascertain that is that I see here ; one-eighth, commission on a transfer on the 24th, charged to Mr Pacaud's account—\$31.25, that was commission on \$25,000.

Q. But the money transferred was not taken from Mr Pacaud's account ?

A. I think very likely the money will prove to have been taken from the balance of this cheque, but I could not say positively until I look into it.

Q. The balance that is supposed to have been paid in cash ?

A. The balance that is supposed to have been paid in cash, the transfer was made from that.

Mr. Stuart :

Q. In what way can you establish that fact, Mr Webb ?

A. By examining our account with our Montreal office.

Q. Would you be able to do that for 2 o'clock, after the adjournment

A. I think so, yes.

Q. Kindly do so.

Further examination of witness is adjourned till 2 p. m.

At 2 p. m. Examination of witness is continued by Mr. Stuart Q. C.

Q. Have you since the adjournment ascertained in what manner the balance of the \$56,772.33 was disposed of by Mr. Pacaud ?

A. In looking over the books I find that \$25,000 was placed to the credit of the Honorable Mr. Mercier through our Montreal branch. I have here a copy of the "Advice Slip" which reads as follows : " Union Bank of Canada, Quebec, February 23rd, 1891.

" To the Manager,

" Montreal,

"Dear Sir,

" I Advise at your credit, Hon. Mr. Mercier, \$25,000. You will please pay this amount into the Bank Jacques-Cartier for the Hon. M. Mercier credit to-morrow morning, 24th."

(Signed).

W. F. S.

Accountant."

Q. Can you state whether as a matter of fact this sum was sent to Montreal and placed to the credit of Mr. Mercier ?

A. Yes, I believe that it was : I have heard nothing to the contrary.

Q. But are you able to account for the balance ?

A. I can account for it, no other way than that it was paid in cash across the counter.

Q. To Mr. Pacaud ?

A. To whoever presented the cheque : I presume it was Mr. Pacaud. Advice note is filed as Exhibit No 5.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. Do I understand you to say that you believe the amount was paid

over to Mr, Mercier ? Are you sure the amount was paid ? Was it debited ?

A. Yes, it was debited ; and I heard nothing, the contrary, so I take it for granted it was paid.

Mr. Stuart : You were asked to produce a copy of Mr. Pacaud's deposit account from February to the end of the year.

Witness exhibits statement.

Q. It establishes that on the 16th, February there was to his credit \$46,500 ?

A. There was a deposit made on that day opening the account.

Q. That is the beginning of the account ?

A. Yes.

Q. And the total amount to his credit up to end of the year, the 31st, December, is \$211,527.15 ?

A. That is the total amount placed to his credit during that period.

Q. Would that represent the amount of his deposits ?

A. No, there are some discounts.

Q. Can you glance through and state what the gross amount of deposits were ?

Mr. Justice Mathieu, addressing Mr. Stuart :

You are sure you are not going beyond the scope of the enquiry ?

Mr. Stuart : That occurred to me ; but it is proof that once made will not have to be gone over. There are so many concerned in these matters... that is proof we won't have to go back upon in the various subjects to be enquired into.

Mr. Justice Mathieu : It is very desirable you should confine yourself to the subject matter of the present enquiry as the parties are not here. I think they must be protected as to the other transactions.

Mr. Stuart : I will then limit it, if the commissionners think it right to do so, for the months of February and March, I think that certainly comes within the scope of this enquiry.

Q. You will just simply state the gross amount of deposits for the months of February and March ?

A. About \$78,000.

Mr. MacMaster :

Q. Mr. Webb, when did you first see the cheque for \$56,000 ?

A. This morning,

It would not come before me.

Q. It would not come before you in the course of business ?

A. No.

Q. Did I understand you to say that it came to the bank on the 23rd, or 24th ?

A. It came on the 23rd, but was sent into the Banque Nationale on the 24th, the deposits going in the following morning.

Q. It was got by your bank on the 23rd ?

A. Yes.

Q. Before it was actually accepted by the Banque Nationale ?

A. Certainly ; it is a bank cheque, so we would not send it in for acceptance.

Q. The \$25,000 that were sent to Montreal on the 24th, in what form were they remitted ?

A. Simply the advice note that I read.

Q. Did you get any return advice from your branch ?

A. No, but the amount would have been outstanding had it not been paid ; and I know that no such amount is outstanding.

Mr. Justice Mathieu : I suppose you exchange accounts now and when ?

A. Every week.

Q. And they send you the account shewing that they had paid the amount—at least it appears so ?

A. It appears so.

Mr. MacMaster : It not appearing as outstanding, it would necessarily have been paid ?

A. If it were not paid, it would appear as outstanding, which it does not.

Mr. Stuart : Is there any other account which would correspond for that deposit except the one that was shewn to you ? Is there any other amount ?

A. No, no other amount.

And further deponent saith not.

#### EVIDENCE OF M. GEORGE H. BALFOUR.

(January 28th, 1892.)

GEORGE H. BALFOUR of the City of Montreal, Manager Union Bank.

Q.—You are the Manager in Montreal of the Union Bank of Canada ?

A.—I am.

Q.—Will you state whether on or about the twenty fourth of February last you received an advice from the head office in Quebec directing you to pay to the Jacques Cartier Bank in Montreal to the order of the Honorable Honoré Mercier a sum of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) ?

A.—I did.

Q.—Was it on the twenty fourth of February ?

A.—Yes, on the twenty fourth of February we received it here. It is dated the twenty third of February in Quebec.

Q.—Did you pay over to the Jacques Cartier Bank this sum of twenty five thousand dollars to the credit of Honorable Honoré Mercier ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—How was this done ?

