

C A N A D A.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATIVE TO THE

A F F A I R S O F C A N A D A.

PART IV.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:

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1840.

SCHEDULE.

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C A N A D A.

**From Lord John Russell and the Right Hon. C. Poulett
Thomson.**

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COPIES or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE relative to the Affairs of
CANADA.

From Lord John Russell and the Right Honourable
C. Poulett Thomson.

No. 1.

(No. 26.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

Toronto, 18th January, 1840.

No. 1.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
18th January, 1840.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's Despatch of the 18th October, No. 22, calling my attention to the emigration lately effected from Ireland by Col. Wyndham, and desiring me to report to you my opinion as to the manner in which arrangements may be most advantageously made for encouraging the resort to this country of emigrants from the United Kingdom, and for employing them when here.

For Lord John
Russell's Despatch,
18th October, No.
22, *vide* Correspondence relative
to the Affairs of
Canada, 1840,
part i. p. 16.

Before proceeding to answer your Lordship's inquiries, I thought it necessary to ascertain the present state of the emigrants from Col. Wyndham's property, after an experience of a few months in this province, and I accordingly desired Mr. Hawke, the emigrant agent, to make inquiry respecting them. I enclose for your Lordship's information copies of Mr. Hawke's reports.*

You will perceive that of the emigrants in question all, except three, have left Upper Canada for the United States.

This circumstance is attributed by Mr. Hawke to the absence in this country of any public works on which emigrants might, on their first arrival, be employed. In this opinion I concur to a very great extent; but essential as emigration is to this country (and no one can be more fully persuaded of its importance than I am), it is impossible in the present state of the provincial finances to undertake any great public works, or even to continue those which have been commenced. For the present, therefore, it is, I fear, impossible to make any arrangements to increase this description of inducement to emigration; but when the union of the provinces shall be completed and the financial embarrassments of Upper Canada thereby removed, there can be no doubt that a great stimulus will be given to public improvements, and that corresponding advantages will be held out to emigrants from the United Kingdom.

Mr. Hawke next alludes to another mode by which the settlement of emigrants may be promoted, to which I attach also the utmost importance, namely, the allotment of small portions of land to them on their arrival. Experience in this province has shown that no more effectual means can be resorted to for establishing a well-conditioned and well-affected British population in a state of great comparative comfort.

Emigrants thus disposed of obtain a home and a footing in the province; they acquire by experience in the course of one or two years, and by labour on their own

* See further Despatches, Nos. 3 and 6, pp. 13 and 18.

No. 1.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
18th January, 1840.

land, that practical skill in work peculiar to this country which is essential to success; and not being possessed of land sufficient to occupy their whole time or to tempt them to extend cultivation beyond their means, they bring their labour into the market in the neighbourhood in which they are settled, to the great benefit of the district, and of those who can afford to expend capital in labour. But in order to promote the settlement of emigrants in this way, previous expenditure is also required; and here again the means are at present wanting in this province. In fact it is to public works and to settlement of this description, or better still, to both combined, that I feel satisfied we must apply ourselves in order to obtain beneficial emigration; but I shall refrain from enlarging at this time upon this most important subject. It will be my duty to bring it at large under your Lordship's consideration, for I am confident that the welfare of these provinces, and their permanent connexion with the parent state, depend in a great measure upon the adoption of a plan, even though it should be attended with some pecuniary sacrifice in the first instance, by which facilities may be afforded for the settlement within them of emigrants from the United Kingdom.

Enclosure in No. 1.

(Copy.)

Encl. in No. 1.

SIR,

Emigrant Office, Toronto, 31st December, 1839.

IN obedience to the commands of His Excellency the Governor-General, communicated to me on the 17th instant, to furnish him with a report, pointing out, as far as I am able, in what manner the emigrants sent out by Col. Wyndham during the last summer were employed on their arrival in Upper Canada—what is their present condition, as well as what portion of them remain in this province or have left for the United States—I have the honour to state, that in order to furnish the information required, I was obliged to address letters to Mr. Rubidge, who superintended the emigration in question, to Mr. M'Donell, the Crown lands' agent for the district in which they landed, and to John Brown, Esq., J. P., merchant at Port Hope, who employed the greater part of the men belonging to the party.

I have not received any reply from Mr. Rubidge, but I have the honour to enclose the answers returned by Mr. M'Donell and Mr. Brown.

It appears from Mr. Rubidge's report that Col. Wyndham's party consisted of 27 heads of families, 14 young men, and 14 young women, besides children. Mr. M'Donell is of opinion that they, as well as many others, have left the Newcastle district for want of work, but Mr. Brown states distinctly that he gave employment to 30 men, being more than two-thirds of the adult males sent out by Col. Wyndham; that they were not contented with these wages, and that, "with the exception of *three*," they have all left for the United States.

Mr. Brown does not say whether he paid them in cash, or—what is too commonly resorted to in new countries, where the circulating medium is inadequate to the wants of the community—in trade. If in cash, the wages were higher than is commonly given; if they were paid in trade, that is, in merchandize out of his shop at current prices, they ought to have been satisfied; but it too often happens that emigrants, on their arrival, set too high a value on their services, and refuse wages which they would gladly accept of after a longer residence in America. I have made many inquiries during the past summer about these settlers, and have always received for answer, that they had left the colony. I regret that such is the case, but being satisfied that it is the fact, it is my duty to state it. Indeed, it is notorious, and has been a subject of frequent regret, that for some time previous to the late rebellion, as well as since that unhappy event, the emigration from these provinces to the States, has been very considerable. I am of opinion that it is less at present than at any former period since the spring of 1837; and if we could manage to start any of our public works, many who have left would immediately return to the province.

Mr. Brown says, "I am clearly of opinion that unless the Government give lands on the former regulations of 1818, it is only giving strength to the rebels and robbers of the United States to fetch to this country such kind of people as those brought out by Mr. Rubidge."

I fully agree with Mr. Brown, that the system of granting lands on the conditions of 1818, would have an excellent effect, and attract numerous settlers of the very best sort, viz., men who had made sufficient money to enable them to improve their lands, and to pay the patent and surveying fees required by the regulations in question (9*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* currency on 200 acres, and 6*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* currency on 100 acres) on receiving the patent deeds.

But I must beg to differ with Mr. Brown in supposing that, even under the most unfavourable circumstances, any class of emigrants would join the rebels on our frontier.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. B. HAWKE,
Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

Thomas W. C. Murdoch, Esq.,
Chief Secretary.

(Copy.)

DEAR SIR,

Port Hope, 26th December, 1839.

I have been from home lately, and only now have your favor of the 20th instant, before me, respecting the Irish emigrants brought by Mr. Rubidge. I beg to say that I gave employment to about 30 of them on their arrival here, but they were not content, although I paid them 5*l.* per month; they have all left for the United States, with the exception of three, and I am clearly of opinion, that unless the Government give lands on the former regulations of 1818; it is only giving strength to the *rebels and robbers* of the United States, to fetch to this country such kind of people as those brought out by Mr. Rubidge. Please excuse haste.

No. 1.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell,
18th January, 1840.
Encl. in No. 1.

A. B. Hawke, Esq., Toronto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BROWN.

SIR,

Toronto, 17th December, 1839.

In reply to the question you put to me the other day, as to the number of settlers sent out to this country by Colonel Wyndham, under the superintendence of Mr. Rubidge, that may have left the province for the United States, I stated that they had principally left for that country; I should have mentioned at the time that I spoke merely from hearsay. It is my belief, however, that but few of that party remain in the province, which indeed cannot be wondered at when we find that numbers of persons of some years residence among us have been compelled to resort to the different canals and railroads now in progress in the United States to labour for the means (not of subsistence for themselves and families) but of procuring money to enable them to pay for their lands, which their industry has rendered quite adequate to supply all the common necessities of life.

Of this class of persons many from my own neighbourhood have been under the necessity of availing themselves of the employment thus afforded; all similar improvements having totally ceased in this province.

This being the case, can it be wondered at, that a man with a family without a piece of ground to raise a potatoe on, and without the means of procuring it, could long remain unemployed.

That there exists a want of farming servants in the province, is true, but the farmer who can afford to employ them requires single men, and not such as are burthened with families.

A. B. Hawke, Esq. Toronto.

I have, &c.
A. MC DONELL.

No. 1.

(Copy.)

Emigrant Office, Toronto, 9th July, 1839.

MEMORANDUM on the Subject of locating Indigent Emigrant Families on five acre lots.

In 1833, frequent complaints were made by gentlemen residing in the neighbourhoods of Brantford, Oxford, and Cayuga, of the scarcity of labourers, and in order to remedy the evil, I obtained the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, to locate indigent emigrant families, on portions of the Government reserves in the vicinity of the towns above-mentioned. Lots of five acres each, were laid out, and huts erected thereon, at the Government expense, and the parties were put in possession with the assurance, that if the land was not required for the purposes for which it was originally set apart; and if they conducted themselves in a proper manner, they should not be disturbed. Upwards of 60 families were thus provided for, and I believe they have invariably done well themselves, and been of great benefit to their respective neighbourhoods.

This system must of course be acted upon to a limited extent in the settled parts of the province. It possesses many advantages, if gives the emigrant an immediate home, and as the demand for labour is irregular, he can always find employment in cultivating his lot, when he cannot get employment elsewhere.

It is an advantage to the neighbourhood, because it opens a market for labour to which any person may have recourse, whenever he is in want of a labourer. The farmers of Upper Canada do not like to hire labourers who have families. They have seldom houses to accommodate them, and it is at variance with the system generally adopted by them; which is, to engage single men, and to pay them a part of the consideration for their services, by boarding them in their families.

In 1834 and 1835, between 50 and 60 families of the same class, who arrived late in the season, and for whom labour could not be obtained, were located on similar lots in Sunnidale and Nottawasaga, and as there were no settlers in these townships who could afford to hire labourers, they were employed at the expense of the Government, in opening roads and clearing land during autumn and winter. These persons have also invariably done well, all of them have cattle, and many have saved enough to purchase 100 acres of land of the Government, which they are now improving. I am of opinion that these townships would have remained unoccupied to this hour, if the Government had not commenced settling them in the manner stated. Nottawasaga, from its superior fertility, has made greater advances than Sunnidale, but both townships have continued to advance steadily, and have more than once furnished in the hour of need, a hardy loyal set of men, for the defence of the country. From the present appearance of the crops, there is a fair prospect that these townships will have a large quantity of surplus produce to dispose of next winter.

A portion of this prosperity, is to be attributed to the liberal conduct of a gentleman, who owns a large tract in Nottawasaga, (the Honourable John M'Donald, of Gananocque) to

No. 1.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
18th January, 1840.

Encl. in No. 1.

whose public spirit, they are indebted for a grist and saw-mill, as well as for occasional advances of seed to sow their cleared land.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. HAWKE,
Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

Emigrant Office, Toronto, 11th September, 1839. }

Since the above memorandum was written, I have seen several intelligent persons who have lately visited the settlements in Sunnidale and Nottawasaga, and they inform me that three-fourths of the settlers in Sunnidale, have abandoned their five acre locations and gone to Nottawasaga. In the memorandum alluded to, it is stated that Nottawasaga, from its superior fertility, has made greater advances than Sunnidale, but I was not aware that any settlers had left the township.

I attribute the abandonment of Sunnidale to the inferior quality of the land, and the extreme difficulty, (and at certain seasons the impossibility) of getting their grain to a grist-mill, disadvantages which the settlers in the adjoining township of Nottawasaga, are not subject to.

With reference to a plan for the extension of the system, I would beg to observe, that there is scarcely a town or village in the province, in the vicinity of which, from five to twenty-five families might not be located to advantage, if the Government had land and funds, at its disposal, for such an object.

The expense per family of five persons, would be from 7*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.* currency, viz., building a hut 5*l.*; transport and provisions from 2*l.* 10*s.* to 5*l.* The selection of suitable families has been heretofore left to the emigrant agent.

If it should be found desirable to extend the system to the new townships, suitable lots of 200 acres each should be selected, and laid out in parcels of five acres each, and log huts erected thereon for the emigrants. But as the Government would have to supply the settlers with employment, the expense would greatly exceed similar locations near towns and villages, for the Government could not withdraw its assistance from emigrants of this class, until settlers of a better order became sufficiently numerous to afford them work. The indigent settlers in Sunnidale and Nottawasaga were employed in opening roads, so as to afford settlers with capital access to their lands.

If the settlement prospered, the Government would be repaid the amount laid out, in part at least, by the increased value which would be given to the Crown lands. The outlay should, of course be confined to townships, in which the greater part of the land belonged to the Government, so that it might reap the advantages which would result therefrom. But unless there is a fair prospect of a better class of emigrants becoming settlers, the experiment of locating indigent emigrants on five acre lots in new townships, should not be tried, as it would be impossible for the Government to afford constant employment.

In the present circumstances of the country, I think it would be better to confine the settlement of indigent emigrants on five acre lots to the vicinity of the towns, in the neighbourhood of many of which, the Government have still park lots at their disposal.

(Signed) A. B. HAWKE,
Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

(Copy.)

No. 2.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Emigrants landed at Quebec, from 1831 to 1839, inclusive; and also the Expense incurred by this Department in Transporting, Locating, and Employing Settlers during the same period.

Years.	Number of Emigrants.	Currency Expended.		
		£.	s.	d.
1831	50,254	5,720	16	5½
1832	51,746	18,826	18	6½
1833	21,752	2,606	1	6
1834	30,935	4,538	18	7½
1835	12,527	4,743	1	0½
1836	27,728	2,720	3	10
1837	22,343	2,973	0	3
1838	3,239	627	3	5
1839	7,261	Estimated at 557 5 3		
Total	227,785	43,313	8	11

Emigrant Office,
23rd December, 1839.

(Signed) A. B. HAWKE,
Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

(No. 34.)

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 2.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
21st January, 1840.

MY LORD,

Toronto, 21st January, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information a copy of an address which I received on the 13th of December from the House of Assembly, and of my answer to the same of the 14th January.

It appears to me to be extremely unadvisable to excite the public mind by making any formal communications upon this matter. The opinions of Her Majesty's Government, and my own, are perfectly well understood with respect to it; and, as I have already had occasion to state to your Lordship, they are generally acquiesced in.

I have, &c.,

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

To his Excellency the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of Upper Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly request that your Excellency will be pleased to inform this House whether any communications have been received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies on the subject of responsible government as recommended in the Report of the Earl of Durham, or as suggested in any other manner; and if any such despatches have been received, or any by which the opinion of Her Majesty's Government upon that subject can be collected; that your Excellency will cause copies of the same to be transmitted for the information of this House.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

MESSAGE from his Excellency the Governor-General to the House of Assembly.

C. POULETT THOMSON.

Toronto, 14th January, 1840.

IN answer to the Address from the House of Assembly of the 13th December, respecting communications received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State on the subject of responsible government, the Governor-General regrets that it is not in his power to communicate to the House of Assembly any despatches upon the subject referred to.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

The Governor-General has received Her Majesty's commands to administer the government of these provinces in accordance with the well understood wishes and interests of the people, and to pay to their feelings, as expressed through their representatives, the deference that is justly due to them. These are the commands of Her Majesty, and these are the views with which Her Majesty's Government desire that the administration of these provinces should be conducted; and it will be the earnest and anxious desire of the Governor-General to discharge the trust committed to him in accordance with these principles.

No. 3.

(No. 41.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON, to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Toronto, 10th February, 1840.

SINCE my Despatch of the 18th ultimo was written, I have received some verbal communications from Mr. Rubidge, the gentleman employed by Colonel Wyndham to superintend the emigration from his Irish estates to this province,

No. 3.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
10th Feb. 1840.

No. 3.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
10th Feb. 1840.

which lead me to doubt the accuracy of the reports which I transmitted to you relative to the departure of the great body of those emigrants to the United States. I have accordingly directed Mr. Hawke to make further inquiry into the matter, and I shall communicate to your Lordship the result of his inquiries at the earliest opportunity.

I think it necessary, however, without delay, to correct an error which occurred in my Despatch of the 18th ultimo. It is there stated that "of the emigrants in question," which would properly refer to the whole body, "all except three have left Upper Canada." This statement is clearly erroneous; it should have been, that of thirty emigrants employed by Mr. Brown, who would constitute upwards of two-thirds of the whole number of male adults, all except three had, according to that gentleman's statement, left the country. I have no doubt that, from the documents which accompanied my Despatch, your Lordship will have detected this mistake; but, in a matter of so much importance, I have thought it indispensable to call your particular attention to it.

With respect to the general reasoning in my Despatch, I see no grounds to change my views, which are entirely in accordance with Mr. Rubidge's, as well as Mr. Hawke's, but I shall communicate with your Lordship more fully on this subject when I shall receive the further reports which I have called for.

I have, &c.,

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 4.

(No. 46.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

Toronto, 12th February, 1840.

No. 4.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
12th Feb. 1840.

As it is possible that statements may be made in the London newspapers, respecting a meeting lately called by Mr. Neilson at Quebec for the purpose of preparing an Address to the Throne against the Union of Upper and Lower Canada, I feel it my duty to communicate to your Lordship, as far as I am able, the circumstances connected with that meeting.

Mr. Neilson, who is editor of the Quebec Gazette, and a member of the Special Council, has throughout been opposed to the Union, and has devoted the columns of his paper to an attack on the measure. His opinions, however, appeared to meet with little response in the public mind; nor was there any agitation produced on the subject. It now, however, appears that the anti-union party had been for some time preparing a meeting, to be held at such a date as would admit of its being reported in England by the packet of the 1st February; and so secretly were their proceedings managed, that until the resolutions appeared in the public prints, at a time when it was no longer possible to take steps to counteract them, before they should be sent home, scarcely any one, beyond those immediately concerned in the matter, were aware of what was going on. I enclose a copy of those resolutions, on the unreasonableness of which it is unnecessary to comment. I understand they have been embodied in Addresses to the Crown and Parliament, to which, with the help of a portion of the Roman Catholic priesthood, Mr. Neilson and his friends are endeavouring to obtain signatures.

No sooner were these proceedings known than the opposite party called a *public* meeting, which was very numerously attended, to contradict the assertions put forward by Mr. Neilson. I enclose a copy of the "Montreal Herald," giving an account of this meeting, and I would particularly call your Lordship's attention to the four last of the series of resolutions then adopted, as conveying what I am convinced are the sentiments of a very large majority of the loyal population of Lower Canada.

It is possible that a good many signatures, or rather *crosses*, may be obtained to the petitions circulated by Mr. Neilson, but I cannot believe that they will be allowed to produce the slightest effect on the deliberations of Parliament, espe-

cially as the grounds of the application against the Union are not the advantage of maintaining the present form of government of Lower Canada, but a return to the old constitution in that province, a proposition which I cannot suppose any British statesman could for a moment contemplate as possible.

In one respect, I shall not be sorry if these petitions are sent home numerously crossed. They will, perhaps, impress upon Her Majesty's Government and Parliament the propriety of adopting my recommendation of an educational test after a few years, as a condition of the exercise of the elective franchise by those who are otherwise qualified by law to vote.

No. 4.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
12th Feb. 1840.

Enclosure in No. 4.

RE-UNION OF THE PROVINCES.

THE following resolutions, reported by a Committee named at a former meeting, were adopted at a meeting held at Mr. Glackemeyer's, on the 17th instant.

Encl. in No. 4.

JOHN WILLIAM WOOLSEY, Esq. in the chair.

Resolved 1st. That in a message from his Excellency the Governor-General on the subject of the re-union of the provinces, transmitted to both houses of the Legislature of Upper Canada, on the 7th of December last, it is stated that "so far as the feelings of the inhabitants of Lower Canada can be there ascertained, the measure of the re-union meets with approbation."

2. That we are not aware that any steps have been taken to ascertain the feelings of the inhabitants of Lower Canada on the measure of the said re-union, unless it be a reference which is reported to have been made by the Governor-General, of certain propositions to a meeting of the special council for the said province, which meeting was called by proclamation dated at Montreal the 5th of November last, to meet at that city on the 11th of the same month, and at which, from the nature and insufficiency of the notice, the distance of the residence of several of the members being nearly 300 miles from Montreal, and the difficulty of travelling at that particular season, was attended by only half of the members of the said council.

