

# ANOTHER LETTER THREATENS MAYOR

Writer Signing "English-Speaking Canadian" Not Familiar With Language

KNOWS WORST EPITHETS

Mayor Was Anxious That the  
Abusive Epistle Should  
Be Published in  
Full

Some joker, either of French or English race, delighted at the notice taken of the first anonymous letter sent to Mayor Martin, or some alien trying in a bungling way to sow discord between the French-speaking and English-speaking citizens of Montreal, sent another letter yesterday to the Mayor, telling him to prepare for death, and using language alleged to be descriptive of French-Canadians, but so painstakingly insulting that no human being could ever hold such sentiments about any other human being on the face of the earth.

The letter was dated February 25, and the writing was legible and bold, but the spelling was uncertain and some of the expressions were such as Britishers or Canadians of British descent never employ. The letter starts well enough for about eight words, but at the end of the first sentence is an expression such as would be used by a man who was thinking in and translating the idiom of his own language literally into English. The first sentence reads: "Mr. Mederic Martin, I am indeed overjoyed and delighted to hear that you received a letter from English-Canadian so expressed of the truth." "So expressed of the truth" is not an idiom ever heard in the mouths of literate or illiterate men whose native tongue is English, and therefore would be unlikely to be placed on paper by them. There are also misspelled words in the letter, which might easily occur in the letter of an illiterate "English-speaking Canadian," as he signs himself, but the internal evidence seems to point elsewhere.

## PERHAPS ALIEN ENEMY.

It was suggested at the City Hall that it may have been written by an alien enemy who thought he would be performing a patriotic action by sowing dissension between the two principal races forming the population of Montreal.

The Mayor would not hear of such a suggestion, however. When a reporter said that it had evidently been written by some one interested in hurting the English-speaking section of the population, the Mayor said: "No, there is no French-Canadian who would say such things of his own race."

"But such abusive and foolish letters do not hurt the French-speaking citizens," objected the reporter. "They only reflect back on the senders as being foolish, unmannerly and cowardly. Anyone wanting to slander the English-speaking Canadians in the minds of any other could not do it quicker than by such letters if he were clever enough to do it so that no one could discover his identity."

The Mayor felt, however, that it was from an English-speaking Canadian. "The day after my election, an Englishman saw me getting on a car, and he took the trouble to open the window and call me the most insulting epithet he could. I never said anything about it, but that happened. This is the same sort of thing."

The reporter looked over the sheet of flimsy, pink paper on which the letter was written. "We cannot publish a letter using such offensive terms as this," he said.

"If you publish any of it, you should publish it all," said the Mayor. The reporter therefore copied the letter down to its last sentence, which was "Prepare for Death," the same silly attempt at a dramatic ending which was made in the other scurrilous letter received by the Mayor on the previous day.

In all probability there will be other letters of the same kind.