A.—We charged it to the Quebec office and we credited it in our books to the Jacques Cartier Bank.

We advised the Jacques Cartier Bank that we had done so and the Jacques Cartier Bank through their Manager drew a cheque upon us for the amount, twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00).

Q.—Will you kindly read the advice note received from the Bank in Quebec ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—On the twenty fourth of February (24th Feby.), the Manager of the Jacques Cartier Bank drew a cheque which you now have for this twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—And it was passed through to the credit of the Bank through the clearing house in the ordinary way ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—On or about the eleventh (11th) of February last was there an advice from the head office in Quebec to the credit of Mr C. A. Geoffrion a sum of seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00) ?

A.—Yes on the fourteenth (14th of February).

Q.—How was this done ? By letter or telegram ?

A.—It was telegraphed on the fourteenth of February and confirmed by letter on the same date, and it was paid on the fourteenth (14th) of February.

Q.—To whom was it paid ?

A.—Mr. Geoffrion drew a cheque for it of seven thousand dollars. I have the cheque. It came from the clearing house the following day.

Q.—Will you state what the terms of the telegram were ?

A.—The telegram read “ Send immediately and pay C. A. Geoffrion, Q. C. seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00) which I now confirm.”

Q.—What is meant by “ send immediately ” ?

A.—It is a cypher word,

Q.—Did you notify M. Geoffrion or did Mr Geoffrion know that that seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00) was on deposit ?

A.—I cannot say. The cheque is dated the same day, so apparently he knew it, for the cheque was accepted the day we got the telegram.

Q.—The cheque is a cheque on your bank for the seven thousand dollars (\$7,000.00) signed by Mr. Geoffrion and certified on the fourteenth (14th) of February one thousand eight hundred and ninety one by your Bank ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—It has apparently been deposited in the Banque du Peuple ?

A.—Yes it came through the Banque du Peuple—it was deposited on the fourteenth (14th) February.

By Mr. MacMaster :

Q. Is the cheque drawn to bearer ?

A.—Yes, the seven thousand dollars cheque is drawn to bearer.

And further deponent saith not.

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EVIDENCE OF MR. WILBROD DUBÉ

WILBROD DUBÉ, of the City of Quebec, Civil Service employee, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

By Mr. Gustavus G. Stuart Q. C. ;

Q. You are a civil employee ?

A. Yes, sir.

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Q. In the Attorney General's Department ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you state if, from the 23rd February, 1891, to the end of the year, any stationery was bought from any person other than M. J. A. Langlais ?

A. Yes, sir. Our stationery was generally bought from Mr. Vincent, but towards the middle of September—it is I who distribute the stationery—there was some wanting, there were some envelopes wanted and orders were given me to go to Mr. Langlais: that was about the 15th September, and since that time all that was required was got at Mr. Langlais'.

Q. Will you furnish a statement shewing the quantity of stationery bought from Mr. Langlais and the quantity bought from other booksellers from the 23rd February to the end of the year ?

A. There is no memorandum of those things kept; but as to Mr. Langlais it is easy to say, because he has not furnished a large quantity since the month of September up to the present: I suppose we got five or six thousand envelopes and a little foolscap paper, blotting paper and wrapping paper, that is about all.

Q. Did he send a bill for that ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have bills been sent by the other stationers ?

A. I cannot say. You see, the accounts are approved by the Deputy-Minister, certified by whoever receives the goods, and the man who had charge of that, Mr. Côté, is dead. It is possible that accounts have been received and approved without my knowing it. Mr. Campeau could ascertain that; he has all the accounts that have been paid. On New Year's eve also there were some calendars received. From the way that they came I do not think the Department ordered them.

And further deponent saith not.

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**EVIDENCE OF LOUIS CYRILLE MARCOUX.**

LOUIS CYRILLE MARCOUX, of the City of Quebec. Secretary-Treasurer of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Quebec, aged thirty-nine years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists doth depose and say :

Q. Mr. Marcoux, as you have already said, you are Secretary-Treasurer of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre Dame de Quebec ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Please state whether the Caisse d'Economie now holds a letter of credit discounted by J. A. Langlais and relating to a sale made by him to the Government of the Province of Quebec of a book called " Le Sylviculteur illustré ? "

A. As I stated in my first deposition, the Caisse d'Economie does not discount. We made loans on the collateral security of letters of credit. On the 11th February, 1891, the Caisse d'Economie made a loan to J. A. Langlais of \$22,500 on the collateral security of a letter of credit signed by the Honorable Secretary of the Province bearing date the 10th February, 1891, and which reads as follows :

Department of the Secretary of the Province,

Minister's Office,

Quebec, February 10th, 1891

Mr J. A. Langlais

Bookseller & Publisher,

Quebec,

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Government has decided, agreeably to your request, to purchase 50,000 copies of the volume entitled " Le Sylviculteur Illustré ", at the rate of 50 cts a copy, the whole amounting to a sum of \$25,000. An item for this sum will appear in the budget for next session. The said sum shall be paid after the session to the holder of this letter bearing your endorsement.

I remain,

Yours truly,

(Signed)

CHARLES LANGELIER,

Provincial Secretary.

(Endorsement) Please pay to the order of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec.

(Signed) J. A. LANGLAIS.

Some time afterwards, when Mr. Langlais delivered the volumes to the Department, we caused to be transferred to us an account certified correct by the Hon. Charles Langelier, Provincial-Secretary. This account, as I have stated, is also transferred payable to the order of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec.

Q. What is the date of the account ?

A. The account bears date the 14th October, 1891, and reads as follows :

Quebec, 14th, October, 1891.