3. That the said special council has no representative character, in so far as the inhabitants of Lower Canada are concerned, but that the members thereof are appointed by the Crown, during pleasure, and have only an existence for special purposes till the 1st of November, 1840, under the Act of Parliament of the United Kingdom, 1st Victoria, chapter 9th, and cannot in any way be considered as expressing the feelings or wishes of the inhabitants of this province, on the measure in question.

4. That in the said message it is further stated that Her Majesty's advisers had refrained during the last session of the Imperial Parliament from pressing immediate legislation for the re-union of the provinces, not from any doubt as to the principle of the measure, or its necessity, but "solely from their desire to ascertain more fully the opinions of the legislature of Upper Canada, and to collect information from which the details might be rendered more satisfactory to the people of both provinces."

5. That whatever events have marked the recent history of Lower Canada, and led to the suspension of the constitution, as stated in the said message, similar events have occurred in Upper Canada, and the same difficulties have existed in the Legislature of both these provinces, at the same period. The main difference has resulted from the fact, that in Upper Canada an appeal was made by the authority of the Crown, in the year 1836, to the sense of the people of Upper Canada, on the then existing differences between the Imperial Government and the Representative Assembly, while no such opportunity was allowed to the inhabitants of Lower Canada; but the constitution of this province was suspended to the 1st of November, 1840, in the first session of the Imperial Parliament, held after the breaking out of a partial rebellion in the district of Montreal.

6. That the Act of the 31st Geo. III. chap. 31, to make further provision for the government of the province of Quebec, was enacted by the Parliament of Great Britain, upon petitions submitted at various times, from the inhabitants of this province, of different opinions and feelings, and was passed, after an agent for certain of the petitioners was heard at the bar of the House of Commons; and it is to be inferred, that all interests in the province were fully considered by Parliament, before deciding on the important question of establishing the constitution of the government of a distant dependency of the Crown.

7. That the said Act was gladly and gratefully accepted by all the inhabitants of the said province, who cheerfully discharged their duty to the Crown for the defence of its government, as established in the said province by the said Act, when it was attacked by the United States of America in the years 1812 and 1813, so as to merit the thanks of their gracious sovereign; and it is only within the last seven years, notwithstanding the dissensions which are inseparable from free government, that any complaints have been made against the said constitution, or proceedings had to obtain any alteration thereof, but on the contrary, a general desire had previously and repeatedly been expressed, in humble petitions to the sovereign and Parliament, to maintain the said constitution, and transmit it unimpaired to posterity.

8. That whatever may have been the difficulties which subsequently occurred in the district of Montreal, the whole body of Her Majesty's subjects in this province, ought not to be

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held responsible for them, or be exposed to lose that constitution of government which was solemnly granted to them by Act of the British Parliament, and be exposed to the manifold dangers and difficulties which have too frequently resulted from constitutional changes.

9. That the same spirit of justice which induced the British Parliament to re-establish by the Act 14th Geo. III. cap. 83, commonly called the *Quebec Act*, the laws of Canada, which had prevailed in the said province from its earliest settlement required a division thereof, that the majority of the persons who had settled in the upper part of the province should enjoy a system of laws with which they were acquainted, and that now that the two provinces have grown up under the sanction of the Imperial Parliament, with different codes of laws, and are distinct in almost everything that contributes to harmonious action in political societies endowed with representative assemblies, their re-union could produce nothing but renewed dissension, confusion in the laws which regulate property, oppression, and violence, the utter insecurity of person and property, and the total interruption of public prosperity.

10. That we have observed with profound grief the erroneous and injurious aspersions on the character of the inhabitants of this province generally, contained in the "Report on the Affairs in British North America, from the Earl of Durham, Her Majesty's High Commissioner, presented by Her Majesty's command, and ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, on the 11th of February, 1839," and more particularly those parts of the said Report which represent the inhabitants sprung from different national origins; as animated by the unchristian spirit of irreconcilable hatred to each other, and irretrievable enmity to Her Majesty's Government, even to the extent of a traitorous co-operation with Her Majesty's enemies in any future attempts to invade this province. Imputations so unfounded, laid before Her Majesty and the British Parliament and nation, are utterly unaccountable to loyal subjects and honourable men in this province, and are in no ways justified by the misfortunes which have resulted from dissensions similar to those which have prevailed in almost every country, including the home dominions of the Crown, and most of its colonial possessions.

11. That we are fully persuaded, that the experience of the past will serve as a beacon to warn all parties of past errors, and that the Representative Assembly of Lower Canada will study to promote harmony amongst the different branches of the Legislature and all classes of the people, make adequate provision for the support of government and the administration of justice on the principles of British Constitution, provide for any improvements which time and circumstances may have rendered necessary to afford a fair and equitable representation to all classes of the inhabitants, and in every part of the province; for the application of any duties which the Imperial Parliament may think proper to impose on goods entering the St. Lawrence, to facilitate the opening of a ship navigation from the sea to the great lakes, and for the improvement of the laws of the province and the general advancement of its prosperity.

12. That the terms on which it has been proposed in the message before mentioned, to effect the said re-union, whereby a section of the country of only about half the population and wealth of the proposed United Province is to have one half of the representation, and thereby possess the power of taxing the great majority of the inhabitants without their consent, and applying the proceeds to a sectional portion of the province, while a large debt, contracted and spent for the improvement of Upper Canada, is to be imposed on the inhabitants of Lower Canada, afford sufficient evidence of the erroneous information and unconstitutional designs which have presided at the formation of the said plan, and are a sure indication of the evils which must inevitably result from the sanction thereof by the Imperial Parliament.

13. That the constitution established by the said Act, 31st Geo. III., cap. 31, be maintained, and no alteration thereof be effected without the inhabitants of this province having had an opportunity of being heard on any bill to be introduced into Parliament for that purpose.

The following are the names of the persons who concurred in the resolutions:—

Messrs. T. C. Alwyn, advocate; M. Borne, J. P.; A. Berthelot; J. B. E. Bacquet, advocate; Thomas Baillairgé; J. N. Bossé, advocate; F. Buteau, J. P.; R. E. Caron, member of the Legislative Council; J. Chouinard, merchant; James Dinning; C. Deguise, advocate; Ls. Fiset, advocate; L. Fortier; E. Glackemeyer, notary public; F. X. Garneau, notary public; H. S. Huot, advocate; James Kelly; Charles Kelly; E. C. Lagueux; C. Langevin; Joseph Laurin, notary public; Ronald McDonald; Patrick Murphy; Joseph Morrin, M. D.; Louis Massue; F. X. Mathor; D. M. Callum, advocate; John Neilson, J. P.; J. J. Nesbitt; William O'Brien; A. A. Parant, notary public; E. Parant, advocate; Joseph Parant, M. D.; F. X. Paradis, J. P.; P. Peltier, J. P.; Joseph Petitclerk; Ed. Rousseau, M. D.; David Roy, advocate; A. B. Sirois, notary public; J. G. Tourangeau, J. P.; V. Tetu; J. W. Woolsey, colonel of militia; Thomas Wilson, J. P.; William Wilson; W. H. Roy; R. Angers, advocate; Ls. Prevost, notary public; G. Guay, notary public.

It was resolved that petitions to Her Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament, founded on these resolutions, be submitted for signature in the different local divisions throughout the province, and transmitted with the least possible delay.—*Quebec Gazette*, 24th inst.

On Friday evening last a very numerous meeting of the British and Irish inhabitants of Quebec was held at the Albion Hotel, to take into consideration the proper means to counteract the views of the hole and corner clique who passed resolutions in favour of the old constitution being again granted to Lower Canada. We made some remarks on a portion of these resolutions, and are sorry that we have not space in this day's paper to continue them, or to publish the very excellent speeches delivered at the Quebec meeting. The number present at it was between 800 and 900. Mr. Le Mesurier

was called to the chair, and Mr. Samuel Wright was appointed secretary. The following are the resolutions, all of which passed by acclamation.

Moved by G. O. Stuart, Esq., seconded by James Gibb, Esq.

1. That whereas in pursuance of resolutions adopted at a meeting of certain individuals at the house of Mr. Glackemeyer, on the 17th instant, a petition to Her Majesty the Queen, and the two houses of the Imperial Parliament, for the restoration of the constitution as it existed prior to its recent suspension, has been prepared, and is now in course of circulation for signatures, which petition contains various allegations, some unfounded in fact and others so stated as to convey erroneous impressions respecting the occurrences within this colony since the passing of the Act 31 Geo. III., cap. 31, it becomes alike the duty and the interest of the British and Irish inhabitants of this province to counteract the evil effects which may be produced by such misrepresentation.

Moved by J. M. Fraser, Esq., seconded by James Rodger, Esq.

2. That although as stated in the said petition, the Act 31st Geo. III., cap 31, was passed by the Parliament of Great Britain, after petitions from inhabitants of the province of different opinions and feelings desirous of obtaining a representative system of government, there were not wanting at the time many strongly opposed to the division of the two provinces, as calculated to engender dissensions between the respective legislatures and the different races; and by maintaining the French Canadians as a distinct race, to frustrate one of the main objects of a nation in rearing colonies, that of perpetuating, to after ages the laws and institutions of the parent state.

Moved by John Jones, Esq., seconded by E. Baird, Esq.

3. That the history of the colony since the passing of the said Act demonstrates that the anticipations of evil from its operation have been more than realized; that disputes between the separate Legislatures have arisen; that the Representative Assembly of Lower Canada, elected almost exclusively by the inhabitants of French origin, has fostered and encouraged national distinctions; totally disregarded the wants and wishes of their fellow-subjects of British and Irish origin; has impeded immigration; neglected internal improvements necessary for the advancement of commerce; has systematically attempted to coerce the other branches of the Legislature; and finally, has abdicated its high functions and excited rebellion within the province.

Moved by William Bristow, Esq., seconded by J. Leaycraft, Esq.

4. That the feelings of national antipathy against the British, their laws and institutions, which characterized the leaders of the French Canadian party, are strengthened, embittered, and more widely diffused among the people by the collisions during the late rebellion, and that the restoration of political power, as prayed for in the said petition, to those who have hitherto so unconscientiously wielded it, would be viewed by the loyal inhabitants with just alarm.

Moved by Peter Langlois, Esq., seconded by ————.

5. That this meeting denies the truth of the allegation contained in the said petition, that events similar to those which have marked the recent history of Lower Canada have occurred in Upper Canada, that the same difficulties have existed in the Legislature of both these provinces at the same period, and that the main difference between the two has resulted from an appeal having been made to the sense of the people in the Upper and not in the Lower Province. The House of Assembly of Upper Canada, in the commencement of 1836, was not supported by the people, who, on the contrary, demanded its dissolution, and on a new election, returned an overwhelming majority of loyal men, while the conduct of the House of Assembly in the Lower Province was openly approved of by the mass of French Canadians. In Upper Canada a very small portion of the population was engaged in the outbreak, which was at once quelled by the spontaneous efforts of the people, without the aid of the regular military force, while in Lower Canada, the French Canadians, not actually engaged in the rebellion, looked passively on, offering no assistance in its suppression, which was effected by the cordial co-operation of the inhabitants of British and Irish origin, with Her Majesty's troops. In Upper Canada, jurors faithfully discharged their duty to their country on the trial of persons implicated in the rebellion, while in Lower Canada, jurors in violation of the sanctity of their oaths, acquitted their countrymen in defiance of the most undoubted evidence of guilt.

Moved by John Bonner, Esq., seconded by Peter Sheppard, Esq.

6. That this meeting considers that his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief is justified in the assertion that "so far as the feelings of the inhabitants of Lower Canada can be ascertained, the measure of the re-union meets with approbation," and that the assertion is not grounded solely on the reference to the special council, as insinuated in the said petition, and the proceedings had thereon, but on the support of the measure by the public press generally, and on the fact that in the year 1838, agents were deputed from the different districts of this province, to urge that measure, as the only one calculated to confer on the inhabitants a constitutional form of Government, and to maintain their connexion with the mother country.

Moved by Edward Ryan, Esq., seconded by J. G. Clapham, Esq.

7. That "Her Majesty's Government, after the most attentive and anxious consideration of the state of these provinces, and of the difficulties under which they respectively labour," having come to the conclusion that "by their re-union alone, could those difficulties be removed;" this meeting trusts that the details of this important measure will be so arranged, that the just rights of every portion of Her Majesty's subjects may be duly protected, and that under an efficient Legislature, the prosperity of these provinces may be permanently established.

No. 4.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
12th Feb. 1840.
Encl. in No. 4.

No. 5.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
25th March, 1840.

No. 5.

(No. 91.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon. C.
POULETT THOMSON.

SIR,

Downing-street, 25th March, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 46, of the 12th ult., explaining the circumstances connected with the meeting lately convened by Mr. Neilson at Quebec for the purpose of preparing an address to the throne against the re-union of Upper and Lower Canada.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 6.

(No. 54.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Toronto, 15th February, 1840.

No. 6.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
15th Feb. 1840.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 18th of January, and 10th instant, I now transmit for your Lordship's information, copy of a further report from Mr. Hawke, embodying the result of the inquiry, which, as I informed your Lordship, I had desired him to institute respecting the alleged departure of Colonel Wyndham's emigrants to the United States. From this report your Lordship will perceive, that the information furnished to Mr. Hawke by Mr. Brown, by whom a large proportion of the adult males had been employed was incorrect; and that of the whole number sent out only 52, or rather less than one-third, have gone to the United States.

I regret very much that such an error should have occurred in a matter in which the people of England naturally take so deep an interest; but I trust that this explanation will arrive in sufficient time to prevent the publication of any incorrect statement respecting Colonel Wyndham's emigrants.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 6.

(Copy.)

SIR,

Emigrant Office, 14th February, 1840.

Encl. in No. 6.

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of the Governor-General, that in obedience to his Excellency's commands I wrote to John Brown, Esq., of Port Hope, on the 1st instant, pointing out the great difference in the statements made by him and Mr. Rubidge, respecting the distribution of the settlers sent to this colony last summer by Colonel Wyndham.

I have by this morning's post received Mr. Brown's reply, in which he states that after a careful inquiry he finds Mr. Rubidge's report correct in almost all its statements; and Mr. Brown adds, "I can only apologize for the incorrectness of my former statement from the following facts. That shortly after I employed them here, being in harvest time, many of the farmers induced them to leave by promises of higher wages, until the greatest number went away, with the exception of three heads of families, and upon my frequently inquiring what had become of the missing ones, the general reply was, that they had left for Rochester. Since, I am informed, the greatest number have returned to this province."

I have the honour to enclose two letters from Mr. Rubidge on the subject referred to, as well as a list of the persons sent out by Colonel Wyndham to Upper Canada, under Mr. Rubidge's superintendence, from which it appears that only 52 persons belonging to the party have gone to the States, and that the remainder continue in this province.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. B. HAWKE,

Chief Emigrant Agent for Upper Canada.

T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

DEAR SIR,

Port Hope, 11th February, 1840.

I HAVE received your favour of the 1st instant, with copies of memoranda received by you from Mr. Rubidge respecting the emigrants sent out here by Colonel Wyndham, in charge of Mr. Rubidge. Since I received your favour I carefully inquired respecting those

emigrants, and find that in almost all the reports made by Mr. Rubidge to be correct. I can only apologize for the incorrectness of my former statement from the following facts. That shortly after I employed them here, being in harvest time, many of the farmers induced them away from their engagement with me, by promising higher wages until the greater number went away, with the exception of three heads of families; and upon my frequently inquiring what had become of the missing ones, the general reply was that they left for Rochester with the steam-boat. Since, I am informed, that the greatest number have returned to this province. This is all the light I can throw on the subject at present.

No. 6.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
15th Feb. 1840.
Encl. in No. 6.

A. B. Hawke, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BROWN.

(Copy.)
SIR, Toronto, 1st February, 1840.
I BEG to enclose you a list with the names and residences of Colonel Wyndham's people sent out under my charge to Upper Canada; also the names of those who have left the Newcastle district, and who it is said have gone to the United States. At the same time I also enclose you the copy of a letter which I posted at Peterborough for you on the 10th of last month.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES RUBIDGE.

A List of Persons sent out by Colonel Wyndham to Upper Canada under the superintendence of Lieutenant Rubidge.

Names.	Age.	Place of Abode.
Hartigan, James	48	Near Cobourg.
" Ellen	40	"
" Patrick .	24	"
" Bridget .	20	"
" Mary	18	"
" Peggy	14	"
" James	10	"
McNamara, Patrick .	35	Near Port Hope.
" Peggy	30	"
" Bridget	12	"
" Mary	8	"
" John .	6	"
" Winifred	5	"
" Martin	2	"
Giltman, Patrick .	35	Cavan.
" Nancy .	32	"
" Michael	12	"
" Biddy	5	"
" Mary	2	"
Carroll, John	39	Cobourg.
" Bridget	36	"
" Mary	15	"
" James	14	"
" Peggy	10	"
" Judy	6	"
" Kitty	5	"
Galvin, John	29	Cavan, W. D.
" Biddy	28	"
" James	3	"
" Martin .	1	"
Clarney, Patrick	36	Supposed United States.
" Mary	36	"
" Biddy .	11	"
" Michael	9	"
" James	6	"
" Peter	5	"
" Martin	3	"
" Mary	9 months	"
Hogan, James	45	Emily.
" Kitty	32	"
" Daniel	18	"
" Judy	17	"
" Catherine	13	"
" Mary	11	"
" Peggy	6	"
" Patrick.	5	"
" James	2	"

CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE

No. 6.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell,
15th Feb. 1840.
Encl. in No. 6.

Name.	Age.	Place of Abode.
Roche, Edmund.	45	Cavan, N. D.
" Kitty	40	"
" Patrick.	11	"
" Mary	9	"
" Ellen	6	"
" Catherine	5	"
Ryan, Patrick	26	Near Cobourg.
" Catherine	30	"
" Timothy	10	"
" John	9	"
" Catherine	22	"
Ryan, Thomas	29	"
" Johanna	30	"
" Mary	8	"
" Infant	7 months.	"
" Ellen	26	"
Doyle, Timothy	26	"
" Mary	23	"
" Norah .	11 months.	"
Dwyn, Michael	30	"
" Nancy	26	"
" Mary	8 months.	"
" Margaret, sister	26	"
" Catherine, ditto	18	"
" Pat., son of Mary	2	"
Davis, James	29	Port Hope.
" Mary	24	"
Welsh, Patrick .	25	Near Cobourg.
" Biddy	25	"
" Maurice	4	"
" Johanna	2	"
Meeham, James	30	Supposed United States.
" Nancy	25	"
" Bridget.	4	"
Clancy, Daniel	44	Near Port Hope.
" Mary	37	"
" Peggy	14	"
" Bridget	11	"
" Mary	9	"
" John	5	"
" Thomas	1	"
O'Neil, Patrick .	44	Cavan, N. D.
" Elizabeth	34	"
" Morgan	17	"
" Thomas	13	"
" Michael	12	"
" John	6	"
" Mary	5	"
" Judy	4	"
Cusick, James	40	Supposed United States.
" Mary .	36	"
" Michael	20	"
" Daniel	15	"
" Peggy	13	"
" Kitty	11	"
" Biddy	6	"
" Mary	2	"
Lucknane, John	40	"
" Mary .	36	"
" Michael	20	"
" Daniel	15	"
" Peggy	13	"
" Kitty	11	"
" Biddy	6	"
" Mary	2	"
Kelly, James	46	Near Port Hope.
" Mary	30	"
" Biddy	11	"
" John .	9	"
" Michael	6	"
" Nancy	1	"
Collins, William	35	"
" Mary	35	"
" Mary	11	"

	Name.	Age.	Place of Abode.
Collins,	John	9	Near Port Hope.
"	Martin .	6	"
"	Patrick	5	"
"	Natherine	3	"
"	Cancy .	1	"
"	Nancy (sister)	20	"
McMahon,	Cornelius	29	Smith's Falls Rideau.
"	Margaret	29	"
"	John	8	"
"	Honora	3	"
Culligan,	Patrick	31	Supposed United States.
"	Kitty	25	"
"	Mary	2	"
"	Simon	26	"
"	Mary	25	"
"	John	3	"
"	Nancy	2	"
"	Infant	7 months.	"
Ryan,	James	28	Port Hope.
"	Anstes	26	"
"	Patrick	14	"
"	Nancy	11	"
"	Biddy	9	"
"	John	5	"
"	Mary	2	"
Collins,	Bridget	49	"
"	Patrick .	30	"
"	John	25	"
"	Catherine	15	"
McMahon,	Thomas	40	Near Port Hope.
"	Mary	35	"
"	Biddy	14	"
"	Mary .	11	"
"	Michael	9	"
"	Timothy	6	"
"	Nancy .	3	"
Fox,	Michael	30	Supposed United States.
Collins,	Murtagh	20	"
Connor,	James	24	"
Rennie,	James .	20	"
Quin,	Edmund	17	"
Carty,	Patrick	21	"
Meers,	James	21	"
Healy,	Peter	21	Near Cobourg.
Cullinane,	Patrick	16	Peterborough.
Murray,	John .	30	Supposed United States.
Mulgreny,	Michael	31	By Town.
Cusick,	William	22	"
Stackpole,	John	28	Supposed United States.
Moylan,	Patrick .	27	"
Dillon,	Mary	24	Near Cobourg.
Burns,	Kitty	25	"
Quin,	Catherine	16	"
McMahon,	Nelly	17	By Town.
Hayes,	Johanna	21	Supposed United States.
Hayes,	Mary	19	Near Cobourg.
Mulgueny,	Catherine	21	By Town.
Stackpole,	Kitty	20	Supposed United States.
Gregy,	Mary	23	Near Cobourg.
Gregy,	Margaret	20	Supposed United States.
McMahon,	Kitty	25	Near Cobourg.
Hogan,	Margaret	19	"
Duncan,	Mary	22	Otonabee.
Maroonay,	Catherine	25	Cobourg.

