

273

M O N T R E A L.

RETURN to an ADDRESS of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 18 February 1845;—for,

COPIES or EXTRACTS of any DESPATCHES from the Governor-General of *Canada* to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and of his Replies, respecting the Conduct of the RETURNING OFFICER of *Montreal* during the late Election.

Colonial-office, Downing-street, }
4 March 1845.

G. W. HOPE.

— No. 1. —

(No. 162.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir *Charles Metcalfe*, Bart. G.C.B. to Lord *Stanley*.

No. 1.
Governor Sir C.
Metcalfe to Lord
Stanley.
28 October 1844.

Government House, Montreal,
28 October 1844.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to submit for your Lordship's information the copy of a Report from Captain *Wetherall*, stipendiary magistrate, detailing the proceedings that took place during the two days of polling for members to represent the city of *Montreal* in the new Parliament.

I consider that the preservation of the peace, and of the lives and property of the inhabitants, is in no small degree to be attributed to the admirable arrangements of *Mr. Young*, the returning officer, and to the efficient services of Captain *Wetherall*, a most valuable public servant.

The polling proceeded throughout without interruption, notwithstanding the repeated attempts made to disturb it; and I feel that it will be as gratifying to your Lordship to learn, as it is to me to state, that no life has been sacrificed.

Great credit is due to the troops employed, both officers and men, for their temperate and judicious conduct; and I am of opinion that without their assistance, neither the peace of the city could have been maintained, nor the free exercise of their franchise secured to the voters, in consequence of the inroads made by the labourers, non-voters, who are congregated upon the public works in this vicinity.

I have, &c.

(signed) *C. T. Metcalfe*.

Enclosure in No. 1.

EXTRACT of a REPORT from Captain *Wetherall*, Stipendiary Magistrate at MONTREAL, addressed to the Provincial Secretary; dated Lachine Police Office, 26 October 1844.

Encl. in No. 1.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of the Governor-general, that a few days previous to the nomination of candidates to represent the city of *Montreal*, I was called on by the returning officer to assist him in making arrangements for the preservation of the peace of that city.

I felt it my duty to comply with this request, and I beg now to report the occurrences which took place under my observation, as well as the general arrangements during the two days of polling.