Department of the Provincial Secretary

DR.

To J. A. LANGLAIS,

Bookseller & Publisher.

50,000 Copies of the "Sylviculteur Canadien Illustré" at 50 cts..... \$25,000

Received from J. A. Langlais, Esq., 50,000 copies of the "Sylviculteur Canadien" deposited at Provost's, and the remainder at my office.

14—9—91.

J. GAUVREAU.

Certified Correct.

CHARLES LANGELIER,

Provincial Secretary.

(Endorsement) Please, pay to the order of the Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec, the above amount.

Quebec, 9—11—91

J. A. LANGLAIS.

We held this account at the Caisse d'Economie without endorsement.

When Mr. Langlais came to the office he endorsed it and entered the date.

Q. Now, Mr. Marcoux, what amount did the Caisse lend Mr. Langlais on the security of this letter of credit and when ?

A. On the 11th February, 1891, the Caisse d'Économie made a loan of \$22,500 on the security of this letter of credit.

Q. How was the money given to Mr. Langlais ?

A. The amount of the loan was paid to Mr. Langlais by a cheque to his order drawn against the account of La Caisse d'Économie at La Banque Nationale. There were three cheques.

Q. Three cheques for this amount of \$22,500 ?

A. Yes. Mr. Langlais had asked us to give him the amount in two cheques. The clerk who drew the cheques made the two first for \$11,125 instead of \$11,250. As these two cheques amounted to only \$22,250, he made another cheque for \$250 in order to complete the amount, so as not to annul the other two cheques; so that the loan was paid by two cheques of \$11,125 each and \$250.

Q. Was any part of the proceeds of this loan deposited at La Caisse d'Économie ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you any means by which you can retrace where and to whom this money was paid by Mr. Langlais ?

A. No, sir.

Q. There is absolutely nothing in the books of the Bank ?

A. Nothing at all; because the cheques having been given him, it afterwards became the business of La Banque Nationale to pay them; and as our cheques have not been withdrawn from the bank, we cannot say to whom they were paid.

By Mr. Justice Mathieu : Q. And you are not personally aware of it ?

A. No, Your Honor, I do not know it personally.

By Mr. Stuart : Q. Did Mr Langlais inform you in any way of the use he intended to make of this money ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was the transaction between him and the Bank made with you or with another employee or director ?

A. As to the loan itself the transaction was made by me under instructions from the President of La Caisse d'Economie, Mr. Chevalier Robitaille.

Q. Mr. Robitaille is now ill, I believe ?

A. Seriously ill.

I produce as Exhibit No. 4 a certified copy of the agreement of loan passed between La Caisse d'Economie and J. A. Langlais, bearing date the 11th, February, 1891.

And further deponent saith not.

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EVIDENCE OF Mr. J. BOIVIN.

JOSEPH BOIVIN, of the city of Quebec, assistant-secretary of the Province of Quebec, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists doth depose and say :

Q. As you have already stated, Mr. Boivin, you are the Assistant Provincial Secretary ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have the custody of the records of the Department ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you produce and exhibit the record relating to the purchase by the Provincial Secretary of 50,000 copies of the "Sylviculteur Canadien Illustré," french version ?

A. Yes, sir, it is record 590.

Q. This record consists solely of a copy of a letter of a credit bearing date ?

A. Bearing date the 10th, February, 1891.

Q. The original of which is now in the possession of La Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec ?

A. I don't know.

Q. You have heard the deposition of Mr. Marcoux ?

A. Yes.

Q. Well, it so appears by that deposition ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is there in your department any order-in-council relating to this purchase ?

A. No, sir.

Q. I see on the cover of the record a note of a letter which appears to have been sent to the Treasury Department. What is it ?

A. It is because the amount was to be voted at the next session, and we send copies of all such letters of credit to the Treasury Department in order that they may take note of them and enter them when drafting the Budget.

Q. When was the copy of the letter sent to the Treasury Department ?

A. There is not trace of it. It must have been sent on the day on which we received it—that is, the day on which the record was made, the 13th February ; but I cannot say positively.

Q. Could you ascertain the fact ?

A. It might be ascertained at the Treasury Department, but not in ours.

Q. There is here another purchase by the Provincial Secretary, bearing date the 2nd, May, 1891, of 10,000 copies of the "Illustrated Sylviculturier," English version, is there not ?

A. Yes.

Q. Is this the record which refers to it ?

Q. Yes, sir, the record 1332 of the year 1891 of our Department. The record consists of a copy of the letter of credit ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. That is all, is it not ?

A. That is all.

Q. Is there an Order-in-Council authorising such purchase ?

A. No, sir.

Q. I see that the cover of the record bears a note that on the 15th-May, 1891, a copy of this letter was transferred to the Treasury Department ?

A. It is the same thing as in the case of the other record ; but I see here that the clerk entered the date of the sending of the letter.

And further deponent saith not.

**EVIDENCE OF Mr. N. S. HARDY, Bookseller.**

NARCISSE SIMEON HARDY, of the City of Quebec, Bookseller, aged 56 years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

By Mr. Stuart :

Q.—Mr. Hardy, did you discount a letter of credit signed by the Provincial Secretary, bearing date the 2nd, May, 1891, in favor of J. A. Langlais ?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Have you the original letter ?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Will you please exhibit it ?

A.—Here it is :

Departement of the Secretary of the Province,

Quebec, May 2nd, 1891

J. A. LANGLAIS

Bookseller, Publisher

Quebec.

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Government has decided according to your request to purchase 10,000 copies of the book entitled "Le Sylviculteur Canadien", English version, for the price of 50cts, the whole amounting to the sum of \$5,000.