No. 6.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
15th Feb. 1840.
Encl. in No. 6.

CHARLES RUBIDGE,
Late Superintendent for Colonel Wyndham, Petworth, Sussex.
Toronto, 31st January, 1840.

DEAR SIR, Woodlands, Otonabee, 10th January, 1840.

I HAVE visited most of the people sent out by Colonel Wyndham under my superintendence, and have ascertained that twenty families and sixteen single men and women remain in or near Cobourg, Port Hope, or in Cavan, in all 131, and that fifty-two have gone to the United States, or left this district. Out of the number I visited, I found three families, the

No. 6.
The Right Hon.
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15th Feb. 1840.

Encl. in No. 6.

heads of which had been a few days out of work. It will be my care to prevent any of them suffering from want during the winter months. I am glad to find Sir R. W. Horton has sent out several of his books on colonization by Mr. Lukin Robinson, with best regards.

A. B. Hawke, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES RUBIDGE.

No. 7.

(No. 56.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 7.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
20th Feb. 1840.

MY LORD,

Government-house, Montreal, 20th February, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to report that I left Toronto on Monday last, and arrived in this city on the following day. Sir George Arthur will have resumed the government of the Upper Province upon my quitting its limits, and I have undertaken the immediate superintendence of the affairs of Lower Canada, administered during my absence by the Commander of the Forces.

It is my duty to state, especially with reference to my despatch of December, that I have great satisfaction in believing that the most marked improvement in the state of feeling has been produced in Upper Canada during the last three months, and I feel confident that if the course of policy which I have pursued be steadily followed up, tranquillity will continue throughout that province, and the excitement which I had occasion to deplore will not again be found to prevail.

I have endeavoured to inspire the people with the belief, and have convinced them when the opportunity enabled me to do so, that the government would be administered with firmness and impartiality, and at the same time with vigour; that claims to exclusive loyalty, too often the cloak to personal ambition or private vengeance, should not be made the means of insulting and oppressing those whose loyalty, though not so loud, is probably much more sincere, and that the Colonial Government should not become a mere instrument in the hands of a small faction, for the benefit of themselves and their adherents; on the other hand, I have convinced the extreme democratic party, that their efforts to subvert order, or to put forward demands incompatible with the nature of colonial administration, would be promptly and steadily met, and that their power, when deprived of the support and assistance of those who had only joined their ranks from despair of obtaining justice and protection from the Government, is very small indeed.

There are naturally a certain number of persons in both extremes dissatisfied with this course of policy; but I may appeal with confidence, as a proof of its having been successful, to the measures and proceedings of the legislature and to the general tone of feeling universally admitted in the colony to be widely different from that which prevailed some months ago.

It will be my endeavour, though absent from the province, and no longer charged with the immediate management of its affairs, to promote this feeling; and from communications which I shall maintain with the Lieutenant-Governor, and the desire which I feel satisfied he entertains to assist me in carrying out my views, I hope to be able to do so. At the same time I must repeat my conviction that the most urgent necessity exists for as little delay as possible in the settlement, by the Imperial Parliament, of the future system of government in the two provinces, because, until that be decided, it is impossible to carry into effect any general plan of improvement, or fix the minds of the people steadily and earnestly on their real and practical interests.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 8.

(No. 57.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

No 8.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
21st Feb. 1840.

MY LORD,

Government-house, Montreal, 21st February, 1840.

UPON my arrival here the accompanying petition was delivered to me by Mr. Le Mesurier, in order to be forwarded to your Lordship, to be laid at the foot of the throne. It was agreed to at a public meeting of the inhabitants of Quebec, and has been signed, as I am informed, by a great majority of the persons of property and station in that city in the course of a few days.

As I consider it of great importance to tranquillize, as far as possible, the public mind, I have discouraged, so far as my opinion can prevail, any circulation of petitions amongst those who are friendly to the proposed measure of the union. I have urged them to leave their case in the hands of the Imperial Legislature, and to trust to the wisdom and justice of Parliament for the settlement of the future constitution of this province, upon a basis which shall be productive of permanent good, and shall secure the rights and interests of all Her Majesty's loyal subjects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 8.

To the Queen's Most Excellent MAJESTY.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, Your Majesty's most faithful and loyal subjects of British and Irish origin, residing in the city and vicinity of Quebec, in the province of Lower Canada, beg leave to approach Your Majesty, and lay at the foot of your imperial throne this our humble petition, with the warmest and most unfeigned expressions of our fixed and unalterable attachment to Your Majesty's royal person and government.

Encl. in No. 8.

And we most humbly represent:—

That a petition to Your Majesty, and to the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament, for the restoration of the constitution as it existed prior to its recent suspension, is now in course of circulation for signatures. That the said petition contains various allegations, some unfounded in fact, and others so stated as to convey erroneous impressions respecting the occurrences within this colony since the passing of the Act 31 Geo. III. cap. 31, and that it becomes alike the duty and the interest of the British and Irish inhabitants of this province to counteract the evil effects which may be produced by such misrepresentations.

That although, as stated in the said petition, the Act 31 Geo. III. cap. 31 was passed by the Parliament of Great Britain, after petitions from inhabitants of the province of Quebec of different opinions and feelings, desirous of obtaining a representative system of government, there were not wanting at the time many strongly opposed to the division of the province into two provinces, as calculated to engender dissensions between the respective Legislatures, and the different races; and by maintaining the French Canadians as a distinct people, to frustrate one of the main objects of a nation in rearing colonies, that of perpetuating to after ages the laws and institutions of the parent state.

That the history of Upper and Lower Canada, since the passing of the said Act, demonstrates that the anticipations of evil from its operation have been more than realized; that disputes between the separate Legislatures have arisen; that the Representative Assembly of Lower Canada, elected almost exclusively by the inhabitants of French origin, has fostered and encouraged national distinctions; totally disregarded the wants and wishes of their fellow subjects of British and Irish origin; has impeded immigration; neglected internal improvements necessary for the advancement of commerce; has systematically attempted to coerce the other branches of the Legislature; and, finally, has abdicated its high functions, and excited rebellion within the provinces.

That the feelings of antipathy against the British nation, her laws and institutions, which characterized the leaders of the French Canadian party, are strengthened, embittered, and more widely diffused among the people by the collisions during the late rebellion; and that the restoration of political power, as prayed for in the said petition, to those who have hitherto so unconscientiously wielded it, would be viewed by the loyal inhabitants of these provinces with just alarm.

That the petition, to which we have referred, contains a mis-statement of facts in representing that events, similar to those which have marked the recent history of Lower Canada, have occurred in Upper Canada, that the same difficulties have existed in the Legislature of both these provinces at the same period, and that the main difference between the two has

No. 8.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
21st Feb. 1840.

Encl. in No. 8.

resulted from an appeal having been made to the sense of the people in the upper, and not in the lower province. In answer to this unfounded assertion, your petitioners humbly represent that the House of Assembly of Upper Canada, in the commencement of 1836, was not supported by the people, who, on the contrary, demanded its dissolution; and on a new election, returned an overwhelming majority of loyal men, while the conduct of the House of Assembly, in the lower province, was openly approved of by the mass of French Canadians. That in Upper Canada, a very small portion of the population was engaged in the outbreak, which was at once quelled by the spontaneous efforts of the people, without the aid of the regular military force; while in Lower Canada the French Canadians, not actually engaged in the rebellion, looked passively on, offering no assistance to its suppression, which was effected by the cordial co-operation of the inhabitants of British and Irish origin, with Your Majesty's troops. That in Upper Canada, jurors faithfully discharged their duty to their country on the trial of persons implicated in the rebellion; while in Lower Canada, jurors, in violation of the sanctity of their oaths, acquitted their countrymen in defiance of the most undoubted evidence of guilt.

That his Excellency, the Governor-General, is justified in the statement contained in his message on the subject of the reunion of the provinces, transmitted to both Houses of the Legislature of Upper Canada; that "so far as the feelings of the inhabitants of Lower Canada can be ascertained, the measure of the re-union meets with approbation;" and that this statement is founded not solely on the reference to the special council of Lower Canada, as insinuated in the petition to which we have already referred, but on the support of the public press generally, and on the fact that, in the year 1838, agents were deputed from the different districts in this province, to urge that, as the only measure calculated to confer on the inhabitants a constitutional form of government, and to maintain their connexion with the mother country.

That "Your Majesty's Government, after the most attentive and anxious consideration of the state of these provinces, and of the difficulties under which they respectively labour," having come to the conclusion that, "by their re-union alone could these difficulties be removed," we trust that the details of this important measure will be so arranged, that the just rights of Your Majesty's loyal subjects may be duly protected; and that, under an efficient Legislature, the peace and prosperity of these provinces may be permanently established.

Wherefore your petitioners, confiding in Your Majesty's wisdom, most humbly pray,

That the Act 31 Geo. III. cap. 31 may never be revived within this province; and that Your Majesty, in sanctioning the measure of the re-union of the provinces of Lower and Upper Canada under one Legislature, will be graciously pleased to exert your royal constitutional influence to establish the rights of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, on a basis calculated permanently to maintain the connexion of these provinces with the mother country.

And Your Majesty's humble petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Quebec, 31st January, 1840.

(2,422 signatures.)

No. 9.

(No. 98.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON.

No. 9.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
8th April, 1840.

SIR,

Downing-street, 8th April, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 56, of the 21st of February, enclosing a petition to Her Majesty from the residents of the city and vicinity of Quebec, of British and Irish origin, on the subject of the union of the Canadas; and I have to request that you will acquaint the petitioners that I have laid their petition before the Queen, and that Her Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 10.

(No. 59.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 10.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
23rd Feb. 1840.

MY LORD,

Government-house, Montreal, 23rd February, 1840.

WITH reference to that part of my confidential despatch of the 22nd ultimo, which relates to the separation of Gaspé from Lower Canada, and its annexation to New Brunswick, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have since

received the presentment of the grand jury for the inferior district of Gaspé, adopted at their meeting on the 16th January, protesting in the most decided terms against the measure proposed with respect to Gaspé by the Bill of last year, and expressing the general wish of the inhabitants to remain attached to Lower Canada. Taken in connexion with the information which I had previously received on this point, and communicated to your Lordship, I consider this presentment as conclusive as to the sentiments of the people of Gaspé in regard to their separation from Lower Canada.

No. 10.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell
23rd Feb. 1840.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 11.

(No. 96.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON.

SIR,

Downing-street, 7th April, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 59, of the 23rd of February, containing additional evidence of the disinclination evinced by the inhabitants of the district of Gaspé to a separation from Lower Canada.

No. 11.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
7th April, 1840.

I have to request that you will, in the mode which you may judge most convenient, announce to the people of Gaspé, that in deference to their wishes and to the advice which you have tendered, Her Majesty's Government have resolved not to propose to Parliament the annexation of Gaspé to the province of New Brunswick.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson, , (Signed) J. RUSSELL.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

(No. 62.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government-house, Montreal, 28th February, 1840.

WITH reference to my confidential despatch of the 22nd ultimo, and to my public communication of the 23rd instant, I transmit to your Lordship herewith the copy of a despatch from Sir C. Fitzroy, with the extract of a letter addressed to him by Captain Baynes relative to the annexation of the Magdalen Islands to the government of Prince Edward Island. As I observe from the Parliamentary papers, that the Despatch addressed by Sir Charles Fitzroy to the Earl of Durham on this subject was communicated to the Colonial Office, I do not send a second copy of it.

No. 12.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
28th Feb. 1840.

As far as I am able to judge, Sir Charles Fitzroy's views in this matter are just and reasonable, and are free from the objections which have induced me to recommend that Gaspé should not be separated from Lower Canada. I would therefore suggest to your Lordship the propriety of effecting the annexation of the Magdalen Islands to the government of Prince Edward, which may be done, I presume, by an instrument under the great seal of the United Kingdom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
28th Feb. 1840.

Copy.
SIR,

Enclosure 1, in No. 12.

Government-house, Prince Edward Island, 24th December, 1839.

Encl. 1, in No. 12.

MY attention having been directed to the heads of the Bill for the settlement of the Canadas, &c., which appeared in the public papers, wherein it is proposed to annex the Magdalen Islands to the province of New Brunswick, I deem it my duty to transmit to your Excellency a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Earl of Durham on the 28th September, 1838, reporting the results of a visit which I had then recently made to these islands at his Lordship's request, but which letter I have reason to believe did not reach Quebec until after Lord Durham's return to England.

I have also the honour to enclose an extract from a letter, dated 20th September last, from Captain Baynes, C.B., commanding Her Majesty's ship *Andromache*, who was stationed in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence during the last season for the protection of the fisheries. These letters will, I trust, give your Excellency some information which may be acceptable as to the actual state of a portion of the British colonies under your Excellency's government hitherto so little known as the islands in question; and as I am convinced that Her Majesty's government anxiously desire to make the details of the Canada Bill as perfect as possible, I trust I may not be considered as overstepping the bounds of my duty in pointing out that the annexation of the Magdalen Islands to the province of New Brunswick will not remedy the disadvantages and evils of which their inhabitants at present complain, as their geographical position renders them almost, if not altogether, as difficult of access to, and communication with, the seat of government in New Brunswick, as they are at present with regard to Quebec, whereas they are within sight and within a very few hours' sail of this island.

I would therefore beg to suggest for your Excellency's consideration, whether it would not be more advantageous to the population of the Magdalen Islands if they were annexed to the government so immediately in their vicinity, and from whence they could be so much better looked after, as they could be from hence, in preference to placing them under the superintendence of a government so distant from them as that of New Brunswick.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES A. FITZROY, Lieutenant-Governor.

His Excellency the Right Hon. the Governor-general,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 12.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Baynes, C.B., Her Majesty's ship *Andromache*, to Sir Charles Fitzroy, dated September 20th, 1839.

Encl. 2, in No. 12.

"I CANNOT conclude this letter without adverting to the state of the Magdalen Islands, which, although within the province of Lower Canada, are so entirely neglected that with a population approaching to 1,600, not a single local authority exists. Every two or three years, sometimes not so often, an agent who happens to be a magistrate, visits them from Quebec.

"The inhabitants, generally speaking, are, fortunately, a quiet and inoffensive race, and I believe quarrelling and rioting very uncommon amongst them.

"It does appear to me from the proximity of the Magdalen Islands to Prince Edward Island (only 42 miles), that great advantage would be derived if they were annexed to the government of your Excellency; and I feel assured that you would not have to consider them as a dead weight, but that the benefit would be reciprocal, their exports during the last year, I understand, amounted to nearly ten thousand pounds.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "R. L. BAYNES, Captain."

No. 13.

(No. 66.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 13.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
9th March, 1840.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 9th March, 1840.

In my despatch of the 20th ultimo I have reported to your Lordship my return to this province, and have apprised you of the improved state of public feeling which had manifested itself in Upper Canada previously to my departure. It gives me satisfaction to state that in this province also entire tranquillity prevails, and though the public mind is, as it always must be, a good deal divided on some of the more important questions now under consideration, I see no reason to apprehend any interruption to the existing calm.

The first and most important question now in debate among the inhabitants of Lower Canada is no doubt the reunion of the provinces. On this subject a good deal of misapprehension and many unfounded fears appear to be entertained by the

Catholic clergy. They have been made to believe that, from the increased strength which will accrue from the union to the British population of the two provinces, there will be great danger to the property and privileges of the Catholic church. These fears they communicate to their flocks, and although they are sensible that it is impossible now to revert to the constitution of 1791, they oppose the union in the hope, as it would appear, that if that measure be defeated the present form of government may be continued.

I need scarcely say to your Lordship that I consider these fears unfounded, and that, adverting to the number and influence of the Roman Catholics in the upper province, there is no ground to apprehend that the union will expose the French Canadians to any risk of an unjust interference with their religion. But I mention the circumstance that your Lordship may be prepared to estimate at their real value the number of signatures, which you will find attached to the petitions against the union. Considering the misrepresentations which have been circulated among them, and the powerful dominion exercised over them in such matters by the clergy, a very considerable number of the French Canadians will probably sign these petitions; but even should that be the case the petitioners must be looked upon as expressing the fears of the clergy, and of a small party who, from less excusable motives, have joined with them, rather than the sentiments of the great body of the inhabitants.

Another question which in this city has engaged much attention is the extinction of the seigneurial rights in the city and island of Montreal. On that subject, however, I have addressed your Lordship more fully in a separate despatch.

It is my intention to summon the Special Council to meet about the beginning of next month, when I shall submit to them such measures as appear to me necessary for the public advantage. Among these will be Ordinances for the improvement of the judicature of this province, for the establishment of district courts, for the erection of district courts, and prisons, and for the creation of a system of township and parish government. I have also had under my consideration the present state of education in Lower Canada, and on my departure for the Upper Province I entrusted to a gentleman, who has since made his report to me, the duty of investigating that important subject. I am not without hope that it may be in my power in this respect also to carry out the views of Her Majesty, as communicated to me in your Lordship's instructions of the 22d August last, by the establishment of a general and comprehensive system of education in this part of Her Majesty's dominions.

I have, &c.

C. POULETT THOMSON.

(Signed)

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 14.

(No. 97.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON.

SIR,

Downing-street, 7th April, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, Nos. 56 and 66 of the 20th of February and 9th of March, reporting your return to Lower Canada from Toronto, and explaining the particular measures to which you were about to direct your attention for the improvement of that province.

It has been highly satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government to receive from you so favourable a report of the state of feeling which continues to prevail in Upper Canada; and I earnestly hope that that state of feeling will be permanent, after the just and candid exposition which, on all occasions, you have given to the people of the firm and impartial policy with which the public affairs will be administered.

I am equally impressed with yourself with the importance of obtaining the early settlement, by the Imperial Parliament, of the future constitution of the united provinces; and no time will be lost by Her Majesty's Government in bringing the question under the consideration of the Legislature.

I shall be glad to learn the result of your proceedings after your return to Lower Canada; but I am more especially anxious to receive your promised report on the subject of emigration.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. RUSSELL.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 13.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell
9th March, 1840.

No. 14.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
7th April, 1840.

No. 15.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
11th March, 1840.

No. 15.

(No. 67.)

Extract of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

Government House, Montreal, 11th March, 1840.

As it is possible that some discussion may arise upon the subject of the public debt of both provinces during the progress of the Union Bill, I shall briefly state the situation of each in this respect, and furnish an approximate account, without waiting for the exact particulars which cannot, so far as Upper Canada is concerned, be completed until some returns for which I have called are rendered.

The obligations incurred by these provinces must be classed under different heads:—1st. Debt incurred for provincial expenditure of a general nature; 2nd. Debt incurred for public works on account of the province; 3rd. Debt incurred by advances to private companies for which they are responsible; 4th. Debt incurred for works for which the interest is leviable, under Acts of the Legislature, by local taxation.

