

Montreal Herald.

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 2.

APPOINTMENTS.

Montreal Board of Trade—Annual General Meeting of Proprietors, at the British American Assurance Co., at 3 p.m.

Montreal Board of Trade—Quarterly General Meeting, at the Harbour Commissioners' office, at 3 p.m.

AUCTION SALES THIS DAY.

Household Furniture, etc.—At No. 914 Dorchester street, at 10 a.m.

Wines, Liquors, etc.—At the corner of St. Paul and St. Francois Xavier streets, at 2 p.m.

ADDRESS OF THE

HON. H. G. JOLY,

THE PREMIER OF QUEBEC.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Gentlemen,—In proportion as I am thrown upon the causes which actuated the Lieutenant-Governor when he exercised his authority in dismissing the Hon. Mr. de Boucherville from office, all doubt upon the Constitutionality of that Act is disappearing. We assume all its responsibility. With regard to its results, there can be no doubt upon this head. That act has saved the Province of Quebec, by stopping it upon the very brink of the precipice towards which it was being driven by the de Boucherville Government. The career of the late Governor was arrested at the moment, when, to postpone the bankruptcy which their extravagance had rendered inevitable, they were resorting to direct taxation, without a solitary effort to avoid it by means of a wise economy. On the contrary—far from that—the expenses of Government were increasing regularly from year to year—while our chief source of revenue (the Woods and Forests) was being exhausted. To extricate themselves from embarrassment, the late Ministers forced the House to pass an unconstitutional measure, having for its object to deprive a considerable proportion of the inhabitants of this Province of the protection of the Courts of Justice. They sought to supersede the tribunals, and establish themselves as judges in their own cause, unwilling to reduce the expenditure. They were, of course, aware of the necessity of imposing direct taxes. Their taxation scheme of this last session, which we put a stop to just in time, was only a first step in that direction. It opened the door to taxes of all kinds, which, up to this day, have fortunately remained unknown to the population of our Province. On the 8th of March, inst., we briefly announced our programme to the House. I repeat it here in the same words: "The new Cabinet declare that they abandon the Bill, which has for its object the imposition of new taxes. They propose to meet the obligations of the Province and to carry out the undertakings—to the execution of which the public faith has been pledged—by a system of economy and retrenchment which will render unnecessary the laying of new burdens upon the people. Our opponents saw but one way to repair the faults committed by them during their long Administration—direct taxation. We see another way, which we have decided to adopt—economy. It is for the Province to elect between the two." (Signed.) H. G. JOLY.

THE DISMISSAL OF THE DE BOUCHERVILLE CABINET.

LIBERTY-GOVERNOR LETELLIER'S EXPLANATION.

It is because that I have been, as the Representative of my Sovereign, unjustly, and with indignity, dragged before the public, that I make known to you, My Lord, that in the exercise of my representative duties, I have not had sole in view the protection of the dignity of my office, but that my object has been to afford to the people of this Province the opportunity of understanding that, in the present conjuncture, the recent exercise of Royal Prerogative has not been hostile to their Constitutional liberties, but on the contrary, it has afforded them the means of freely exercising their judgment.

These results, My Lord, from what I have stated:

1st. That in general, the recommendations which I made to my Cabinet have not received the consideration which is due to them, as emanating from the Representative of the Crown.

2nd. That my name has been, by the members of the Government, signed to documents which I never saw.

3rd. That a Proclamation, summoning the Legislature was published in the "Official Gazette," without consulting or advising me, and before my signature had been attached thereto.

4th. That the same circumstances occurred with regard to the proclamation of a Day of Thanksgiving.

5th. That although I had intimated to the Premier, by my advice, and, by my letter of the 14th March, 1877, my firm determination to protect the inhabitants of this Province against the arbitrary decisions of the Executive, in matters within the jurisdiction of the Courts of Justice, he thought proper, without my participation, and without consulting me, to propose to both Houses, in legislation for the "Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Occidental Railway," to substitute the power of the Executive for that of the Judiciary.

6th. That, without having advised me, and without having obtained my authorization of any sort whatever from me, the Government of Mr. de Boucherville proposed to the Legislature a measure of almost general taxation upon the ordinary contracts and transactions of life, transfers of bank stock, &c., while no message from me had been demanded for this object, nor authorized by me, for laying such a measure before the Legislature.

7th. That in my dismissal, the

Government of Mr. de Boucherville committed a new breach of duty, by assigning reasons for the adjournment of the House, from day to day, different from those agreed on between myself and the Premier, at the risk of prejudicing public opinion against the Representative of the Crown.

8th. That at the time of the communication of the bill, which rendered necessary the dismissal of the Cabinet, in the explanations which were given by the Premier to the Legislature, and by the Attorney-General to the Legislative Assembly, both of them referred to pretended conversations which they had no authority whatever to communicate to the Legislature, since the Premier had, by his answer to the letter of the Lieutenant-Governor of the 4th March last, limited his explanations to the communication to both Houses, of my memoranda of the 25th February and 1st March, and the answers of the Premier of the 27th February, 2nd and 4th March last.

9th. That, in fact, the additions and the omissions made by the Premier before the Legislature, and by the Attorney-General before the Legislative Assembly, were contrary to the constitutional stipulation between the Lieutenant-Governor and the Premier.

10th. That the Premier and his colleagues, by making use of pretended private conversations, to explain the causes of their dismissal, in contravention to their duty to the Crown, and to what they had pledged themselves to refrain from, have placed the Lieutenant-Governor under the necessity of bringing under the notice of Your Excellency all the reasons for such dismissal.

I have the honor to be, My Lord,

Your Excellency's Most obedient servant,

(Signed.) L. LETELLIER.

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