An item for the said sum will be placed in the Budget at the next session. This sum will be paid after the session to the holder of this letter bearing your endorsement.

I remain

Yours truly

CHARLES LANGELIER,

Provincial Secretary

Q.—By whom is this letter of credit endorsed ?

A.—By Mr. Langlais.

Q.—When did you come into possession of this letter ?

A.—About the month of July.

Q.—In the month of July ?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Who presented it to you ?

A.—Mr. Langlais.

Q.—What sum did you advance upon it ?

A.—Five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

Q.—Did you charge any discount ?

A.—Yes, sir, I charged discount at 8 o/10.

Q.—How did you pay this sum to Mr. Langlais ?

A.—In money.

Q.—In cash ?

A.—Yes, sir

Q.—You did not give a cheque ?

A.—No, sir, not a cheque.

Q.—Where did the transaction take place ?

A.—At my place, in the shop.

Q.—Who was present at the time ?

A. Mr. Langlais and myself.

Q. Mr. Langlais and yourself only ?

A. Yes sir. As to the cheque I do not remember whether it is cash or cheque I gave. However, I gave him the amount.

Q. It would be important that this fact be ascertained. Can you ascertain it and return at 2 o'clock ?

In case you gave it by a cheque please bring it with you.

The deposition of the witness is ajourned till 2 o'clock p. m. At 2.30 p. m. the witness again appears and continues his deposition as follows :

Q. Have you ascertained the mauner in which the proceeds of the letter of credit was paid by you to Mr. Langlais ?

A. yes, sir.

Q. How ?

A It was paid in cash. I made a mistake this morning when I said it was in the month of August : it was on the 9th, May. The proceeds of the note was paid in money by myself.

Q. To Mr. Langlais himself ?

A. Yes.

Q. It is to him you gave the money ?

A. It is to him I gave the money.

Q. Did Mr. Langlais ask you to pay it in cash rather than by cheque ?

A. No, he did not ask me anything at all. I gave him the amount asked.

Q. Had you the amount at your place ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. You had the amount in your cash-box ?

A. No, I discounted a note of \$5,000 at the bank.

Q. You, yourself discounted a note at the bank in order to give him the proceeds ?

A. Yes.

Q. Was it his note or yours ?

A. His note.

Q. At what bank did you discount it ?

A. At La Banque Nationale.

Q. Were you endorser on the note ?

A. Yes.

Q. You have said that Mr. Langlais was alone ?

A. Alone with me.

Q. Did you see any other person but Mr. Langlais with reference to this discount ?

A. No, I saw nobody.

Q. You saw nobody ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Nobody but him spoke to you on the subject or requested you to enter into the transaction ?

A. No, nobody.

Q. Do you know what was done with the money ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Mr. Langlais did not tell you ?

A. Mr. Langlais told me nothing at all on the subject.

Q. Did he impart his intentions ?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did he any way make known how he had become possessed of the letter of credit ?

A. No, sir.

And further deponent saith not.

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EVIDENCE OE MR. H. CHASSÉ

HONORE CHASSE, of the City of Quebec, advocate, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say ;

By M. Stuart :

Q.—Mr. Chassé, on what dates did the nomination and voting of the Federal election take place in the year 1891 ?

A.—As well as I can remember, I believe the nomination took place on the 26th, February and voting, on the 5th, March,

Q.—You took an active part in the elections, did you not ?

A.—Somewhat.

Q.—Will you state whether during the month of February the electoral campaign was going on in the Province of Quebec ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—People were actively engaged in the elections on both sides during the month of February ?

A.—Yes, sir.

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EVIDENCE OF MR. PIERRE G. LAFRANCE.

PIERRE G. LAFRANCE, of the City of Quebec, Cashier of La Banque Nationale, aged 52 years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

By Mr. Stuart :

Q.—Have you cheques drawn on La Banque Nationale by the Caisse d'Economie de Notre Dame de Quebec, to the order of J. A. Langlais on the 11th, February, 1891

A.—In the month of February, 1891, three cheques were drawn by La Caisse d'Economie to the order of J. A. Langlais, one bearing number 19028 for the sum of \$11,125, and another bearing number 19029 for the sum of \$11,125, and a third bearing number 19030 for the sum of \$250. They together amounted to a total of \$22,500.

Q.—These cheques were not deposited to the account of Mr. Langlais in your bank, were they ?

A.—The first two cheques were not deposited at La Banque Nationale

Q.—That is, the two cheques of \$11,125 each ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Where were they deposited ?

A.—That bearing number 19028 seems to have been deposited at La Banque du Peuple in the Lower Town.

Q.—And the other ?

A.—That bearing number 19029 seems to have been deposited at La Banque du Peuple, St Roch's ; that of \$250 bearing number 19030 must have been deposited or drawn at La Banque Nationale, for it bears no other endorsement,

Copies of these cheques are produced as exhibits 6, 7 and 8.

Q.—Have you a statement of the deposits made by Mr. Langlais at La Banque Nationale ?

A.—I have no copy at this moment.

Q.—Have you any objection to producing one ?

A.—I will produce it if the Court orders me to do so ; because there are transactions which must be quite private in this account and which have no reference to this matter.

Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. If there be particular objections to exhibiting the whole account I understand that counsel might take communication of it and not allow the remainder of it to go to the public. You might perhaps shew the ac-

count privately to counsel and only so much of it as may be necessary will be taken from it.

And further deponent saith not.

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EVIDENCE OF MR. ELZÉAR GAUVREAU.