In Lower Canada the only class of debt is one under the second head. Advances have been made to the extent of about 50,000*l.*, and authorized to the extent of about 45,000*l.* more, making a total of 95,000*l.* for public works, for which the province is liable, receiving, of course, the benefit of the tolls and proceeds in return.

In Upper Canada the debt incurred under the first head amounts to about 62,000*l.*, being for war losses and a portion of the insurrection losses defrayed by the province. This, however, can scarcely be accounted as debt now due for those objects, because it might long ago have been discharged from the ordinary resources, if they had not been absorbed in the payment of interest accumulating on the debt contracted for public works, or advances under the other heads.

The amount advanced in Upper Canada under the second head is 704,000*l.* and a further sum of 200,000*l.* has to be added to the charge for the interest upon the original advances, which has been paid by fresh loans. These works are the Welland and St. Lawrence Canals, which have absorbed, with the interest, no less than 817,000*l.*, and the rest, works of the same, though of a less important character.

Under the third head there have been advanced to private companies a sum, with interest also due, amounting to 36,000*l.*

Under the fourth head there have been advanced for macadamised roads a sum, with interest, of 210,000*l.*, for which the districts through which they run are liable under an Act of the Legislature, directing the annual interest to be levied by local taxation.

The whole debt of Upper Canada may therefore be called about 1,200,000*l.* in currency, or 1,080,000*l.* sterling.

I have stated in submitting my scheme for the union that the whole debt of each province must be united and charged upon the general revenue, because there will exist no separate fund after the union in either province. But it is necessary to remark that, in looking at the Upper Canada debt, which, of course, forms the important feature, although so large a sum is necessarily transferred, and thus placed upon the united province, this amount is no measure of the charge which will really have to be defrayed annually.

The whole of the debt under the fourth class, namely, 210,000*l.*, is only a contingent security given by the province. Under the Acts by which these works were authorized, the different districts were rendered liable through the district rate leviable on the inhabitants and lands, for the payment of any deficiency of interest which might arise from the inadequacy of the tolls, a provision which had not yet been enforced, but which I have directed to be immediately acted upon. No annual charge can, therefore, fall upon the united province on account of this part of the debt.

The sum advanced under Class 3 is in like manner a mere security, although, of course, not so good, inasmuch as private companies only are responsible to the government, but I have directed this to be enforced, and there can be no doubt that as regards the greater part of this sum, which is, after all, a mere trifle, the security will be available.

Nearly the whole of the debt of Upper Canada, therefore, consists of the sums expended in principal and interest upon the two great canals, and some other

public works of general utility, of no less advantage to the lower than to the upper province, and as these works cannot fail to produce some return when completed, which will, of course, be paid to the united revenue, the burthen which will really fall upon Lower Canada, notwithstanding the difference in the amount of the share of debt which it brings, must be considered as very trifling.

No. 15.
The Right Hon. . .
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
11th March, 1840.

No. 16.

(No. 75.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government-house, Montreal, 22d March, 1840.

WITH reference to my despatches of the dates and numbers mentioned in the margin, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne, an address to Her Majesty from the inhabitants of Gaspé, protesting against their severance from this province, in the event of its re-union with Upper Canada.

No. 16.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
22d March, 1840.
24th January.
23d February.
28th February.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 16.

To the Queen's Most Excellent MAJESTY.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Counties of Gaspé and Bonaventure, in the District of Gaspé.

Most humbly represent,

THAT your petitioners, animated with the most profound feeling of loyalty and attachment to Your most gracious Majesty's person and Government, beg leave to approach Your Majesty's Throne to express their sentiments of grief at the introduction into the House of Commons, in the last session of the Imperial Parliament, of a Bill for uniting the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, which enacts that the district of Gaspé shall form part of the province of New Brunswick.

Encl. in No. 16.

That such a measure could not have been introduced into the House of Commons unless prompted by a spirit hostile to the interests of the district of Gaspé, and your petitioners have every reason to fear, that the bait of an extensive trade, and the flattering expectation of acquiring a fertile soil and extensive tract of country, covered by an already numerous population, may have the unfortunate effect of inducing the legislature of the province of New Brunswick to support with their influence in the Imperial Parliament, a project, whose authors are endeavouring to decorate with the mantle of justice, but which beheld in its true colour is unjust.

That all the inhabitants of the district of Gaspé are strongly attached to the institutions and laws of Lower Canada, and would consider it as the greatest of misfortunes should the Imperial Parliament dismember the said district from the province of Lower Canada, in order to annex it to that of New Brunswick, the customs, manners, and laws of which essentially differ from those which prevail in the district of Gaspé.

That your petitioners humbly submit that if ever a policy of that nature should succeed, it would have the effect of depriving the inhabitants of the district of Gaspé of the rights and privileges that have been guaranteed to them by so many titles, more particularly by the capitulation and by the treaty of peace of 1763.

That your petitioners know not for what cause the district of Gaspé is to be dismembered, and transferred in the manner proposed by the Bill introduced before the House of Commons, and they beg most humbly to state to Your most gracious Majesty, that at a time that rebellion and disaffection had agitated both the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, that there was not even one individual in the district of Gaspé suspected of disloyalty, and who was not ready to support Your Majesty's Government, and the constitution granted by Your Majesty's predecessors unto Lower Canada.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray, that Your Majesty be pleased to take this their petition into Your Majesty's consideration, and that the district of Gaspé may continue to form part of the province of Lower Canada; or should it please Your Majesty's Government to unite the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, then to form part of the united province; and as in duty bound shall ever pray.

(831 signatures.)

No. 16.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
22d March, 1840.

To his Excellency the Right Hon. Charles Poulett Thomson, one of Her Majesty's most honourable Privy Council, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Lower Canada and Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

Encl. in No. 16. May it please your Excellency,

WE, the inhabitants of the inferior district of Gaspé, beg leave most respectfully to approach your Excellency, and express our sincere congratulation on the appointment of your Excellency to the government of these provinces.

We feel convinced that the appointing your Excellency Governor-General over these provinces, is a proof of the solicitude of the Home Government for their welfare, and we have every reason to hope from the known wisdom and talents of your Excellency, that British North America will long feel the happy effects of your Excellency's administration, and this district will not, amid the multitude of your Excellency's cares and occupations, be forgotten.

Your Excellency's administration of these provinces will be an epoch in the history of British North America, and never was there a period when the experience, information, and wisdom of your Excellency were more needed, to settle the great questions which are now agitating the two Canadas.

We beg leave to call the particular attention of your Excellency to this district, and we have every reason to hope that when your Excellency is acquainted with our real sentiments, that your Excellency's representations to the Home Government, will prevent the adoption of a certain clause in the Bill introduced into the House of Commons during the last session of the Imperial Parliament, for the uniting of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, which enacts that this district shall form part of the province of New Brunswick.

That we would consider it one of the greatest misfortunes should the Imperial Parliament dismember this district from the province of Lower Canada, in order to annex it to that of New Brunswick, such a measure would not only deprive us of the laws, customs, and usages, which have hitherto prevailed in the district, and to which we are strongly attached, but, moreover, would be an incalculable loss to Lower Canada.

That fully convinced that this measure has been delayed, in order to obtain our sentiments, we beg leave to entrust your Excellency with a petition to Her Most Gracious Majesty, and to pray that your Excellency would be pleased to transmit the same to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to lay it at the foot of the Throne.

We cannot take leave of your Excellency without expressing our full and entire confidence in your Excellency, and our sincere belief that those measures to be forwarded by your Excellency, will be conducive to the general welfare of the provinces; and we hope that your Excellency will meet with every support, to complete the arduous task undertaken by your Excellency when appointed to the government of these colonies.

New Carlisle, District of Gaspé, 12th December, 1839.

(854 signatures.)

No. 17.

(No. 113.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON.

No. 17.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
21st April, 1840.

SIR,

Downing-street, 21st April, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 75, of the 22nd March, with a petition to Her Majesty from the inhabitants of Gaspé, protesting against their severance from Lower Canada, in the event of the re-union of that province with Upper Canada.

Having laid this petition before the Queen, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously.

The despatch which I addressed to you on the 7th instant, obviously supersedes the necessity of any further discussion on this question.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 18.

(No. 80.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 18.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
4th April, 1840.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 4th April, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, in order that it may be laid at the foot of the Throne, a petition from the Roman Catholic clergy of Lower Canada, deprecating the union of this province with Upper Canada, and praying for the re-establishment of the constitution of 1791.

In my despatch of the 9th ultimo (No. 66), I have already explained to your Lordship the motives which have induced the French Catholic clergy to take part against the union, and the absence of any foundation, as it appears to me, for their apprehensions. Further reflection confirms me in the opinions expressed in that despatch, and especially in the belief that, in praying for the restoration of the constitution of 1791, the clergy do not express their real wishes, but that their desire would be, if possible, to continue the present form of government at least for several years. Under these circumstances, I cannot think that much weight is to be attached to the petition which I have now the honour to enclose.

I would request your Lordship to be good enough to enable me to communicate a formal acknowledgment of this address to the parties.

No. 18.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
24th March, 1840.

Enclosure in No. 18.

A la très Excellente Majesté de la Reine.

La très humble Requête des Evêques, Vicaires-Généraux, Curés, Missionnaires, Vicaires, et autres Membres du Clergé Catholique du Diocèse de Montréal, dans la Province du Bas Canada.

Encl. in No. 18.

Qu'il plaise à Votre Majesté,

Nous, les soussignés, évêques, vicaires-généraux, curés, missionnaires, vicaires, et autres membres du clergé Catholique du diocèse de Montréal dans le Bas Canada, supplions qu'il nous soit permis de déposer au pied du trône les sentimens de notre vénération profonde envers votre personne sacrée, aussi bien que de notre attachement inviolable, et de lui exposer.

Que, dès le mois de Décembre mil-huit-cent-trente-sept, vos supplians avoient représenté à Votre Majesté, par le canal de l'Hon. Lord Comte de Gosford, alors Gouverneur-en-Chef des provinces du Canada, qu'il étoit indispensable que les deux provinces fussent et restassent séparées par un gouvernement distinct, si l'on vouloit qu'elles demeurassent attachées pour toujours à la mère-patrie, comme elles ont tout lieu de le désirer. Mais que la séparation gouvernementale des deux provinces est devenue bien plus nécessaire depuis, par l'union des deux provinces Canadiennes, projetée contre les traités et actes les plus solennels de la Grande Bretagne, nous sommes menacés de perdre les droits acquis et garantis en faveur de notre religion, de nos lois, et même de notre langue; que cette union n'auroit lieu qu'à des conditions avilissantes et onéreuses pour ce pays, telles que d'aider à payer les dettes du Haut Canada que nous n'avons jamais contractées, d'être défranchisés de nos droits comme électeurs dans la proportion qui nous est dûe comme sujets Britanniques, et même de voir transporter le siège du Gouvernement, qui est la résidence naturelle d'un Gouverneur-Général, du Bas au Haut Canada.

Qu'une pétition pareille à celle-ci, signée en 1823 par 87,000 sujets fidèles de Sa Majesté, préserva alors cette province d'un malheur semblable à celui que l'on délibère de nous infliger aujourd'hui; parceque les illustres rois, vos ancêtres, se rappellèrent alors des exploits des Canadiens pour la défense constante du pays et pour la gloire des armes Britanniques, au lieu de punir une province entière pour les fautes d'un petit nombre proportionnel de coupables.

C'est pourquoi, vos pétitionnaires supplient très humblement que le Gouvernement leur soit rendu, telqu'il existoit dans cette province en vertu de l'Acte de la 31 année de Geo. III, c. 31, et ferez justice.

+ J. J. LARTIGUE, Evêque Cath. de Montréal.
+ IG. BOURGET, Evêque de Telmissi, Coad. de Montréal.
(148 Signatures.)

Montréal, dans le Bas Canada,
le 25 Février, 1840.

No. 19.

(No. 141.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon.
C. POULETT THOMSON.

SIR,

Downing-street, 28th May, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 80, of the 4th of April, transmitting to me, in order that it may laid at the foot of the Throne, a petition from the Roman Catholic Clergy of Lower Canada, deprecating the union of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and praying for the re-establishment of the constitution of 1791.

No. 19.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
28th May, 1840.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
14th April, 1840.

(No. 83.)

No. 20.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 14th April, 1840.

For Despatch 24th
Dec. 1839, *vide*
Correspondence
relative to the
Union of the
Canadas, 1840,
page 28.

IN my despatch of the 24th December last, I have recommended that it should be left to the Governor to declare the Union of Upper and Lower Canada, under the Bill of which I subsequently sent you the Draft, at such time as he should think proper, and I explained at length the grounds of my recommendation. It has occurred to me, however, that it might possibly escape your Lordship's notice that, in the event of the Union being postponed beyond the 1st November next, the former Constitution of Lower Canada would, as the law now stands, again come into operation at that date. To obviate this it will be necessary that a clause should be introduced into the Union Bill continuing the suspension of the former Constitution of Lower Canada, until the Proclamation of the Union of the two Provinces.

Your Lordship is aware that under the Constitutional Act the Assembly of Upper Canada will expire on the 16th of July next, being four years from the date of the return of the writs for its election. A question thence arose whether it would be necessary immediately to have a new election, and on that point I have consulted the law officers of the Crown, both in Upper and Lower Canada. In their opinion no such election is necessary under the Constitutional Act, provided that a session take place within twelve calendar months from the close of the former session, and as it would be highly inexpedient on the eve of so great a change in the representative system of that province needlessly to give rise to political excitement, I have decided not to issue writs for the election of a new Assembly in Upper Canada, until I shall have learnt the fate of the Union Bill in England. I mention this circumstance to your Lordship in order that you may be fully acquainted with the course which I propose to pursue in this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 21.

(No. 86.)

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord
JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 17th April, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, the Report made to me by the Emigrant Agent of this Province for the year 1839. My absence in Upper Canada, and the pressure of business since my return to Montreal, have delayed its transmission beyond what I had intended.

From this Report your Lordship will perceive that emigration to these provinces which, in the previous year, had almost ceased, had, in 1839, again begun to revive; and although the increase was not numerically great, it is sufficient to justify a hope that the tranquillity which has prevailed during the winter, and the confidence in the future which has now returned, will lead to a very large augmentation during the present and future years. The general good health of the emigrants, and the arrangements made for their comfort on arrival, will, when generally known, conduce much to this end.

I beg to call your Lordship's special attention to the frauds practised on emigrants by the captains and others connected with passenger ships. I am aware that, under the existing Passengers' Act, the powers of the agents at the out-ports are limited; but I would submit to your Lordship the propriety of enlarging those powers, and more particularly of taking steps to make known as extensively as possible in the districts from which emigration takes place, that at the principal ports of the United Kingdom, Government agents are stationed, whose duty it is

to assist and protect the emigrant. This, with a strict enforcement of the penalties of the law when incurred, may perhaps remedy the evil at present existing; an evil which must, in the first instance, interfere greatly with emigration, or at all events must tend to reduce to pauperism those who would otherwise arrive in Canada with means sufficient to support them till they could get regular employment.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.

You will observe that the Emigrant Agent expresses himself very decidedly against the tax heretofore paid by emigrants on their arrival. Whatever weight may be due to Mr. Buchanan's arguments is, in my opinion, more than counterbalanced under present circumstances by the advantages of the tax. Without it there would be no fund from which sick or destitute emigrants could be relieved or assisted. They would, therefore, either be exposed to the greatest distress on their first arrival, or would be thrown a burden on the charitable contributions of the inhabitants of Quebec and Montreal. Independently of the injustice of such a state of things to those cities, which derive no advantage from emigration but in common with all Canada, the emigrants themselves would at once become paupers; would be subjected to all the demoralization of a dependence on the charity of others; exposed at the same time to the temptations of cities where intemperance is unfortunately but too common and too easy. Such a result would render emigration a curse instead of a blessing, no less to this country than to the emigrants.

If, indeed, it were possible immediately on the emigrant's arrival to find him employment at or near his place of disembarkation, the emigrant tax might be reduced, or altogether discontinued; and I trust that the improvements which I hope to commence on the roads of this province, may afford such employment, but at present there is no public work open to emigrants, and the inconveniences of the tax, whatever they may be, must therefore be endured. I purpose, however, in the ordinance which I am about to introduce into the Special Council, to retain the distribution of the fund in the hands of the Government, not, certainly, from any doubt as to the good faith and uprightness of those gentlemen who, from motives of charity and public spirit, devoted gratuitously a portion of their most valuable time to its management, but simply because, administered by a responsible officer, under the immediate supervision of the Government, it may, I think, be made more generally useful. One object to which I shall devote a portion of it, is the quarantine establishment, at Grosse Isle, which I have reconstituted this year, on a very reduced scale. I enclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of my proclamation on this subject, from which you will perceive, that instead of every vessel being, as heretofore, compelled to stop at Grosse Isle, a serious, and at the same time unnecessary burthen upon trade, only vessels having 13 or more steerage passengers, or who have had sickness on board during their voyage, will be required to perform quarantine. Every care will be taken to limit the interference with emigrant ships to what is necessary to prevent the introduction of disease into the province.

In his argument respecting the emigrant tax, Mr. Buchanan recommends "an annual appropriation by the Imperial Government, in a similar manner to that which has been adopted in Upper Canada." I understand Mr. Buchanan to allude here to assistance which, under an authority from Lord Ripon, has been extended from time to time out of the Crown Revenues to needy emigrants, but which, of late years, does not appear to have been acted upon. I notice the matter simply because, from the mode in which it is mentioned, your Lordship might probably not understand the allusion.

Finally, I would suggest to your Lordship, that the Commissioners for the Sale of Land and Emigration, having the best means of knowing the points on which persons intending to emigrate generally desire information, should be directed to draw up a series of questions embodying those points. When this is done, I will take care to furnish your Lordship with accurate answers on them. In no other way do I conceive that those particulars could be so satisfactorily ascertained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. POULETT THOMSON.

No. 21.
The Right Hon,
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

Enclosure 1, in No. 21.

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Office of Her Majesty's Chief Agent for the Superintendence of Emigration in Upper and Lower Canada.

SIR, Quebec, 12th January, 1840.

THE navigation of the St. Lawrence being closed for the winter, I have the honour to lay before your Excellency, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, my report of the emigration to these provinces during the year 1839.

It affords me pleasure to inform your Excellency that, notwithstanding the unsettled state of Upper and Lower Canada during the last two years, and the exaggerated statements which have been widely circulated through the emigrant districts in the United Kingdom, the increase in the number of emigrants has been more than double in comparison with the year 1838. In paper No. 1, in the Appendix, it will be seen that the total number of migrants recorded at this office, from the opening of the navigation to its close, amounts to 7,439, being an increase over last year of 4,173 souls.

Paper No. 2, shows a detailed statement of the ports whence these emigrants sailed, with also the particular number from each country, viz. : from England the number was 1,586; from Ireland, 5,113; from Scotland, 485 souls; and from Nova Scotia, N Brunswick, and ports in the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, 255 souls.

Paper No. 3, in the Appendix, exhibits a comparative account of the emigration to this colony since the year 1829; the total number recorded at this office since that period amounts to 271,493 souls.

It is gratifying to be able to report to your Excellency that no loss of life has occurred from shipwreck amongst the emigrants of last season; the only vessel totally lost with emigrants on board was the Navarino, from Dublin, with 12 passengers; she was wrecked at Little Metis, on the south bank of the St. Lawrence, the passengers were saved and brought up in a schooner. The Napernaum, also from Dublin, with 75 passengers, got on shore at Matan, on the south

bank of the St. Lawrence, but after some delay was got off and brought part of her passengers up to Quebec.

The general health of the emigrants has been more favourable than on former years, which may be attributed, in some measure, to the passenger vessels being less crowded than before; and, by referring to paper No. 5, in the Appendix, it will appear, by the very satisfactory report received from Doctor Douglas, the medical officer in charge of the quarantine establishment at Grosse Isle, that out of 189 cases admitted to the hospital, there were only nine deaths, two of which were of seamen. Amongst the emigrants two deaths only were of adults, and the remaining five of children.