ELZÉAR GAUVREAU, of the City of Quebec, Civil Service employee aged 51, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q. You are a clerk in the Civil Service ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Books purchased by the Provincial Secretary are delivered in your Department ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you state at what date the " Sylviculteur Illustré " was delivered to the Department ?

A. On the 11th, September, 1891.

Q. Will you look at the book which is now shewn you, and state whether it is the book in question ?

A. Yes, sir, it is the book.

The book is produced as Exhibit No. 9.

Q. Are there copies of the same book in English ? When was the english version delivered ?

A. I cannot say. It was in the month of November : they are not yet counted.

Q. Look at the book now produced as Exhibit No. 10 and state whether it is a copy of the same work, English version ?

A. I cannot say : the boxes have not yet been opened. I see that it must be that, I received some boxes ; but the boxes are not yet opened

And further deponent saith not.

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## EVIDENCE OF MR. G. GRENIER.

GUSTAVE GRENIER, of the City of Quebec, Clerk of the Executive Council, aged 44 years, being, duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q You have already said, Mr. Grenier that you have the custody of the Orders-in-Council ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you say whether there was an Order-in-Council passed with reference to the purchase of the "Sylviculteur Canadien illustré," French version or English version ?

A. I am not quite positive. It would be necessary for me to refer to, my books for that ; but I do not think there is any.

Q. Will you go and ascertain the fact and come back to continue your evidence ?

The evidence of the witness is adjourned.

The witness is recalled at the same sitting and continues his deposition as follows ?

Q. Mr Grenier, have you made search to ascertain if there was an Order-in-Council with reference to the purchase of " Le Sylviculteur Canadien Illustré", English or French version, or for either one of them ?

A. Yes, sir, I have ascertained that there is none.

And further deponent saith not.

## EVIDENCE OF MR. J. C. CHAPAIS.

JEAN CHARLES CHAPAIS, of St. Denis de Kamouraska, advocate, aged 41 years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Q.—Mr. Chapais, you are the author of the book entitled " Guide Illustré du Sylviculteur Canadien ?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Will you state to the Commission for how much you sold this book to Mr. Langlais ?

A.—\$1,000.

Q.—What did you sell to him for this sum of \$1,000 ?

A.—There was the remainder of an edition of one thousand copies. I cannot state the figure—somewhere about seven hundred, as well as I can remember, and a complete set of the stereotype-plates of the French version.

Q.—There were about 500 volumes of the first edition and a complete set of plates of the French version ?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Including the illustrations ?

A.—Yes, the electrotypes.

Q.—Did this sum of \$1,000 include the rights of authorship ?

A.—All was included. I gave Mr. Langlais all that was left of the first edition, the French plates, the English manuscript, and even the contract with the printer for printing of the English manuscript.

Q.—What was the price for printing the English version ?

A.—I can state but the expenses incurred by myself. The work as delivered to Mr. Langlais cost me \$651 ; for the work as delivered to Mr. Langlais I had made an outlay with the printer and engraver of \$651.

Q.—That is, the stereotype-plates of the first edition ?

A.—The plates of the first edition, the manuscript and proofs which were then being corrected : the proof of the English version.

By Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. What do you mean by the stereotyp plates ?

A. The stereotype-plates are the plates made by means of the first setting of the type. The type is set, and then a plate of each page is moulded into a composition made for the purpose, and from these plates copies may be taken to an indefinite number,

Q. So that any number of copies can be drawn ?— 50,000 ?

A. I am not prepared to state that 50,000 could be drawn : a great

number could be drawn : but a printer can inform you better than I can on that point.

My idea was that five or six thousand copies might be printed and I had the plates for the purpose of producing six thousand copies for sale.

By Counsel :

Q. If I understand you well, what is called a " cliché " in French is known in English under the name of " electrotype " ?

A. Not always : there is a certain kind of " cliché " which is not electrotype, but it comes to the same thing. The " cliché " in question for all the pages on which there were engravings were electrotypes.

Q. This made the printing quite easy ?

A. Certainly.

Q. And very inexpensive ?

A. Very inexpensive.

By Mr. Justice Mathieu :

Q. In other words, there was nothing but the printing to be done and the paper to be furnished ?

A. Simply.

Q. No type setting ?

A. No, not till the plates would be worn out. I cannot say how far they might have gone.

And further deponent saith not.

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EVIDENCE OF MR. NAPOLEON LAVOIE.

NAPOLEON LAVOIE, of the city of Quebec, Bank Manager, aged 31 years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, doth depose and say :

Mr. Lavoie, will you look at the cheque which is now shewn you, being a cheque drawn by La Caisse d'Economie de Notre-Dame de Québec on the Banque Nationale, of date the 11th, February, 1891, for the sum of

\$11,125, payable to the order of J. A. Langlais, and say if this cheque was deposited at your bank ?

A. Yes.

Q. By whom ?

A. By Mr. Langlais.

Q. Was this amount deposited to Mr. Langlais' account current ?

A. To Mr Langlais' account current,

Q. Did Mr. Langlais draw against this sum ?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you state how this sum was withdrawn by Mr. Langlais ?

The Honorable François Langelier appears on behalf of La Banque du Peuple and objects to the question inasmuch as it tends to make known the names of persons not mentioned in the present Royal Commission.

The President :

We are of opinion that the witness must answer the question.

(To the witness)

Q—Have you the cheques ?

A.—Yes, sir, but I refuse to produce them,

Mr. Stuart : I pray that the Commission order the witness to produce these cheques.

Mr. Justice Mathieu to the witness : You must produce them.

The witness : My orders are to answer the Court in all that concerns...

Mr. Justice Mathieu : We order you to answer.

Witness : I refuse.

Mr. Stuart : I demand that the witness be imprisoned for contempt of Court until he answers the question.