Your Excellency will also find a similar return by Dr. Andrews, from the marine hospital of this city, which is equally favourable in respect of the general health of the emigrants of 1839.

I regret to be obliged to notice again in terms of reprehension, the conduct of certain passenger agents and shipmasters engaged in the passenger trade. It is the practice, principally with reference to the port of Liverpool, to send a travelling agent, early in the season, through the country parishes in Ireland, in order to secure passengers for the spring vessels bound to Canada and the United States. The intending emigrants who thus engage with the travelling agent, often make a deposit of one half of the passage-money, for the purpose of securing a berth on board; they are then directed by the travelling agent to repair to the port of embarkation by a certain date; and on arrival finding the vessel not ready for sea, they are detained and put off from day to day under various excuses. Should the ship-agent find many passengers coming forward, he frequently raises the price of the passage, and the emigrant, anxious to embark, pays the additional sum asked out of the sum laid by for his anticipated wants after arrival in America. It is obvious how injurious such a system must be to the interests of emigration, and how cruel and unjust it is to the emigrant himself.

The above statement applies to the case of some passengers, 30 in number, who came out in the Royal William, from Liverpool. They had engaged their passage with the agent of a vessel bound from Liverpool to New York; but on their arrival from Belfast at Liverpool, they found the rate of passage raised; and they were obliged to come out by the way of the river St. Lawrence. Had they not done so, they would have had no resource but to make up the increased amount demanded of them by sacrificing part of the small sum which they had reserved against their arrival in this country.

This system of raising the amount of passage-money after the passage out has been engaged with the travelling agent, accounts for the number of unprovided emigrants who annually land at this port. They are induced, in the first instance, by interested persons, to quit their homes; imposed upon by false statements; they arrive at the seaport, strangers, and unacquainted with the proper means to prevent imposition; here they are completely at the mercy of the designing ship-broker, who, in the event of there being great competition for passage, is guilty of all kinds of exaggeration as to the superior qualities of the vessel whose interests he represents. In many instances it is unblushingly asserted, that the voyage will be made in from 25 to 30 days, and that provisions for that period will be amply sufficient, whereas the average passage of 133 emigrant vessels last season was 45 days, and of this number 15 were above 60 days at sea. I am well aware that Government has appointed zealous and active agents at the principal seaports; but the impositions to which I have alluded to above, are frequently practised before the intending emigrant has been enabled to discover and make application to the resident agent.

In confirmation of the fact that emigrants are imposed upon in the manner I have described to your Excellency, I have to report that the brig Industry, Captain Daly, with 67 passengers, from Cork, affords an instance of gross deception on the part of the individuals from whom the passage out was engaged. These emigrants state that they were told if they laid in provisions for 25 or 30 days, it would be amply sufficient. The result was, that this vessel was 80 days on her voyage, and many of the passengers, who incautiously had trusted to the misrepresentation of the agent, and had provided only for the shorter period, were compelled to purchase food from the captain, at very advanced prices. Subsequently, the ship's provisions fell short, but a timely supply was obtained from a vessel spoken at sea. The Australia, Captain Lush, from Liverpool, with 127 passengers, was 69 days at sea, and their stores having been consumed, the emigrants on board were forced to purchase from the captain at exorbitant prices; they consequently landed in Quebec quite destitute, and were forwarded up the country by the charitable Emigrant Society. Here it is but justice to mention the case of the ship Albion, Captain Robertson, from Londonderry, with 132 passengers. Their stores having run short, Captain R. behaved in the kindest manner, and furnished his passengers with provisions at moderate prices.

With reference to cases similar to those cited above, where impositions are practised on the emigrant, I wish to draw the attention of the proper authorities to the necessity of strictly enforcing the 3d and 4th clauses of the Passenger Act. Owing to the want of authority on my part, I am unable to exact any penalty for the infringement of the law here. I also beg leave to suggest the propriety of reducing the number of passengers for whom a medical practitioner is by law required to be provided on board. The clause also, as it now stands ought to be rigidly enforced; as in point of fact, I scarcely know an instance where a vessel with emigrants during the last season was provided with a surgeon. In support of these suggestions, I beg leave to insert an extract from a report made by the inspecting medical officer at Grosse Isle, relative to the passengers by the Napernaum, Captain from Dublin, with 75 emigrants:—"On board of this vessel, the disease, typhus fever, appeared before entering the river. She was unfortunately wrecked at Matan, on the south bank of the St.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

Lawrence, and it being found necessary to discharge part of the cargo, the passengers were landed and provided with shelter in the barns and outbuildings of the seigneur, Mr. Fraser, who from exposure to contagion, fell a victim to the disease; he was attacked with typhus, and died after a few days illness; other members of his family were affected but less severely; part of these passengers were brought up in small crafts, and the remainder in the vessel; after repairing damages, 13 were sent to hospital on arriving at Grosse Isle."

The disease mentioned in the above extract extended itself amongst the inhabitants of the adjoining parishes, and many deaths occurred; a catastrophe which might have been prevented had an efficient medical practitioner been on board.

It is with great regret I have to mention a melancholy loss of human life which occurred during the past summer, by the accidental burning of the splendid steamer John Bull, in the River St. Lawrence; it was so far fortunate, that the number of emigrant passengers on board at the time was small, it having been since ascertained that not more than 20 emigrants had taken steerage passage on that trip, from Quebec to Montreal. The total number of lives lost on this occasion was about 24, of whom about one-half were emigrants of 1839, and one family were deprived by this accident of both father and mother; the remainder escaped with the loss of their effects; and I am happy to add, that they received every assistance from the charitable public of Montreal.

I beg to report to your Excellency, that the law imposing the tax on emigrants, which was renewed by the Special Council of Lower Canada last year, expired on the 1st November last, and I trust that your Excellency will take this objectionable tax under consideration, previous to its being again submitted to the Special Council for re-enactment.

With respect to the imposition of this tax, I cannot refrain from stating my conviction that its effects are injurious to the cause of voluntary emigration, inasmuch as it diminishes the pecuniary resources of the healthy emigrant, and of his family, and directs to another channel those means which he might more advantageously employ in effecting his transportation to a place where labour may be in request. It is certain that the payment of the tax, is used as the means of deception by many emigrants; and I am convinced that a large proportion of those who have been assisted by the Emigrant Society in this city, and in Montreal, were undeserving objects of charity. This imposition receives colour and plausibility from the statements made of the tax having been paid out of the scanty funds provided for the emigrant's transportation to a place where employment may be had. Another objection is, that the payment of this tax entitles those from whom it has been exacted, to demand relief from the charitable institutions. This has the effect of diminishing confidence in their own exertions; and I have heard numerous instances during this season of persons and families receiving orders for free passages to Montreal, who, it has been ascertained afterwards, were in possession of ample funds to pay their own way, and the system is so well understood amongst them, that they will, if not assisted on their first application, remain in Quebec for several days, so that by constant repetition of their alleged distresses they eventually obtain their object; and after getting assistance from the society here, it in part justifies their claim on the charitable fund in Montreal for a similar indulgence there. It is also well ascertained that this tax has been frequently made subservient to the purpose of wives and families of persons residing in the United States, who, seeking to join their husbands, pass through the Canadian provinces free from the expense of transport. They embark for Quebec, encouraged by the fact that the passage is cheaper, and that by disguising the truth as to the place of their destination being out of Her Majesty's dominions they will succeed in getting themselves forwarded to Montreal by the charitable institution, and as they generally land here destitute, they, in almost every instance, obtain assistance. It has been often asserted, and I fear with too much truth, that the lower class of poor Irish are trained to mendicity, and do not consider it any disgrace to solicit charity. In fact, many will beg with money in their pockets sufficient for months' support, and this will often be observed among them on their route from this place to Montreal and to Upper Canada, during which they will adopt every sort of subterfuge to evade the payment of their passage-money, let it be ever so trifling.

Although the emigration to the different ports in the United States, principally New York, is so considerable, no pecuniary assistance whatever is afforded from any known fund; on the contrary, the ship-master is obliged to give security that the passengers will not become a burthen on the city for the space of 12 months, besides paying a heavy tax, from which, if they are taken sick, or any accident should occur to them, they will receive no assistance whatever.

In addition to the above, the application of the fund accruing from this tax does not tend to the advantage of the emigrant, or to the benefit of the country.

The principal object of the society is to free the cities of Quebec and Montreal from the intolerable nuisance of a crowd of unemployed poor persons, without any regard to what may be their ultimate fate, so long as they do not become a burthen to these cities: whereas, if an appropriation was made by the Government, similar to that allowed to be expended by the Lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada, under the superintendence of this office, to be applied in the same manner, viz. in furnishing persons in distress (and who cannot get work from private individuals) with public employment, by repairing and opening roads, and in assisting to a reasonable extent those who are really destitute to proceed to their friends and relations, or to any place where employment may be in demand, reserving for the emigrants of the season a prior claim for employment on all public and Government works, a great service would be rendered to the poor emigrant, by giving him confidence in himself, and in his own exertions, and by preventing his looking to charity for assistance. It would at the same time be rendering a benefit to the country, by inducing such emigrants to remain in the province, and become permanent settlers therein.

In the remarks which I have had the honour of submitting to your Excellency, with reference to the tax on emigrants, I have merely stated the objections which a long course of observation has brought under my notice as applicable to this payment by the emigrant, not usually too well provided in a pecuniary point of view. I wish these remarks to be understood as general against the measure; for it is altogether foreign from my object to deny that individual benefit has frequently been conferred upon the sick and destitute emigrant from the proceeds of this tax, one-half of which is payable to the funds set apart for the support of the Marine Hospital in Quebec and the Montreal Hospital. Still less is it my desire to censure in the slightest degree the mode in which the funds arising from the tax have been administered by the very respectable committees of the Quebec and Montreal Emigrant Societies. I will merely add, that, in a national point of view, it appears to me highly unpatriotic in principle to impose a tax on British subjects, for any purpose whatsoever, who lawfully pass from one part of Her Majesty's dominions to another; while, by a strange oversight, no such tax is exacted from foreign emigrants into the province; nor is it, in my opinion, more defensible in practice to expend part of the funds raised by this tax, from *bonâ fide* settlers, in forwarding to their destination in another country persons who avail themselves of the route of the St. Lawrence to reach their friends who have preceded them to the United States,

In concluding what I have to offer to your Excellency's consideration with reference to this tax, I am strongly in favour of an annual appropriation by the Imperial Government, in a similar manner to that which has been adopted in Upper Canada; and I beg to repeat, what I have already stated in my Report of last year, that no expense will be incurred in the management of any such appropriation, should it be placed under the control of, and made part of the duties required from this department.

Amongst the emigrants who came out last season, I have much pleasure in recording 181 souls, sent out by the Ennis Emigration Society, on the part of Colonel George Wyndham, who inherits the benevolent feeling of his father, the late venerable Earl of Egremont; they were from his estate in the county of Clare, and came out under the superintendence of Lieutenant Rubidge, R.N., to whom great praise is due for the excellence of his arrangements. I am happy to add that these emigrants landed here in perfect health, and proceeded immediately to their destination in the Newcastle district, Upper Canada, to which it will doubtless prove a valuable acquisition.

In the emigration from Great Britain and Ireland to the United States last season, there has been a considerable increase; the number arrived at the port of New York is stated to have been 24,376 souls, 20,000 of whom were regular settlers. Amongst this large number, I am sorry to mention, that great distress occurred in consequence of the depression in the value of property, and the general stagnation of business in that country during the last fall; I am informed that many of these emigrants, whose means permitted, have returned to England, but it is impossible to ascertain the exact number.

With reference to the prospects of emigration during the season 1840, and the number of emigrants who may be expected from the mother country, I must content myself with observing generally, that as considerable impetus will be given to the employment of the labouring classes by the anticipated resumption of public works in both provinces, consequent on their improved and more healthy political state, I cannot help anticipating corresponding advantages in the condition of the future emigrant, who relies upon labour for the means of present support and future settlement. With respect to the number of emigrants to be expected, a great augmentation over the number arrived last session may be reasonably anticipated, from the exertion of the friends of emigration to Canada, in Great Britain, amongst whom I may particularly mention Bishop McDonell and Dr. Thomas Rolph, whose endeavours to direct the tide of emigration to these provinces have been as indefatigable as they are meritorious. The North American Colonial Association also, which body has become possessed of the large and valuable seignior and lands lately the property of Mr. Ellice, are about to commence operations the ensuing spring, from which I anticipate the most complete success. The demand for persons of the working classes and mechanics, in both provinces, has been very great; and I received constant communications from different parts of both provinces during the summer, complaining of the scarcity of labourers. The farmers in Upper Canada and the eastern townships have been obliged to pay as high as 3*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* per day for labour during the harvest, with food; any number of good steady men, who understand farming, can obtain permanent employment, by the year, with from 20*l.* to 25*l.* wages, and found. Engagements by the month, 12 to 16 dollars, and found, or at the rate of 36*l.* to 40*l.* per annum.

With reference to the quarantine station at Grosse Isle, below Quebec, I have much pleasure in stating, that great accommodation has lately been afforded to emigrants landing there, by the erection of a convenient wharf. This has been effected under the superintendence of the Board of Works of Lower Canada; the want of this facility has long been felt, and great praise is also due to the commandant, Major Swinburn, 83rd regiment, for his exertions in bringing other improvements to completion.

Having thus brought under your Excellency's notice every matter connected with this department, which I can recal as worthy of attention during the past year, I conclude by requesting your Excellency to transmit this Report to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

A. C. BUCHANAN, Jun., Chief Agent.

To his Excellency the Governor-General,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.

Encl. 1, in No. 21.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

THE following Statement shows the Weekly Arrival of Emigrants at Quebec and Montreal during the Year 1839; specifying the Number of Males, Females, and Children under 14 years; also the Number of Voluntary Emigrants, and those that receive Parochial Aid.

Week ending.	Males.	Females.	Children under 14 Years.	Parochial Aid.	Voluntary.	Total each Week.
May 18	216	65	94	..	375	375
May 25	124	64	57	..	245	245
June 1	477	301	213	..	..	991
June 8	283	251	153	..	..	687
June 15	171	124	108	..	..	403
June 22	136	79	90	..	..	305
June 29	353	295	186	..	..	834
July 6	236	243	232	181	530	711
July 13	213	178	164	..	..	555
July 20	26	45	57	..	..	128
July 27	59	39	49	..	..	147
Aug. 10	102	95	111	..	..	308
Aug. 17	207	191	124	..	..	522
Aug. 24	69	68	73	..	..	210
Aug. 31	119	101	95	..	..	315
Sept. 14	90	67	51	..	..	208
Sept. 21	96	54	55	..	..	205
Sept 28	7	7	17	..	..	31
Oct. 5	10	14	10	..	..	34
Oct. 12	20	17	10	..	..	47
Oct. 17	36	32	18	..	..	86
Nov. 4	86	2	4	..	..	92
	3,136	2,332	1,971	181	1,140	7,439

Emigrant Department,
Quebec, 12th January, 1840,

A. C. BUCHANAN, Jun.
Chief Agent.

No. 2.

NAMES of PORTS from whence Emigrants came during the Year 1839; with Comparative Statements of the Number arrived at Quebec and Montreal during the Eight preceding Years.

ENGLAND.

Names of Ports.	1839.	1838.	1837.	1836.	1835.	1834.	1833.	1832.	1831.
London	83	194	987	1,666	762	1,051	1,287	4,150	1,135
Chatham	..	..	..	..	..	22	17	..	..
Shoreham	..	..	..	..	..	62	..	99	..
Portsmouth	..	123	201	778	247	163	251	932	..
Southampton	..	..	..	..	..	1	20	..	4
Newport	..	..	..	..	4	20	2	156	1
Dartmouth	12	..	14	76	30	82	81	196	9
Poole	14	52	73	74	6	1	84	150	106
Plymouth	58	35	403	88	211	850	440	1,398	474
Torquay	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	48	..
Exeter	..	..	9	..	1	..	..	6	..
Falmouth	..	17	3	11	..	59	31	107	77
Penzance.	..	..	1	..	13	12	..	28	19
Jersey	..	..	..	27	2	17	2	..	..
Padstow	9	1	1	8	13	29	53	335	5
Bideford	..	8	..	16	..	..	..	60	51
Bridgwater	..	..	6	..	2	37	16	306	280
Carried forward	176	430	1,698	2,744	1,301	2,406	2,284	7,971	2,161

Names of Ports from whence Emigrants came, during the Year 1839, &c.—continued.

Names of Ports.	1839.	1838.	1837.	1836.	1835.	1834.	1833.	1832.	1831.
Brought forward	176	430	1,698	2,744	1,301	2,406	2,284	7,971	2,161
Bristol	23	4	159	283	129	64	107	1,836	764
Gloucester	..	..	..	22	3	10	7	..	6
Milford	16	3	3	7	1	5	35	138	15
Carmarthen	..	..	..	..	6	..	22	..	45
Swansea	..	18	..	..	..	32	..	63	..
Aberystwith	..	..	..	..	2	37	42	27	..
Llanelly	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	..
Liverpool	1,220	367	2,247	3,748	388	1,060	551	2,217	2,261
Lancaster.	..	..	..	..	..	..	61	45	43
Whitehaven	..	..	..	110	..	72	413	795	138
Maryport	..	..	39	15	182	538	315	884	421
Workington	1	..	..	..	..	29	..	246	399
Berwick & Newcastle	19	7	94	16	210	459	208	340	239
Sunderland	41	7	36	155	16	57	40	206	86
Scarborough & Shields	..	..	21	14	1	49	1	12	..
Stockton	..	..	..	..	18	192	233	132	..
Whitby	..	..	71	71	59	273	46	236	471
Brant	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hull	90	86	367	465	462	1,171	655	1,288	2,780
Ipswich	..	..	..	555	..	..	..	..	..
Yarmouth	..	49	617	3,025	203	345	171	793	514
Lowestoff	..	..	..	119	..	..	..	..	..
Colchester	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	145	..
Tynmouth & Wighton	..	6	..	21	..	..	..	..	..
Lynn	..	12	1,546	810	86	..	7	86	..
Portaferry	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..
Stornaway	..	1	62	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1,586	990	5,580	12,188	3,067	6,799	5,198	17,481	10,343

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 2..

IRELAND.

Names of Ports.	1839.	1838.	1837.	1836.	1835.	1834.	1833.	1832.	1831.
Dublin	523	135	2,535	2,438	912	5,879	3,571	6,595	7,157
Wexford	..	..	..	18	6	23	21	157	229
Ross	44	12	180	208	259	278	325	926	1,159
Waterford	105	14	859	629	205	1,008	197	877	1,216
Youghall	..	..	246	249	65	203	53	159	210
Cork	481	149	2,699	2,588	861	2,261	925	1,987	2,735
Baltimore	..	..	360	166	99	..	..	184	..
Tralee	100	17	286	250	42	217	67	133	114
Limerick	616	96	1,055	906	641	1,097	602	1,689	2,759
Clare	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..	..
Galway	18	4	..	83	..	79	190	425	452
Westport	..	..	..	..	194	221	..	529	720
Killala	91	..	223	288	..	..	..	..	514
Sligo	1,378	187	1,813	1,687	893	2,114	657	2,961	4,079
Ballyshannon	128	..	..	122	..	154	71	86	200
Donegal	70	73	113	66	..	2	..	113	..
Londonderry	254	204	1,424	1,427	1,041	1,580	1,852	2,582	2,888
Larne	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	137	..
Belfast	1,072	548	1,999	1,209	1,350	3,024	2,637	6,851	7,943
Newry	204	17	282	144	537	945	725	1,374	1,591
Strangford	3	..	..	..	..	117	41	349	169
Drogheda	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	90	..
Kilrush	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..
Kinsale	..	..	86	118	3	2	..	..	..
Newport	..	..	378	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5,113	4,456	14,538	12,596	7,108	19,208	12,013	28,204	34,135

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

SCOTLAND.