Mr. Justice Mathieu to the witness :

You say you have the cheques in your possession ?

A.—Not here : not with me.

Q.— You are the manager of the Bank ?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—You have these cheques under your control : you have possession of them, as manager of the Bank ?

A.—Yes, sir.

By the Honorable François Langelier :

Q.—Are you the proprietor of these cheques ?

A.—No, the Bank is.

The deposit of witness is adjourned.

On the 21st, day of January, 1892, the witness again appears and continues his deposition as follows :

Q.—Have you brought the cheques drawn by Mr. Langlais against the deposit of \$11,125 made by him out of the proceeds of the discount of the letter of credit of the "Sylviculteur" ?

A.—I do not know whether the proceeds are out of that, but I have brought the cheques.

My refusal to answer the other day, Your Honors, was for the purpose of shewing that matters between our clients and the Bank are not public, it is under protest that I consent to-day to produce before the Commissioners Mr. Langlais' account, declaring at the same time, after investigation, that I have found nothing that I consider to be of any interest for the Commission.

Mr. Justice Mathieu : We decided the other day that you should say how the sum of \$11,125 was withdrawn and paid ?

A.—I do not know how.

Q.—Do the cheques not shew it ?

A.—The cheques shew nothing at all. There is no amount relating to the \$11,125 in these accounts : there is no amount of \$8,000 nor of \$10,000 nor of \$7,000.00 nor of \$5,000.00

Q.—Have the cheques been withdrawn by Mr. Langlais ?

A.—No, I have them.

Q.—Are they payable to the order of anybody ?

A.—No, to the order of Mr. Langlais only.

Q.—All the cheques ?

A.—Yes. I have other cheques in his ordinary business to the order of people with whom he deals : I am ready to shew them to the Commissioners.

The witness exhibits the cheques to the Commissioners, and deposits them in the hands of the Secretary of the Commission by order of the Commission—the cheque drawn by J. A. Langlais on La Banque du Peuple, St Roch's Branch, on the 12th, February, 1891, to his own order, endorsed by him, for the sum of \$6425, which seems to have been deposited at La Banque Nationale and at La Banque du Peuple, Lower Town.

Q.—Have you any personal knowledge of the person to whom this cheque was paid by Mr. Langlais ?

A.—No, sir.

Q. Nor of the use made of it by Mr. Langlais ?

A. No Sir.

And further deponent saith not.

And the sitting is adjourned till the 19th, January, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

EDMOND LORTIE,

Secretary.

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THE \* OKA \* QUESTION.

Containing the Original Title, and a Brief Account  
of the Feudal System of Seigniorial Tenure in  
Canada, and its Abolition in 1854,

WITH A GENERAL REVIEW OF

THE OKA QUESTION IN PARTICULAR

—AND—

ROMAN AGRESSION IN GENERAL.

BY

NORMAN MURRAY,

*TITLES and Documents Relating to the Seigniorial Tenure in return to an address of the Legislative Assembly, 1851.*

QUEBEC.

Printed by E. FRECHETTE, 13 Mountain St. Lower Town, 1852.

Page 210, No. 177 *The Seigniority of Oka.*

Messrs of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, at  
Montreal,

PHILIPPE DE RIGAUD, &c.

MICHEL BEGON, &c.

On the petition presented to us by Messrs. the Ecclesiastics of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, established at Montreal by which they state, that it would be advantageous to the Mission of the Indians of the Sault Recollect in the Island of Montreal, which is under their care, that it should be immediately transferred above the said island and established in the lands which are situated on the north-west side of the Lake of Two Mountains, which said Mission would be advantageous not only for the conversion of the Indians, who being there more distant from the city would also be deprived of the opportunity of getting intoxicated, but also to the colony which by these means would be protected against the incursions of the Iroquois in times of war; praying us that we would grant them for the said Mission a tract of land, three leagues and a-half in front, to commence at the brook which runs into the great bay of the Lake of Two Mountains ascending along the said Lake and the River St. Lawrence, by three leagues in depth in fief and seigniority together with the right of superior, mean and inferior jurisdiction, (*haute moyenne et basse justice*) and the privilege of hunting and fishing as well within the limits of the said lands as on the said lake and the said river St. Lawrence, on condition that they shall as they offer to do bear the whole expense of moving the mission, and, that they shall cause the church and fort to be built of stone on the place where the said mission shall be transferred, in consideration thereof, We in virtue of the power jointly entrusted to us by his Majesty have given, granted and conceded and by these presents do give,

grant and concede unto the said Sieurs Ecclesiastics of the Seminary of St. Sulpice established at Montreal, a tract of land of three leagues and a-half in front, to commence at the brook which runs into the great bay of the Lake of Two Mountains, ascending along the lake side and the River St. Lawrence by three leagues in depth, to have and to hold the same for ever unto the said Sieurs Ecclesiastics, their successors, and assigns, even should the said mission be taken away from there, in full property under the title of fief and seigniority with right of superior mean and inferior jurisdiction and the privilege of hunting and fishing as well within as opposite said concession on the said lake, and River St. Lawrence; on condition that they shall bear the whole expense necessary for removing the said mission, and also cause a church and fort to be built there of stone at their own cost, for the security of the Indians, according to the plans thereof, which shall immediately be exhibited to us by them, to be by us approved and that the said building shall be finished within the space of two years, subject also to the condition of fealty and homage (foi et hommage) which the said sieurs of the seminary, their successors and assigns, shall be held to perform, at the Castle of St. Louis, in Quebec, of which they shall hold under the customary duties and dues and agreeable to the custom of the Provostship and Viscounty of Paris, followed in this country, and that the appeals from the decision of the judge, who may be established at the said place, shall be before the judges of the royal jurisdiction of Montreal; that they shall keep and cause to be kept, house and home (feu et lieu) on the said concession; that they shall preserve the oak timber fit for ship-building, which may be found within the limits of the land which the said Sieurs of the Seminary shall have set aside for their principal manor house, and that they shall also stipulate the reserve of such oak timber within the extent of the principal concessions made or to be made to their tenants; which said oak timber His Majesty shall be free to take, as well as the said tract of land or any portion thereof, when required, without being held to pay any indemnity; also that they shall give notice to the King or to the Governor and Intendant of this country of the mines, ores and minerals, if any found within the limits of the said fief and have the necessary roadways and passages; that they shall concede the said lands under the simple title of a rent (redevance) of twenty sols and a capon (chapon) for each and every arpent in front, by forty arpents in depth, and six deniers of cens (sixpence of tax) and that there shall not be inserted in the said concession any sums of money or any other charge than that of the simple title of rent (redevance) according to the intentions of His Majesty by whom they shall