Names of Ports.	1839.	1838.	1837.	1836.	1835.	1834.	1833.	1832.	1831.
Dumfries			.	.	26	..	137	..	..
Ayr			11	.	.	221	24	..	40
Kirkwall and Thurso				149	..	..	..	..	..
Inverness					183	..	138	..	361
Cromarty			215	545	181	276	298	638	460
Greenock	239	145	698	519	597	1,140	1,458	1,716	2,988
Campbeltown							192	110	..
Glasgow	63	12	45	32	80	462	168	160	176
Stranraer and Montrose	1		2	19	16	87	75	60	..
Peterhead					42	29	41	18	13
Dundee	10	1	20	11	37	99	194	439	249
Grangemouth				6	1	..	..	..	196
Leith		41	253	45	247	661	622	1,145	664
Aberdeen	157	147	252	696	545	647	116	478	158
Isla					123	358	601	181	..
Lochinbar				28	.	..	..	..	..
Annan					30	391	..	175	..
Lochindoe				174			..	..	..
Alloa	15	1	9		13	87	..	231	..
Leven							39	112	..
Irven					6		6	57	..
Kirkaldy			4			33	47	..	..
Tobarmoney						99	40	..	..
Troom						1	..	..	..
Stornoway		200					..	..	..
	485	547	1,509	2,224	2,127	4,591	4,196	5,500	5,305

LOWER PORTS.

Names of Ports.	1839.	1838.	1837.	1836.	1835.	1834.	1833.	1832.	1831.
Newfoundland									1
Nova Scotia									..
Cape Breton	255	273	274	235	225	339	359	361	424
West Indies									..
&c. &c. &c.									..
CONTINENT.									..
Havre de Grace				485					..

Emigrant Department, Quebec,
12th January, 1840.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Jun.,
Chief Agent.

No. 3.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Number of Emigrants arrived at Quebec since the Year 1829, inclusive.

Names of Ports.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.	1835.	1836.	1837.	1838.	1839.
England and Wales	3,565	6,799	10,343	17,481	5,198	6,799	3,067	12,188	5,580	990	1,586
Ireland	9,614	18,300	34,133	28,204	12,013	19,206	7,108	12,590	14,538	1,456	5,113
Scotland	2,643	2,450	5,354	5,500	4,196	4,591	2,127	2,224	1,509	547	485
Hamburgh and Gibraltar				15							
Nova Scotia, Newfound- land, West Indies, &c.	123	451	424	546	345	339	225	235	274	273	255
Havre de Grace								485	..	..	..
	15,945	28,000	50,254	51,746	21,752	30,935	12,527	27,728	21,901	3,266	7,439

Grand Total

271,493

Emigrant Department, Quebec,
12th January, 1840.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Jun.,
Chief Agent.

No. 4.

RETURN of the Number of Emigrants arrived at New York from the United Kingdom, for the last 11 Years.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

	England.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Total.
In the year 1829				11,501
„ 1830				21,433
„ 1831				22,607
„ 1832				28,283
„ 1833				16,100
„ 1834				26,540
„ 1835				16,749
„ 1836				59,075
„ 1837				34,000
„ 1838				13,059
„ 1839				24,376
				273,723

Emigrant Department, Quebec,
12th January, 1840.

No. 5.

A RETURN of the Number of Emigrants admitted at the Quarantine Hospital, Grosse Isle, commencing 1st May, 1839, and ending 20th October following.

Description.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Total.
Men	80	77	3	80
Women	49	48	1	49
Children	60	55	5	60
Total	189	180	9	189

EMIGRANTS admitted to the Marine and Emigrant Hospital at Quebec, for the above Period.

Description.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Total.
Men	94	90	4	94
Women				
Children				

Emigrant Department, Quebec,
12th January, 1840.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Jun.,
Chief Agent.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 1, in No. 21.

EXTRACTS from the several WEEKLY REPORTS made to the Governor-in-Chief by the Chief Agent for Emigration at Quebec.

Week ending 18th May 1839.

THE emigrants arrived since the opening of the navigation have all landed in good health, and appear in good circumstances; their destination, with the exception of a few families, is the United States, to join their friends and relations.

Those per the Borneo, from Limerick, are all going to the States; they have chosen this route in preference to New York, on account of its being so much cheaper. Six passengers taken from the wreck of the Kingston, bound from Bristol to New York, proceeded to the United States; they were forwarded to Montreal by the Emigrant Society. Upwards of 150 emigrants are reported at Grosse Isle, principally Irish, and may be expected up to-morrow.

Week ending 1st June.

The emigrants arrived during the past week are principally from Ireland; they all landed in good health, and very many in possession of considerable capital; their destinations, with a few exceptions, is to Upper Canada, where many have friends. A few families are going to the Eastern townships, and some to the United States; but to the latter place, I am happy to say, the number is very small: all those who required it have obtained employment, with good wages, at the Coves, and in the immediate vicinity of Quebec. Labourers and tradesmen of all descriptions are much wanted. In the Larumney, from Hull, were two heads of families returning to their families in the neighbourhood of Toronto, where they have settled for many years; they have brought out a number of their friends with them, who intend to purchase lands and settle in their neighbourhood. A large number of emigrants are reported at Grosse Isle, and may be expected up to-day or to-morrow.

Week ending 22d June.

The emigrants per the Margaret Johnston, from Belfast, are all very respectable people, and many of them in good circumstances; they all proceed to Upper Canada, where many of them have friends already settled. Since Saturday evening there has been upwards of 600 emigrants reported at Grosse Isle, principally from the West of Ireland; a few of them have come up, but not yet landed.

Week ending 29th June.

The emigrants arrived here during the past week are nearly all from the West of Ireland. The passengers in the Royal William, from Liverpool, are all Irish, and principally from the midland counties; and I regret to say, very many of them almost destitute, principally owing to their long detention in Liverpool waiting for a ship. Upwards of 30 of these young men left their homes with the intention of going to New York, but were unable to pay their passage to that port, owing to the above cause. About one-fourth of the emigrants arrived during this week are going to the United States to join their friends, the remainder intend proceeding to the Upper Province.

In the brig Blanche, from Donegal, which arrived this day, are a few very respectable emigrant families from the county Tyrone; they are in good circumstances, and going to settle in the township of Matilda, Upper Canada, where they have relations. They have all arrived in good health, with the exception of a few of the passengers per the Royal William, three of whom died at sea, and they have left 24 sick in hospital at Grosse Isle. The telegraph reports above 240 emigrants at the quarantine station.

Week ending 6th July.

The emigrants arrived during the past week are, with the exception of 59, all from Ireland; and among them 34 families, numbering 181 souls, sent out by Colonel Wyndham from his estates in Clare and Limerick, under the superintendence of Lieut. Rubidge, R. N.; they all landed in excellent health, and proceeded immediately on their route to Upper Canada. Their destination is the Newcastle District, where, I understand, arrangement has been made for their reception, and to furnish them with employment on arrival. These people were amply provided with everything necessary for their comfort during the voyage, and had a large surplus stock of provisions on hands on their arrival. The arrangements of Lieut. Rubidge were most complete, both for their health and comfort, during the voyage, and it fully proves that, by a little care and attention on the part of the captain, or person in charge of passengers, all the sickness and misery which many of the emigrant vessels to this port are subject to might be avoided. There are a number of respectable families in the Machaica from Greenock: among them are several women with large families, who are going to join their husbands in Upper Canada. They all appear in good circumstances.

The passengers in the Pomona, arrived on Saturday from Sligo, are very poor, and the greater part of them are ejected tenants. The majority intend going to the United States.

Week ending 13th July.

The emigrants arrived this week have in general proceeded to Upper Canada. Many of the tradesmen and labourers have remained employed in Quebec and Montreal. The demand for labourers in the country and city is very good, and all those desirous of employment can obtain it without difficulty, and with good wages.

Week ending 20th July.

I have receiving, during the past week, most favourable accounts from several large farmers and proprietors in the Newcastle and Midland districts, offering immediate employment to a large number of agricultural labourers, as also to blacksmiths, carpenters, and masons. Wages for labourers from 80 to 100 dollars per year, with boarding.

No. 21.

The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.

Week ending 10th August.

The emigrants arrived this week are from Ireland, and in good health. The demand for persons of the working classes throughout the Upper Province hastens them forward, and the facilities of transport, owing to the opposition between this and Montreal, is a further inducement for them to proceed immediately. The passengers per industry, upwards of 200 in number, were forwarded to Montreal for 6*d.* each. The *Napernaum*, from Dublin, with 75 passengers, which was ashore at Matan, arrived two days since, with the remainder of her passengers, 48 in number; the others having come up in a schooner last week. The telegraph reports the ship *Dumfriesshire*, from Belfast, with 360 passengers, at Grosse Isle; she may be expected up to-morrow.

Encl. 1, in No. 21.

Week ending 21st September.

The emigrants arrived during this week are very respectable people, and of the better class of emigrants; the greater portion of these are proceeding to Upper Canada, where they have friends and relations. In the Londonderry, from Londonderry, there are 31 emigrants, mostly young men and women, who have come out to join their relations, respectable farmers, in the vicinity of Montreal, and will prove a very valuable addition to that part of the country.

The passengers in the *Sarah*, from Aberdeen, are in very good circumstances; they are all going to Upper Canada, and possess considerable capital. In the *Industry*, from Cork, there are 65 passengers, principally labourers and tradesmen. These poor people have suffered much from the effects of a long and tedious passage of 11 weeks, during which time they experienced very bad weather, and lost their foremast, which obliged them to put into St. John's, Newfoundland, to refit, where they were detained three weeks; they also suffered from a short allowance of provisions, and the passengers were obliged to purchase from the captain most of the voyage, as their own stock only lasted them about 30 days. They stated, that the captain told them that they would certainly be out in from 25 to 30 days, and to provide provisions for that period; consequently, they were obliged to purchase at a much dearer rate from the captain than they could have laid in the same previous to sailing. I obtained for many of them immediate employment on arrival here, and those who were desirous of proceeding were assisted by the Emigrant Society. I have received several letters from persons in Upper Canada and the eastern townships, complaining of the scarcity of farm labourers and servants, and they will give to a person who understands farming from 25*l.* to 30*l.* a-year, with food and lodging; and for female house servants, from 50 to 60 dollars per annum.

Enclosure 2, in No. 21.

Province of
Lower Canada. } VICTORIA, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great
C. Poulett Thomson. } Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith:—

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, at an Executive Council, held at the Government-house, in Our city of Montreal, on the 16th day of April in the year of our Lord 1840, it was, by the Governor-General of Our province of Lower Canada, by and with the advice and consent of Our Executive Council, of and for Our said province, deemed expedient to renew quarantine regulations for the ensuing season of navigation, inasmuch as it was considered probable that pestilential diseases, which might endanger the lives of Her Majesty's subjects in this province, might be brought from any port or ports in Europe or elsewhere, by ships and vessels of a certain class and description arriving, and by persons, goods, and merchandize coming or imported into the ports in Our said province by the river St. Lawrence, on board of or in such ships and vessels, and it was judged expedient that such ships and vessels persons, goods, and merchandize, arriving, coming, or immediately imported in the said ports, should, under and by virtue of the Act of Parliament of Our said province, passed in the 35th year of the reign of Our Royal Grandfather, intituled, "An Act to oblige Ships and Vessels coming from places infected with Plague or any other Pestilential Fever or Disease, to perform Quarantine, and prevent the communication thereof in this Province," be obliged to make their quarantine: We have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Executive Council, to issue this proclamation, ordering and strictly commanding all ships or other vessels, which henceforth, and during the eight next months ensuing, shall arrive in the port of Quebec, from any port or ports, place or places in Europe or elsewhere, by way of that part of the River St. Lawrence which is below the limits of the said port of Quebec, and which shall have, at the time of their said arrival, or shall have had during their passage from the place whence they respectively cleared, any person on board labouring under Asiatic cholera, fever, or small-pox, scarlatina, or other infectious and dangerous disease, or on board which any person shall have died during such passage, or which shall have on board 13 or more steerage passengers, to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, in the said River St. Lawrence, and there remain and continue until such ships or vessels respectively shall be dis-

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charged from such quarantine, by licence given, without fee or emolument of any kind, under the hand and seal of the governor, lieutenant-governor, or person administering the government: and until such ships or vessels respectively shall have performed such quarantine, and shall be discharged therefrom by such licence as aforesaid. We do hereby strictly prohibit, under pain of the penalties and forfeitures provided by the said Act, persons, goods, or merchandize, which shall be on board such ships or vessels, from coming or being brought on shore, or from going or being put on board of any other ship or vessel in this province, except on Grosse Isle aforesaid, when duly required by competent authority: and we have further thought fit, by and with the advice and consent of our Executive Council, to order and strictly command all ships and other vessels which henceforth and during the eight months next ensuing shall arrive in the port of Quebec, from any port or ports in Europe or elsewhere as aforesaid, whether they be or be not of the class or description herein above-mentioned, as liable and bound to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, in the said River St. Lawrence, to make their quarantine in the harbour of Quebec, according to the regulations hereinafter mentioned and set forth: We do hereby strictly prohibit, under pain of the penalties and forfeitures provided by the said Act, persons, goods, or merchandize which shall be on board such ships or vessels from coming or being brought on shore, or from going or being put on board of any other ship or vessel in this province, except at Grosse Isle aforesaid, when duly required by competent authority: And whereas it has been deemed expedient by our said Governor, with the advice and consent of Our said Executive Council, under and by virtue of the aforesaid Act of the Parliament of the said province, the better to prevent infection, to make and establish the following rules, orders, and regulations, in respect of the due performance of quarantine at Grosse Isle aforesaid, and in the Harbour of Quebec aforesaid, respectively, of the following tenour and effect, to wit:—

1. *Grosse Isle.*

The quarantine anchorage shall be as near as possible to Grosse Isle, and between Grosse Isle, Cliff Island, and the Two Heads Islands; and all vessels of the class and description hereinabove mentioned as liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, coming from sea, or from any part of this province, shall anchor within a point marked by the buoy near Grosse Isle, which shall be painted white, to be placed as heretofore under the direction of the superintendent of pilots.

2. *Establishment.*

The establishment at Grosse Isle shall consist of such military force as His Excellency the Governor-general shall see fit to appoint; the officer in command of which military force shall be authorized to see the quarantine duly performed, and for this purpose, under the directions of the medical superintendent, who shall have full power and authority to call on all officers and other persons whatsoever on Grosse Isle, or attached to that station, and upon all persons, to aid him in enforcing the law and these regulations; and, if necessary, of a marine boarding officer, whose duty shall be to go off to vessels and inspect them as required by law, and according to the regulations hereinafter established, or which shall be established, and of a medical superintendent.

3. *Military Officer in Command.*

The officer in command of the military force aforesaid shall, under the directions of, and when required by the medical superintendent, enforce the quarantine laws and regulations, and shall use all necessary means by firing guns, or any other kind of force or violence whatsoever, to compel ships or vessels of the class and description hereinabove mentioned as liable and bound to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, to go to such place or places to perform quarantine, as it may be necessary to send them to. He shall, when so required, compel all such vessels to be brought to anchor within the limits of the quarantine anchorage, and generally shall do all that may be required to enforce a rigid obedience to the law; he shall permit all passengers landed to be re-embarked whenever he may receive directions to that effect from the medical superintendent, and when that officer shall be satisfied that the vessel is in a fit state to receive them, and that all the passengers with their baggage have been washed, cleansed, and purified, and that there does not exist among those that are about to proceed any cases of Asiatic cholera, fever, or small-pox, or any severe cases of scarlatina or measles, or other infectious and dangerous disease.

4. *Medical Department.*

The medical superintendent shall have in all civil matters full power and authority over all officers and other persons whomsoever on Grosse Isle, and attached to that station, and to call on the officer in command of the military force for his assistance as aforesaid; he shall, in the cases hereinafter mentioned, go off to vessels bound to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle as aforesaid, and put the questions to the masters or persons in charge as required by the second section of the 35 Geo. III. c. 5; if the answers are satisfactory, he shall give a clean bill of health to the master or person in charge, and such vessels may then proceed to the harbour of Quebec; if the answers be not satisfactory, or the medical superintendent has any reason to suspect fraud on the part of the master or person in charge, crew, or passengers, he shall immediately order the vessel to such place as may be appointed for vessels detained under quarantine of observation. He shall call for the ship's papers, passengers' lists and log-books, and inspect them thoroughly, so as to ascertain the whole of the occurrences during the voyage; should he meet with any resistance, he shall make such signal as may be determined on by the officer in command of the military force aforesaid, to show that assistance is necessary.

The medical superintendent shall board and inspect any vessel which may be detained by the marine boarding officer (if any such officer be found necessary and appointed), and all others which he may consider it necessary that he should inspect. He shall have charge of all vessels detained in quarantine; shall direct, if necessary, all steerage passengers to be landed, and shall superintend the cleansing and disinfection of vessels; shall determine the number of passengers to be landed, and when they may be ready, and shall be careful that they are landed with their luggage at such time and places as he may direct. He shall have the medical charge of all cabin passengers who do not disembark, and who may be labouring under any disease, except the following, viz.: Asiatic cholera, fever, small-pox, or severe cases of scarlatina, or measles; for passengers labouring under, or threatened with any of these diseases, are to be landed and sent to the hospital, together with their luggage. He shall give medical attendance and treatment on board in all cases of slight diseases which are not by these regulations specially required to be landed and sent to the hospital. The medical superintendent shall decide and report to the officer in command of the military force aforesaid, when a vessel is sufficiently cleansed, ventilated, and purified, and in a fit state to receive passengers, and proceed to Quebec. And he shall, so soon as the passengers are re-embarked, give a passport, or clean bill of health, to the master or person having such vessel in charge, to proceed to Quebec. He shall keep a register of the vessels boarded by him, and enter in such register all necessary particulars concerning such vessels as soon as possible after such vessels are visited.

The medical superintendent need not, unless he see occasion, board the same vessel as the marine boarding officer, except in cases where the latter may find it necessary to detain the vessel.

The medical superintendent shall have charge of the hospital. He shall cause to be conveyed to, and receive into, the hospital, and give medical attendance and care to all such persons as he may think necessary to send there, and have the general superintendence and direction of everything relating to the sick. He shall make the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the government for the time being, or such officer as his excellency shall appoint, all such reports as may from time to time be required, and shall, to that end, keep a proper register or journal of his doings. He shall visit and inspect all passengers who shall be landed from any vessel, and distribute them as he shall think expedient; he shall send to the hospital all who may be labouring under, or threatened with, Asiatic cholera, fever or small-pox, and all severe cases of scarlatina or measles. He shall superintend the cleansing, washing, and purifying of passengers, and unpacking and ventilating of their baggage, and determine when they are in a fit state to proceed, and if need be, may cause such baggage, or any part of it, to be burnt or otherwise destroyed.

5. *The Marine Boarding Officer.*

The marine boarding officer shall go off to vessels arriving at Grosse Isle, and liable, as aforesaid, to make their quarantine there, and put in questions to the master or person in charge of each of the same, as required by the second section of the said Act, if there be not more than 20 steerage passengers, and if the answers to the questions are satisfactory, the marine boarding officer shall give a certificate to that effect, and direct the master or person in charge to present the certificate to the medical superintendent, who will then furnish him a passport to enable him to proceed to the harbour of Quebec, should he see no cause for withholding the same. If there be more than 20 steerage passengers, or the master or person in charge do not answer satisfactorily, or the marine boarding officer have reason to suspect fraud on the part of the master or person in charge, crew or passengers, he shall immediately cause a yellow flag to be hoisted at the main-top-gallant mast head, and keep the union jack flying at the peak as a signal to the medical superintendent to come on board and inspect the crew and passengers, and take charge of the vessel. He shall also point out the place to which the vessel is to be taken, and call for the ship's paper, passengers' lists, and log-books, into which he will carefully examine to ascertain the whole of the occurrences during the voyage; and should he meet with any resistance, he will immediately make such signal as may be determined on by the officer in command of the military force aforesaid, to show that assistance is necessary. It shall, furthermore, be the duty of the said marine boarding officer to superintend, under the direction of the medical superintendent, the cleansing and purification, by ventilation or otherwise, of such vessels as as it may be deemed necessary so to cleanse and purify; and to supervise the removal of ballast, or such portion of the same as it may be considered expedient to throw overboard from any such vessels, and to supply sufficient water-casks to replace the deficiency of such ballast to be thrown overboard as aforesaid.

6. *Traders, Suttlers, Grocers, and others.*

No persons following the business of suttlers, traders, grocers, or other such occupations, shall be allowed to reside at Grosse Isle, or be attached to the station, except under the licence and control of the medical superintendent, and they may be immediately sent off the island for any improper conduct.

7. *Pilots.*

Pilots having been furnished with copies of the Quarantine Act and of these regulations, shall exhibit the same to the master or person in charge of every vessel they may board. Every pilot having charge of a vessel of the description of those liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle as aforesaid, shall bring her to anchor between Grosse Isle and the white buoy. Pilots shall take measures to acquaint all persons on board of vessels under their charge, of the penalty to be incurred by leaving such vessels, unless permitted to do so

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by competent authority, and with the liability of the vessel to be sent back to Grosse Island if, being of the description liable to quarantine there, she shall pass it without being inspected and discharged as aforesaid. They shall also keep a union jack flying at the peak of all vessels under their charge, until boarded at Grosse Isle or in the harbour of Quebec, as the case may require, by the proper officers, under the penalty prescribed by the said Act 35 Geo. III. c. 5. On arriving at Quebec, if the vessel be not of the description of those liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, or has received a clean bill of health from the medical superintendent at Grosse Isle, and has not been detained there on account of sickness or suspicion thereof, they may bring to in the harbour, but must not communicate with the shore, or any other vessel or boat, until boarded by the inspecting physician and harbour-master.

8. *Passengers.*

On arrival of any vessel at Grosse Isle, on board of which there shall be, or shall have been during the passage, any case of cholera, fever, small-pox, or severe cases of scarlatina or measles, and in all other cases where it shall be considered necessary by the medical superintendent, steerage passengers shall be landed with their baggage, and washed and purified under the direction of the medical superintendent.

The passengers in the principal cabin shall not be landed except in cases of sickness, and may at all times proceed with the vessel, or otherwise, after having washed and purified their luggage to the satisfaction of the medical superintendent, and received his certificate to that effect.

9. *Vessels.*

All vessels liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, on their arrival there shall anchor between Grosse Island, Cliff Island, Two Heads Island, and the White Buoy, until boarded by the marine boarding officer, and the medical superintendent if necessary, and after receiving a clean bill of health, may proceed to the harbour of Quebec, and if they shall not have been detained at Grosse Isle, on account of sickness, or suspicion thereof, may, as shall also all vessels not liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, anchor at any place off the town, and there remain without communication with the shore, or any other vessel or boat, until finally discharged from quarantine by the inspecting physician for the port of Quebec; but that if such vessels shall have been detained at Grosse Isle from sickness, or suspicion thereof, they shall anchor at the mouth of the river St. Charles, and there remain, until finally discharged from quarantine by the inspecting physician of the port of Quebec.

All vessels detained in quarantine at Grosse Isle shall be cleansed and ventilated, and their between decks, if not painted or varnished, shall be whitewashed; but if painted or varnished, shall be well and thoroughly scrubbed with soap and water or ley, and such portion of the ballast shall be thrown overboard as the medical superintendent may deem requisite, under the immediate superintendence of the marine boarding officer, or such other person as the medical superintendent shall appoint for that duty.

Inspecting Physician at Quebec and Harbour Master.

An inspecting physician at Quebec shall, accompanied by the harbour master, go off to all vessels arriving at Quebec, or at the mouth of the river St. Charles, and put the questions to the master or person in charge, as required by the second section 35 Geo. III. c. 5; and moreover, he shall require all masters or persons in charge of vessels liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, to exhibit to him the licence or passport which they may have received from the medical superintendent at the quarantine station; and such masters or persons in charge are hereby commanded forthwith to submit the same for examination to the said inspecting physician at Quebec, who, if satisfied as well from the answers he may receive as from the tenour of the passport, and the actual state of health of the passengers and crew, that sickness does not exist on board, shall then grant to the master or person in charge of such vessel a certificate in writing, setting forth the healthy state of the passengers and crew, to the end that such vessel may obtain a final discharge from quarantine, which shall forthwith be given to the master or person in charge of such vessel accordingly; but if, on the contrary, such inspecting physician at Quebec shall find any case of sickness on board, or have just cause, from any circumstance whatsoever, to apprehend the breaking-out of any malady, it shall then be the duty of such inspecting physician at Quebec to direct a yellow flag to be hoisted at the maintop-gallant mast-head, and he shall cause the vessel to return to and be detained at the mouth of the river St. Charles, for further observation and inspection; and, having acquainted the master or person in charge of such vessel with the penalties he will incur if he should permit any communication whatever with his vessel until released from quarantine, he shall proceed immediately to report all the circumstances to the civil secretary of his Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or person administering the government. Provided always, that if it shall appear to the said inspecting physician, at any time after the arrival of any such vessel at Quebec, or during the detention at the mouth of the river St. Charles, that pestilential disease prevails on board of any such vessel, or that it would be most advisable that such vessel should return to Grosse Isle, there to land its passengers, or that such vessel is of the description of those liable to make their quarantine at Grosse Isle, and has not been discharged by the medical superintendent there, in such case he shall and may order and direct the master or person in charge immediately to return thereto, and such master or person in charge is hereby directed to obey such order; and the proper officers at Grosse Isle shall observe, in respect of such vessels, the same rules and regulations as are provided for vessels arriving at Grosse Isle inwards with sick, or as are liable to quarantine there, as the case may be. Should the inspecting physician at Quebec

meet with any resistance in the discharge of the duty required of him by this regulation, he will immediately make such signal as may be determined on by himself and the harbour-master, to show that assistance is necessary.

When a vessel arrives at Quebec, or shall be sent back to the mouth of the river St. Charles, it shall become the duty of the harbour-master to convey the inspecting physician at Quebec on board of the same when required, and to support the said inspecting physician in the due enforcement of the above-mentioned rules and regulations.

The harbour-master shall seize any boat in which any person may attempt to communicate from the shore, or from any other vessel, with any vessel not discharged from quarantine. He shall also seize every boat in which persons may have actually communicated with any such vessel, and compel the persons having so communicated to return on board and remain in quarantine, making use of such means as he may find necessary to enforce obedience to any of the regulations hereinbefore made, or which shall be hereafter made, either by firing guns, or any other kind of force or violence.

Any steam-boat or other vessel that shall have towed or otherwise communicated with a vessel not having the discharge from quarantine of the medical superintendent at Grosse Isle, shall be subject to the same regulations and instructions as hereinbefore provided respecting vessels not discharged from quarantine.

The harbour master shall also report to the civil secretary of his Excellency the Governor-General, or of the person administering the government of this province for the time being, all such occurrences without delay.

While the district of Quebec shall continue free from any dangerous and infectious disease, all vessels trading between any ports or places situated within the said district, and not having touched at any port or places without the said district, nor communicated with any other vessels which shall have arrived from any port without the said district, shall be exempt from the foregoing rules and regulations, so far as respects the necessity of going to or stopping at Grosse Isle, unless the Governor-General shall at any time think fit to order to the contrary; nor shall the said rules and regulations apply to any vessel of war, or to transports, or vessels having Queen's troops on board, or Her Majesty's mail, arriving at Grosse Isle, accompanied by a medical officer, and in a healthy state.

Now, therefore, We do require and command all Our judges, justices, officers and ministers of justice, and all our loving subjects, and all persons whomsoever, whom the same may concern, to take notice of the premises, and govern themselves accordingly.

In testimony whereof, We have caused these Our letters to be made patent, and that the Great Seal of Our said province of Lower Canada to be hereunto affixed.

Witness Our trusty and well beloved the Right Honourable Charles Poulett Thomson, one of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the provinces of Lower Canada and Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c.

At Our Government House, in Our city of Montreal, in Our province of Lower Canada, the 16th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1840, and in the third year of Our reign.

(Signed) D. DALY,
Secretary of the Province.

No. 21.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
17th April, 1840.
Encl. 2, in No. 21.

No. 22.

(No. 90.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 21st April, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Special Council met yesterday, when I submitted to them several Ordinances for continuing Acts or Ordinances which would otherwise expire on the 1st of May next. It is my intention also to submit to them Ordinances founded on the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 28th October last (No. 28), for rendering permanent such of the Ordinances of the session of 1839 as it will be necessary to continue beyond 1842.

There are likewise several questions of great importance, to which I have already adverted in my despatches to your Lordship, which I propose to bring before the Special Council; but in order fully to mature the Ordinances which I shall have to submit on those questions, it may probably be necessary to adjourn the Council and resume their sittings at a later period.

I have much satisfaction in reporting that the province is in a state of entire tranquillity, and that the excitement which lately prevailed on the question of the seminary of Montreal and the union has very much subsided. With respect to the latter question, I am informed that the parties in Quebec who originated the petition to the Crown and Parliament against the union have been unable to agree as to the agent who should be sent home to represent them, and that latterly the number of signatures affixed to the petition has been much smaller than they ex-

No. 22.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
21st April, 1840.

For Despatch 28th
Oct. 1839, *vide* and
Correspondence
relative to the
Affairs of Canada,
1840, Part I., page
18.

No. 22.
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C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
21st April, 1840.

pected. I think it probable, therefore, that after all no agent will be sent to England, or at least none for a considerable time.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 23.

(No. 142.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON.

No. 23.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
29th May, 1840.

SIR,

Downing-street, 29th May, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 90, of the 21st of April reporting your proceedings at the meeting of the Special Council on the preceding day, together with your intentions in respect to laying before them certain Ordinances and questions of importance which require their deliberation.

I shall be happy to be apprised of the result of the proceedings to which you refer, whenever you can communicate them to me.

The further intelligence conveyed in your despatch of the prevalence of entire tranquillity in the province is very satisfactory, and I am glad to find that the excitement on the question of the seminary at Montreal and the union has subsided so much.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. RUSSELL.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 24.

(No. 99.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 24.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
2d May, 1840.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 2d May, 1840.

I OBSERVE by the papers that, on the 30th March last, Mr. Pakington took occasion in the House of Commons to ask your Lordship certain questions in regard to the bishops of Montreal and Toronto. With respect to the latter, he is reported to have said that Dr. Strachan had been deprived of his salary as President of King's College, in consequence of his appointment as bishop, contrary to the agreement made with him when he accepted the episcopal office, a proceeding which he described as "cruel and unjust."

It is evident that if these expressions were used by Mr. Pakington, it must have proceeded from his ignorance of the circumstances under which the salary of the President of King's College was discontinued. I feel it, therefore, my duty to state those circumstances to your Lordship as I gathered them whilst in the Upper Province, as well as to bring to your notice some others relating to the connexion of the Bishop of Toronto with that establishment, which I had hitherto delayed doing, from a disinclination to enter upon transactions which I cannot consider creditable to the parties concerned.

Your Lordship is aware that many years ago a royal charter was passed for the establishment of a university in Upper Canada, and that by that instrument the Archdeacon of York was appointed *ex officio* President.

From various causes which have at different times been fully reported to your Lordship's predecessors, the institution, notwithstanding that it enjoyed a considerable endowment, was not then, nor has it been since, brought into operation. Nevertheless officers were appointed, principally for the management of the estate, and salaries were assigned to them. A salary of 250*l.* sterling was also attributed to the President. At what period Dr. Strachan first received this salary I am unable, without reference to Upper Canada, to state, but the records of the Colonial Office will supply the deficiency. From the Enclosures, however, to Sir George Arthur's Despatch to your Lordship of the 8th June, 1839, you will perceive that up to that date the bishop had continued to draw it.

But in the course of last year an investigation having been instituted by Sir George Arthur into the management of King's College, the fact that the President was annually drawing from its funds an income of 250*l.* sterling, was brought to

his notice. Considering that no duties of any kind beyond those of other unpaid members of the council were attached to the office, that there was no immediate prospect that the institution would be put into operation, and that every shilling taken from its revenue was so much deducted from the means of education in Upper Canada, already most deficient: it appeared to him impossible any longer to permit such an appropriation of its funds. In this opinion I entirely concur, and I am confident that your Lordship will approve the course which Sir George Arthur adopted. It is indeed difficult to understand how the considerations by which he was actuated should so long have escaped the notice of the bishop himself.

But the inquiry into the state of King's College, and the production of some returns called for by the assembly, brought out other irregularities in the management of the institution. Thus it appeared that the accounts of the bursar were very much in arrear, and it became necessary, therefore, to remove him, and to appoint another officer in his place; and it was also shown that a very considerable sum had been borrowed from the funds of the university by the President for his private purposes, on the security of various notes of hand, and that several of those notes had not been paid when due.

Upon my entering on the duties of chancellor of the university, the finances of that body naturally demanded my attention, and I was compelled to institute some inquiries respecting the accounts which were rendered to me.

This correspondence I now enclose, and I have only to say that it was not without considerable hesitation that I could satisfy myself with only recording my opinion in the minute to the council which closed it, instead of proceeding to further measures.

In regard to the Bishop of Montreal, your Lordship is reported to have said that an arrangement was under the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the consolidation of his present offices, and the appointment of his curate to be rector of Quebec, at the same salary as is now assigned to him by the bishop. I trust, however, that this arrangement may not be concluded without giving me an opportunity of expressing my opinion upon it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 24.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
2d May, 1840.

(Copy.)

Enclosure 1, in No. 24.

Toronto, 3d February, 1840.

SIR,

WITH reference to the Reports of the Committee on the affairs of King's College transmitted to his Excellency, and to the accounts sent for presentation to Parliament, I am commanded by the Governor-General to state that his Excellency wishes for detailed information upon the following points:—

It appears that the late bursar's accounts have been greatly in arrear, and that upon the 1st July, no less a sum than over 13,000*l.* was owing by him, of which about 7,000*l.* have been paid, leaving 6,306*l.* due. His Excellency desires to be informed what steps have been taken to recover this balance.

His Excellency wishes to have a copy of the minute or order under which the bursar was appointed, and also to be informed whether any and what security was required from him, or, if not, upon what grounds it was considered expedient to dispense with such ordinary guarantee.

It appears that considerable sums have been given out on loan to members of the council. His Excellency wishes for copies of the minutes under which such loans were authorized—a statement upon what security such loans were made—if upon notes of hand, an account of the period at which they fall due: and he desires to be further informed whether steps have been taken to prevent the recurrence of so highly objectionable a practice as lending the funds of the institution to those engaged in its management.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) T. W. C. MURDOCH, Chief Secretary.

Dr. Boys, Bursar.

Enclosure 2, in No. 24.

(Copy.)

King's College Office, Toronto, 11th February, 1840.

IN reference to your letter of the 3d instant requiring, by command, certain particulars respecting the debt to King's College of Lieutenant-Colonel Wells, the late bursar; and of the loan made by the college to the Honourable and Venerable Archdeacon of York, now

G

Encl. 1, in No. 24.

Encl. , in No. 24.

No. 24.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
2d May, 1840.
Encl. 2, in No. 24.

Bishop of Toronto, I have the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-General, that the late bursar, immediately on the state of his balance being ascertained, assigned over to the college by way of mortgage, property to a greater amount in estimated value than the amount of his deficiency. The property consisting of various estates, it has taken much time to prepare the legal documents necessary to complete the assignments, but I find from the Attorney-General they will be completed in a few days; in the mean time the deeds are in possession of the college. It is not apprehended that the college can suffer any loss eventually in this case, but it may be a considerable time before the different estates can be advantageously disposed of. Interest will in the mean time be charged against the late bursar. Since his removal the late bursar has paid in by small instalments 750*l.*, and his debt at this time, including some small sums that have been brought against him since his removal, amounts to 5,924*l.* The minutes appointing the late bursar are as follows:—

At the first meeting of the College Council, being on the 8th January, 1828, the following minute was made:—“ His Excellency the Chancellor (Sir Peregrine Maitland) was pleased to appoint James Givens, jun., Esq., registrar, and the Honourable Joseph Wells, bursar of King’s College.” And at a meeting of the council on the 16th March, 1833, the following minute was made. “ The President read a letter from his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir John Colborne) appointing Lieutenant-Colonel Wells to be registrar of King’s College, vice Mr. G. H. Markland, appointed Inspector-General.” It does not appear from the minutes of the council that the late bursar was ever called upon to give security for the due performance of his office; nor is it known to any of the present members of the council upon what grounds it was considered expedient to dispense with such ordinary guarantee.

In respect to the loan made to the present Bishop of Toronto, the following minute was made by the council at their meeting on the 7th January, 1837:—“ The bursar laid before the council a letter which he had received from the Honourable and Venerable the Archdeacon of York proposing to the College Council to take on interest a sum not exceeding 5,250*l.* of their funds now lying or hereafter to come into the hands of the bursar, upon depositing as security the following promissory notes now held by the archdeacon.

	£.	s.	d.
Honourable William Morris, four notes of 187 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> , all dated 24th December, 1836, payable one, two, three, four years after date, with interest	750	0	0
Allan MacNab, Esq. ditto	750	0	0
John Barwick, Esq. ditto	750	0	0
Benjamin Thorne, Esq. ditto	750	0	0
Thomas G. Ridout, Esq. ditto	750	0	0
John Ross, Esq. ditto	750	0	0
John Radenhurst, Esq. ditto	750	0	0
Total	£5,250	0	0

The council, being perfectly satisfied of the sufficiency of the security, sanction the investing the amount required to bear interest from the time the money may be advanced, the securities to be endorsed by the archdeacon. The present state of these notes is as follows.

Payable 24th December.

	1837.	1838.	1839.	1840.	Total.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Hon. Wm. Morris	..	..	..	..	750 0 0
Hon. Sir J. A. MacNab	..	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	750 0 0
John Barwick, Esq.	..	..	187 10 0	187 10 0	750 0 0
Benj. Thorne, Esq.	..	..	..	187 10 0	750 0 0
T. G. Ridout, Esq.	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	750 0 0
John Ross, Esq.	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	750 0 0
John Radenhurst, Esq.	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	187 10 0	750 0 0
Total	1,312 10 0	1,312 10 0	1,312 10 0	1,312 10 0	5,250 0 0

Those lined out are already paid. The twelve now due are placed in the hands of the Attorney-General for collection, and the remaining six are not yet due. These notes being all endorsed by the bishop afford a perfect security to the institution against any eventual loss. Having applied to the bishop for any further explanation on this subject he might wish to offer, I beg leave to enclose you a copy of his lordship’s answer.

It does not appear that any rule or ordinance has been made to prevent in future the loaning of the funds of the institution to those engaged in its management.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) H. Boys, Bursar and Registrar, K. C.

T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.
Chief Secretary.

(Copy.)

SIR,

Toronto, 10th February, 1840.

IN reference to the latter part of Mr. Secretary Murdoch's letter dated the 3d instant, which I have only this moment seen, and upon which you request any explanations I may have to offer, I have first to express my regret that his Excellency the Governor-General had not been made acquainted with the facts of the case before such communication was written, and next my inability to acquiesce in the language of censure which Mr. Murdoch has thought fit to employ respecting a matter of business in which I happen to be concerned.

Many years ago I borrowed nearly 8,000*l.* from my friends Messrs. Clarke and Street, of Niagara, to complete some domestic arrangements. This money was given me on my personal security, and to be repaid with interest at my convenience. The lamented death of Mr. Clarke disturbed this arrangement, for his heirs in Scotland intimated their wish to realize the estate as soon as possible. To meet this wish I disposed of a very valuable property to a company of eight gentlemen among the first in the province for wealth and respectability, to be paid by annual instalments with interest. A portion of the securities given by the purchasers (but retaining my responsibility for their certain discharge) was transferred with the full consent and approbation of the College Council at one of its meetings (as may be seen by the minutes) to the bursar for their value of 5,250*l.*, as he happened at that time to have investments to make.

It was a common money transaction of the most simple kind, and the securities such as no gentleman or monied institution in the province would have for a moment refused; they are more ample than Messrs. Clarke and Street required from me for a much larger sum, and I consider myself under no sort of obligation to the College Council, as it would have been easy for me at the time to have made a similar arrangement elsewhere.

It is true the rebellion and disturbed state of the province have produced difficulties in the payments which could not have been anticipated, but I am responsible for all deficiencies, and I am bound to protect the college against ultimate loss either in capital or interest.

But to prevent the occurrence of anything unpleasant in this matter I have to request you to furnish me with a detailed account of the notes and the balance due on the 1st of January last, that I may at the expiration of every six months meet the accruing interest or deficiency of interest thereon, so that the regular income of the college may be secured against temporary diminution, till the said balance be finally adjusted, which will, I trust, take place at no distant period.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

(Signed)

JOHN TORONTO.