be held to have these presents confirmed within one year from this date, in default whereof the present concessions shall be null and void.

In testimony thereof we have signed these presents and caused the same to be sealed with our seals at arms and countersigned by our secretaries.

Done and given at Quebec, the seventeenth day of October, seventeen hundred and seventeen, (1717.)

(Signed) VAUDREUIL & BEGON,

And further down by command of my Lord DeLestage,  
And by command of my Lord Barrel.

NOTE—The above was ratified by the King in Paris, 27th April, 1718, and registered in the records of the Superior Council of Quebec, 2nd October, 1719, with this alteration, that the titles were made out in the name of the Seminary of St. Sulpice of Paris, instead of the Seminary of St. Sulpice of Montreal.

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*A Brief Account of the old Feudal system of  
Seigniorial Tenure in Canada.*

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Parkman, in his *Old Regime in Canada*, says, (page 244) "Canadian Feudalism was made a double purpose, one of which was simply and practically to supply agencies for distributing land among the settlers."

Page 245. The Seigneur was usually the vassal of the crown.

Page 251. The Royal Government continually intervened between censetaire (tenant) and Seigneur, on the principle that as His Majesty gave the land for nothing he can make what conditions he pleases, and change them when he pleases. The interventions were usually favorable to the censetaire.

Page 326. At the "Deliberations de la Sorbonne sur la Boissons," 8th March, 1675, after the case was referred to the Fathers of the Sorbonne, they, after solemn discussion, pronounced the selling of brandy to the Indians a mortal sin.

Dr. Withrow, in his history of Canada, page 121 gives the following description of Seigniorial Tenure in Canada. "The censetaires paid to the Seigneur a nominal rent, but they required also to pay a small annual tribute in kind, as a goose, a pair of fowls or the like, to labour for his benefit a certain number of days in the year; to get their corn ground at his mill, paying a fixed toll therefor; to give him also one fish in every eleven

they wish. The very fact of the amount of rent being stipulated knocks the bottom out of the Seminary's claims to absolute proprietorship. A seignior and proprietor of property in general are two distinct classes of landholders. Any proprietor under ordinary circumstances can raise his rent when he pleases, and give a lease to suit himself. The seignior could only claim a certain amount and no more. To think that the Protestant Indians of Oka should be compelled to leave, to be replaced by French Roman Catholics, is simply monstrous, and when such ideas are encouraged not only by politicians but also by Protestant ministers, so-called, and a Professor in a Methodist Theological College, it is time for Protestants to begin to look around them and find out where they are. As for the *Gazette* its position is easily understood, and under the circumstances there is no fault to be found with it. It is simply a political mouthpiece for Sir John MacDonald's government, and is no more expected to give an honest opinion of its own than a member of the Church of Rome, who has given the keeping of his conscience to some one else. But people who used to look to the *Witness* thirty years ago, as the champion of Protestantism, expect it to stand by its colours in this matter. We hear a great deal about peace and quietness. I also believe in peace but it is peace with honour. There cannot be peace in the world as long as Rome is in the ascendancy; anywhere give her inch and she will take a mile. We hear people talk about other people's sincerity. Mahomet was sincere when he made converts by the sword. I could see more sincerity in Jesse James when he was robbing the trains and the banks of the United States than in men going round in black petticoats with a string of beads round their necks, and a sanctimonious look while they are passing you, which they can easily relax when they are not seen by any one.

One of my earliest recollections is the removal of a neighbouring village to America. In any old settlement there are always a number who can manage to live somehow or other from hand to mouth, but if you put them into a bush even if they have a little money and get plenty of land they are not capable of making a living out of it. How would Dr. Shaw like to see the people of Cote St. Antoine that are snug and comfortable as they are, moved into a new sphere of life they are not used to. The Indians have as much right to think for themselves as any one else, and if they should make up their minds to go to Muskoka I suppose no one would hinder them, but to send them there simply because the Seminary don't like to have Protestants near them is simply robbing honest people of their right, to please the Devil and his agents, the Sulpicians, I believe, as the old saying

is, in "giving the Devil his due," but I don't believe in giving him or his friends any special privileges just because they profess to be the very reverse of what their every day life prove them to be.