Dr. Boys, Bursar.

Enclosure 3, in No. 24.

(Copy.)

THE bursar was desired to furnish the dates under which the different loans were advanced, to which the following reply was given:—

SIR,

King's College Office, Toronto, 12th February, 1840.

THE money loaned by the University of King's College to the present Bishop of Toronto, was advanced at the following dates:—

	£.
2d January, 1836	1,000
9th January, 1837	2,000
21st February, 1837	2,250
Total	£5,250

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. Boys, Bursar, King's College.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

Enclosure 4, in No. 24.

As it appeared from the dates given in on the 12th February, that one sum of 1000*l.* was advanced to the Bishop of Toronto on the 2nd of January, 1836, whilst the authority of the council to the loan was only given on the 7th January, 1837, application was made to know if there was not a mistake in the first date given in, to which the following reply was made:—

SIR,

King's College Office, Toronto, 14th February, 1840.

In reference to your note of this date, this instant received, I request you will inform his Excellency that the date of the first payment to the Bishop is correctly stated to be on the 2nd January, 1836, and that there is no minute of council, or authority for the transaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. Boys, Bursar, K. C.

A. Symonds, Esq.

No. 24.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
2d May, 1840.
Encl. 2, in No. 24.

Encl. 3, in No. 24.

Encl. 4, in No. 24.

No. 24.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
Encl. 5, in No. 24.

Enclosure 5, in No. 24.

Toronto, 15th February, 1840.

SIR,

Your letters of the 11th, 12th, and 14th instant, have been laid before the Governor-General, together with the Enclosure. With reference to the defalcation in the accounts of the treasurer, and the omission to take security from that officer, his Excellency is sorry to find that no remedy now seems possible, and it is only to be hoped that the property of the late treasurer may be found sufficient to prevent ultimate loss to the university.

With respect to the loan of money stated to have been made to the Bishop of Toronto upon the security of certain notes of hand, and upon the subject of which in addition to your remarks, a letter has been transmitted, addressed so yourself by the right reverend prelate, I am commanded to inform you that his Excellency the Governor-General, feels himself compelled to record his opinion for the information of the council.

His Excellency wishes to abstain altogether from the consideration of the circumstances under which the loan was sought, alluded to in the letter of the right reverend prelate, and upon which he had neither the desire nor the right to require any explanation. The points on which he is called upon to express an opinion, as Chancellor of the University, are the circumstances under which the loan was made by the council, and the action that has been taken upon the securities given.

It appears that a loan of a considerable sum was made by the council to one of the members of the Board, such a proceeding his Excellency cannot by any means view in the light of an ordinary money transaction. The employment of the funds of a public trust by one of the trustees, for his own advantage, is a proceeding which in his opinion is highly objectionable, and calculated to destroy the confidence of the public in the management of the university.* With regard to the second point, his Excellency regrets to be obliged to remark that a proper course has not in his opinion been pursued. It appears from the statement that no less than 11 notes of hand are over due, of which three have been due since the year 1837, three since 1838, and the remainder since the 24th December, 1839. In business of this kind, punctuality should always be observed, but in the affairs of a public trust, a scrupulous regard to it appears above all things desirable. If a note of hand be not discharged at maturity by the party first liable, the simple and ordinary course is to call upon the endorser (if any) to do so: no such steps seem to have been taken, and the signatures of these bills have been permitted to remain dishonoured, some of them for a very considerable time.

I have, &c.

Dr. Boys, Bursar.

(Signed)

T. W. C. MURDOCH, Chief Secretary.

No. 25.

(No. 102.)

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Hon. C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 5th May, 1840.

No. 25.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
5th May, 1840.

With reference to that part of my Despatch of the 17th ultimo, No. 86, in which I stated my intention of renewing the emigrant tax, and informed you of the steps I intended taking for its beneficial appropriation, I regret to be compelled to say that the law officers, on preparing the ordinance, have discovered that it is not within the competence of the Special Council to pass such a law. This tax was first imposed by the Assembly, and has since been renewed annually by the special council, which under the provisions of the 1 Vic. c. 9. sec. 3, it was perfectly in their power to do. But, most unfortunately, last year the renewing ordinance, instead of being enacted for one year, was limited by my predecessor to the 1st of November, that period being the close of the shipping season, and, therefore, being considered as practically to the same effect as a renewal for the year.

On the 1st of November, therefore, the ordinance expired, when of course no Special Council was in session.

The result is, as I am informed by the law officers, that the imposition of this tax now must be considered as a revival and not as a renewal, consequently that no power exists in the Special Council, under the provisions of the above-mentioned Act, or under the more extend powers conferred by the 2nd Vic. cap. 53, sec. 3, to reimpose these charges and that the fund falls to the ground.

This is deeply to be regretted, for whilst the means of affording assistance to the emigrants will thus be cut off, they will undoubtedly have themselves paid the charge which is always included by the shipmaster in the amount of passage money.

It becomes, however, a most serious consideration what means are to be resorted to under this difficulty for affording assistance to such emigrants as may stand abso-

* In England such a transaction would be visited with severity in a Court of Equity.

lutely in need of it, as well as for aiding and directing them to places where work may be obtained, a most important object, as without some such assistance it is probable that numbers may resort to the States, and thus defeat one of the main advantages of the emigration. The question is rendered more serious, likewise, as there seems to be a very great probability of a very large emigration this season, and that composed in a great degree of very indigent persons.

I have provided for the expense of the establishment at Grosse Isle, which it was my intention to defray from this source, by vote of the Special Council, but in the present state of the finances of this province, there are no funds whatever, from which I can obtain the means of doing more than that. The large amount of fresh expenditure, or of engagements entered upon by my predecessor, have completely absorbed all the revenue of the province for the year beginning the 1st of last October, and must leave a deficiency upon the account.

Under these extraordinary circumstances, I must submit to your Lordship the propriety of entrusting me with a discretionary power to provide assistance, in the manner I propose, out of imperial funds, to the extent of a sum of 5,000*l.* to 6,000*l.* You may rely upon my using this power with the utmost possible caution, and taking care that whatever funds may be called for, shall be appropriated with the utmost economy. But without such assistance, I am really at a loss to know what to do, and should anticipate very serious consequences.

As the matter is of so urgent a nature, I will express my hope that I may be favoured with an immediate reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 25.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
5th May, 1840.

No. 26.

(No. 145.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Honourable C. POULETT THOMSON.

SIR,

Downing-street, 30th May, 1840.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 102, of the 5th of May, explaining that you were unable, for the reasons therein stated, to obtain the re-enactment by the Special Council of the Ordinance imposing a tax on emigrants, which had expired on the 1st of last November, and representing the necessity of providing the means of assistance for such emigrants as should absolutely require it on their arrival in Canada.

It is undoubtedly very important that you should have the power of rendering medical aid to sick emigrants, and of temporarily supporting them until they can be directed to places where work is to be obtained.

I am so much alive to the force of those reasons, that having your assurance that the funds of the province will not admit at present of any charge of this description being thrown on them, and taking into consideration that the Special Council are not competent to re-enact the Ordinance imposing the tax on emigrants, I have considered myself justified in advising the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to sanction the payment out of the vote for Canada of the sum of 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.* for this service, which is the amount you have named.

No. 26.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
30th May, 1840.

No. 27.

(No. 103.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable C. POULETT THOMSON to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government House, Montreal, 5th May, 1840.

WITH reference to the concluding paragraph of my Despatch of the 21st ultimo, No. 90, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Têtu, of Quebec, goes home by the "Great Western" steamer as bearer of the signatures to the anti-union petition from the district of Quebec. Mr. Têtu is a person of no

No. 27.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson, to
Lord John Russell.
5th May, 1840.

No. 27.
The Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson to
Lord John Russell.
" 5th May, 1840.

importance or note, and is not, as I understand, authorized to act as the agent or representative of the parties who have signed this petition. The number of signatures is much less than had been anticipated, and three-fourths of the whole are crosses; while a very small proportion, indeed, belong to persons of British extraction.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. POULETT THOMSON.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 28.

(No. 144.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to the Right Honourable C. POULETT THOMSON.

No. 28.
Lord John Russell
to the Right Hon.
C. P. Thomson.
30th May, 1840.

SIR,

Downing-street, 30th May, 1840.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have duly received your Despatch of the 5th instant, No. 103, stating that Mr. Tête, of Quebec, was coming to England with the petition against the union of the Canadas from the district of Quebec, to which you referred in Despatch No. 90.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. RUSSELL.

The Right Hon. C. Poulett Thomson,
&c. &c. &c.

U P P E R C A N A D A.

From Lord John Russell and Lieutenant-Governor Sir
G. Arthur, K.C.H.

SCHEDULE.

U P P E R C A N A D A.

**FROM LORD JOHN RUSSELL, AND LIEUT.-GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE ARTHUR,
K.C.H.**

No.	Date, 1840.	SUBJECT.	PAGE
1. Lieut.-Governor Sir G. Arthur to Lord John Russell	March 26	State of the Province	57
2. Lord John Russell to Lieut.-Governor Sir G. Arthur	April 23	Acknt. of Despatch of March 26	57
3. Lieut.-Governor Sir G. Arthur to Lord John Russell	April 23	Accidental destruction of part of the Town of Kingston by Fire	57
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From Lord John Russell and Lieutenant-Governor Sir
George Arthur, K.C.H.

No. 1.

(No. 16.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir G. ARTHUR to Lord JOHN RUSSELL, dated Government House, Toronto, 26th March, 1840.

I CANNOT doubt it will be satisfactory to your Lordship to be informed, down to the latest period, that the province is in a perfectly tranquil state.

"Responsible Government," upon which no two persons appear entirely to agree, is the only agitating subject. A deep anxiety is, no doubt, felt for the decision of the Imperial Parliament respecting the union of the provinces and the disposal of the clergy reserves; but neither subject is any longer discussed with violence.

On the frontier all is quiet, and the citizens of the States manifest an anxiety to cultivate a good understanding with our military officers, with whom there is as much intercourse kept up as is desirable.

This feeling will, I hope, soon extend itself to other classes of the community, than which nothing could be more desirable; nor is there any point which I have been more solicitous to gain.

There are occasional rumours of meditated mischief in Canada, and of preparations in the United States; but they are not to be treated beyond mere rumours; and a more quiet time for the introduction of any measures meditated by Her Majesty's Government cannot reasonably be expected.

No. 1.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
26th March, 1840.

No. 2.

(No. 74.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to Lieut.-Governor Sir G. ARTHUR.

SIR,

Downing-street, 23d April, 1840.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 16, of the 26th of March, reporting that the province of Upper Canada is perfectly tranquil, and that the feeling of the country on public affairs renders the present a very appropriate opportunity for introducing into Canada the changes proposed by Her Majesty's Government.

I have to convey to you my acknowledgements for the satisfactory intelligence respecting the Upper Province, which is contained in your Despatch; and I am happy to avail myself of this occasion to express to you the full confidence which I have in your devotion to The Queen's service, especially after the judicious conduct which you have observed during the presence of the Governor-General in Upper Canada.

Lieut.-General Sir G. Arthur,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 2.
Lord John Russell
to Sir G. Arthur.
23d April, 1840.

No. 3.

(No. 23.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir GEORGE ARTHUR to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

Government House, Toronto, 23d April, 1840.

I REGRET to be under the necessity of informing your Lordship of the destruction of a considerable part of the town of Kingston, in this province, by fire, on the 18th instant.

No. 3.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
23d April, 1840.

No. 3.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
23d April, 1840.

It appears that on the morning of that day the wind was blowing very strongly from the southward, in consequence of which the captain of the steam-boat "Telegraph," belonging to the United States, found it necessary to remove from the harbour to prevent her being injured upon the wharf.

It is supposed some sparks from her chimneys communicated with a new warehouse recently erected on the Ottawa and Rideau Wharf, which was speedily in flames.

In consequence of the strong wind, the fire spread with great rapidity to the adjoining wharf, and from that northwards to the market square, and to Brock-street, and King-street; and was proceeding rapidly, when providentially, about three o'clock, the wind changed to the westward, and the fire was got under about daybreak.

The destruction of property has, however, I regret to state, been very great. The Ottawa and Rideau Wharf, the steamer "Cataraqui," the schooner "Lord Nelson," about 10,000 barrels of flour, pork, and potash, a large quantity of wheat, grain, and merchandize have been entirely consumed. The entire block of houses, with the exception of four, formed by King, Store, Water, and Brock-streets, also the northern side of the market square, and many other houses have been entirely destroyed.

I am happy, however, to be able to state that no lives have been lost, notwithstanding the explosion of a large quantity of gunpowder in one of the warehouses, although several severe accidents have taken place.

It is satisfactory also to be able to state that there is not the slightest reason to believe that the fire originated otherwise than accidentally, and that all persons on the spot seemed to exert themselves to the utmost to save such property as they could, and to alleviate the distresses of the sufferers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ARTHUR.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 4.

(No. 84.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to Lient.-Governor Sir GEORGE ARTHUR.

No. 4.
Lord John Russell
to Sir G. Arthur.
29th May, 1840.

SIR,

Downing-street, 29th May, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 23, of the 23d April, communicating the destruction of a considerable part of the town of Kingston, Upper Canada, by fire, on the 18th of April.

I have received this intelligence of the fire and extensive loss of property with the most sincere concern; but it is consoling to find that no lives have been lost, and that there is no reason for doubting that the fire originated accidentally.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Major-General Sir Geo. Arthur,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 5.

(No. 24.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Major-General Sir GEORGE ARTHUR to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

No. 5.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
24th April, 1840.

MY LORD,

Government House, Toronto, 24th April 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that on the 17th instant a most disgraceful attempt was made to destroy the monument, erected on Queenston Heights by the people of this province, to the memory of that gallant officer, the late Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, which I regret to state has been but too successful.

From the details furnished by Colonel Swan, the police magistrate on the Niagara frontier, in his reports, copies of which I enclose for your Lordship's information, it appears that the injury to the monument was effected in the night time by means of gunpowder deposited within it.

AFFAIRS OF CANADA.

59

The column is much injured, so much so, as to be almost irreparable; and it will probably be necessary to have it taken down.

From the information which has been obtained by Colonel Swan, it would appear that the perpetrators of this wanton and disgraceful act, came from Lewiston, in the United States' side of the Niagara river, and there is reason to believe that the notorious Benjamin Lett, the person suspected of being the murderer of the late Mr. Usher, was in some measure connected with it. This person is constantly to be found on the United States frontier, boasting of his deeds upon the Canada side.

Immediately on hearing of this outrage, I issued, by the advice of the Executive Council, a proclamation, a copy of which I enclose, offering 250*l.* reward for the discovery and conviction of the perpetrators.

I have directed every means to be taken to arrive at an accurate knowledge of the facts connected with this outrage, which has caused a great sensation here, the memory of General Brock being much and deservedly respected by all classes.

As soon as I shall have received all the information which seems likely to be obtained, it is my intention, with a view to the proceedings of Lett being fully made known to Her Majesty's minister at Washington, to make a communication on the subject to Mr. Fox.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. ARTHUR.

The Right Hon. Lord John Russell,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Proclamation.—Upper Canada.

GEO ARTHUR.

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

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting :

WHEREAS some evil-minded and malicious person or persons unknown did, on the morning of Friday, the seventeenth day of April instant, explode a quantity of gunpowder under the Monument of the late gallant and much lamented Sir Isaac Brock, on Queenston Heights, for the purpose of destroying the pillar erected by the people of this province, in honour and grateful admiration of the devoted zeal and heroism in their defence, through which he lost his life, during the late war with the United States.

Now know ye, that for the better apprehending and bringing to justice the perpetrator or perpetrators of such wicked and disgraceful outrage, a Reward of Two hundred and fifty pounds, of lawful current money of this province, is hereby offered, and will be paid to any person or persons (not being a principal actor or principal actors in the said outrage) who shall discover, apprehend, and prosecute to conviction, or give such information as shall lead to the discovery, apprehension, and conviction of the person or persons by whom the said offence was perpetrated or committed.

In testimony whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patent, and the great seal of our said province to be hereunto affixed : witness our trusty and well-beloved Sir George Arthur, K.C.H., Lieutenant-Governor of our said Province, and Major-General Commanding our Forces therein, at Toronto, this eighteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty, and in the third year of our reign. G. A.

By command of his Excellency in Council.

W. H. DRAPER, Attorney-General.

R. A. TUCKER, Secretary.

No. 6.

(No. 32.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-Governor Sir G. ARTHUR to Lord JOHN RUSSELL.

Government House, Toronto, 6th May, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to report (by the "Great Western," which sails on the 9th instant) that there is perfect tranquillity on the frontier of this province.

The destruction of "Brock's monument," reported in my Despatch No. 24, of the 24th ultimo, naturally created some temporary excitement; but, on personally visiting the Niagara frontier, it was very satisfactory to me to find that several American citizens had put themselves into communication with the magistrates on the British side, and had evinced, or, at least, expressed an earnest desire to co-

No. 3.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
24th April, 1840.

Encl. in No. 5.

No. 6.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
6th May, 1840.

No. 6.
Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell.
6th May, 1840.

operate in the endeavour to discover the parties who committed this wicked outrage.

From the examinations taken, there can be no question that Benjamin Lett was the chief agent concerned; but I do not know that anything can be done with him, however distinctly the facts may be brought home.

No. 1.

No. 2.

Although very much shattered, as is reported by Captain, Stehelin, of the Royal Engineers, Lieut.-Colonel Ward states, after a very close inspection of the column, that there is not any danger of its falling for many years.

Since I last addressed your Lordship on the 23d of April, I have also visited Kingston. The fire has done great injury, but, rather than to murmur at the injury done, there is cause to be most thankful to a merciful Providence for the safety of the rest of the town, which was only preserved by a sudden change of wind.

There is a natural anxiety felt for the result of the Union and Clergy Reserve Bills; but there is otherwise no particular excitement in the country, and the community, generally, seem more desirous of repose than of further agitation, and I do not know that a more auspicious moment could be expected to present itself for carrying the details of the union into practical effect, if that measure be decided upon by the Imperial Legislature.

(Copy.)

Enclosure in No. 6.

Toronto, 1st May, 1840.

Encl. in No. 6.

SIR,

For the information of his Excellency the Major-General commanding, I have to acquaint you, that I have directed a sketch to be made, showing the present condition of the monument erected on the Queenston Heights to the memory of the late Sir Isaac Brock; at the same time I have called for an opinion as to the stability of the structure.

From what I perceived, and I examined it both inside and out, as far as could be done from the ground; I do not apprehend any danger of its falling for many years, and in my opinion, anything that might be attempted to add to its strength, would be more likely to accelerate its destruction; but I should recommend having the door-way at bottom built up without delay, were it only to prevent another attempt to blow it down, and the building of a dwarf wall at a small distance round the base of the monument.

Even on the probability of the monument falling at some future period, I should suggest the pursuing of the same course, as being preferable to incurring some considerable expense for the erection of scaffolding, and taking down the monument, which, in its present state, is more likely to excite the attention of strangers, than it was before its destruction was contemplated.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. C. WARD, Lieut.-Col. Royal Engineers.

Colonel Halkett, Assistant Military Secretary, Toronto,
&c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

SIR,

Niagara, 17th April, 1840.

It having been reported to me that the monument on Queenston heights, erected to the memory of the late Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, had been attempted to be blown up, and that an explosion of gunpowder took place at half-past four o'clock this morning, I proceeded thither, and found that very considerable damage has been done to the monument; which, from external appearances, would appear not capable of repair. The pedestal is slightly cracked on the four sides, and the key-stone of the arch over the door blown out. The shaft of the column is cracked likewise more than half way up on four sides, on two most extensively, the cracks being in some places ten inches or a foot wide.

The gallery and cupola are very much shaken.

As the interior could not be examined, in consequence of being filled with the ruins of the wooden staircase, I am not prepared to say that the monument cannot be restored, but from a considerable bulge in the column, I am apprehensive such will be found to be the case.

A considerable quantity of powder must have been employed, as the explosion was distinctly heard at Niagara.

I beg to request that his Excellency Major-General Sir George Arthur may be made acquainted with this report; as I understand no official report has been made to him on the subject from the military authorities.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

BENJAMIN J. STEHELIN,

Captain Royal Engineers.

Lieut-Col. Ward.