If it were any other foreign power but the agents of the Vatican that were putting in such claims, there would be only one opinion about it. A stitch in time saves nine, and it is easier to keep the Devil out of the house than to put him out after he gets in. As it is now they are making quite a fat thing out of Oka, but they haven't got quite everything their own way yet. Let them close up the saloons at Oka, put up the Indian Church they pulled down, and if they will be satisfied with what they can claim, viz. a rental of a cent an acre, they may get it, but if they put in a claim for more than their due, they or their friends need not expect to get it just for the asking. They are like the horse leech that cannot be satisfied. What in the name of common sence do they intend to do with all they have now. It is well known that the Seminary of St. Sulpice of Montreal, is richer than the Bank of Montreal, and they are as greedy after a few acres of land occupied by a few poor innocent Indians, as if they were starving with hunger. They boast of the superiority of the butter manufactured at the Trappist Monastery, at Oka, and they use all their ingenuity to make other people believe that Oka is no good for farming, and that Gibson Reserve, in Muskoka, is flowing with milk and honey. Why don't they go there if it is so good. They have plenty of money, they can live on the interest of it for some time and whenever they get short of new objects of worship, there are plenty trees there that they can worship under. Then they want a quiet retired place for devotion, surely the woods of Muskoka should suit them. Themselves and the nuns can have a good time without anyone to disturbe them. Then they will be under the fostering care of their friend Mr. Mowat, Mr. Mercier has enough to nurse the Jesuits just now and I am sure he would be only too glad to see someone else having a hand in the holy work of fostering these holy Devils incarnate. Some of my remarks may seem a little rough, but I am just as sincere in my convictions as anyone else can be. I can see no more similarity between Romanism and Christianity, than there is between a man and a monkey. I could never see anything in Popery, but a large syndicate for making money, by the meanest and most contemptible of all means, viz. trafficking in men's bodies and souls, under the cloak of Christianity, with the Pope as general manager. I am open to conviction if anyone can show me any error or mistake in the above and shall stand corrected.

*The Condition of the Seigniory of Oka as compared with  
others Seigniories.*

One point worthy of special consideration is that the conditions required of the Seminary in this instance, as acknowledged by Mr. Baile, the superior of this Seminary, at the time of the commencement of the present dispute, were more onerous than that required of any of the other 220 Seigniories of Canada, while the conditions required of the Indians practically amounted to nothing. The censitaires on the other Seigniories, were to pay on an average about 2 cents an acre of rent, while the Indians of Oka, providing the Seminary fulfilled their conditions, were to pay only one cent an acre.

One of the conditions, viz.: the building of a stone fort, was never fulfilled. The other condition, viz.: removing the Indians from the liquor temptation, is now ignored by the Seminary as facts will prove, and again the Indians at present have no church: Therefore, under the circumstances; as a stone fort is not now required, if they put up instead a stone schoolhouse build a stone church for the Protestant Indians, and remove all intoxicating liquors from Oka, the friends of the Indians will then be willing to give them a rent of 1 cent an acre. Till then their claims will be disputed at every point; and if the matter will be brought before Parliament at Ottawa, as in all probability it will, they will be in danger of losing control, not only of that part of the Seigniory which the Protestant Indians are situated, but also the whole Seigniory. If space permitted I should like to refer to Mr. Tache's plan of commutation of the other Seigniories in 1854.

As to the contention of the Seminary, about their rights being confirmed after the Rebellion, it amounts only to this viz.: the titles were originally given in the name of the Seminary of St Sulpice of Paris, and on that ground it was claimed by the opponents of the Seminary, that they had no claim whatever. All that the act of 1841 did, was to confirm the rights originally given to the Seminary of St. Sulpice of Paris, to the Seminary of St. Sulpice established in Montreal, all of which I have admitted, without in any way infringing on the claims of the Indians viz.: That as the Seminary were only stewards for the Crown, and not proprietors in any other sense, that when their services were no longer required as stewards, they had no further claim on the Indians, and it is for the Government and them to arrange about that. But neither the Seminary nor the Government has the right to remove the Indians from Oka, unless they so desire themselves.

caught, and in case of a sale of their lands, to pay him one-twelfth of the price received.

All the Seigniorial claims of Lower Canada were settled in 1854, with the exception of such as were held in trust by the Crown for the Indians, as well as the Seignior of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, or Oka, and one or two other such. See Act 1854, chapter iii. sec. 35.

The Act provided as follows: The sensetaires, or tenants, were to pay a certain amount to the Seignior in consideration of his being free from any further claims from his former Seignior. Besides this the Government spent over two million dollars in compensation to the Seigniors for their claims, and thus was the last vestige of Feudal Tenure swept out in Canada, with the exception, of the worst part of the whole business, that held by the ecclesiastics.

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### *Review of the Oka Question.*

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In the light of the above documents, let us again review the vexatious Oka question. There would be no trouble in settling the Oka question if the Seigniors were any others but a lot of crafty, deceitful priests, who will forge documents or do anything else to gain their own selfish ends.

The conditions required of the Indians were lighter than that generally required of other tenants. In this particular case there was no mention made of their being obliged to give any labour or anything else to the Seminary, but simply a small rental which, in the currency of the day amounted to 32c, and one rooster for every lot of forty acres. Allowing that a rooster would be worth 10c. at that time the whole rental would amount to 1 cent an acre. At the rate of 5 per cent, their interest in Oka, calculating upon the rate of rental that they can claim would be bought out for 25 cents an acre.

It was on this principle that the other seigniorial claims were settled.

What service have they done to this country that they should expect to get a present of Oka for pilgrimage purposes. The other Seigniors were settled by Act of Parliament, and that is also the best way to settle this one. It is outrageous to think that the poor Indians of Oka, who had been there for 173 years should be asked to leave now simply to please a lot of greedy, grabbing priests for the sake of their political influence. Possession is nine-tenths of the law, and that the Indians have got. It is ridiculous to think that the Indians or their friends should bring this matter into court. Let them bring it into court if