

(No. 33.)

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Marquis of NORMANBY to Lieutenant-General
Sir JOHN COLBORNE, G.C.B.

SIR,

Downing-street, 15th May, 1839.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th April, No. 58, enclosing the copy of a letter which you had received from Sir George Arthur, accompanied by a congratulatory address from the two branches of the legislature of Upper Canada, on your appointment to be Governor-General of British North America.

I have laid this despatch before The Queen, and Her Majesty has commanded me to express her satisfaction at the high esteem in which you are held in that important part of Her Majesty's dominions. Her Majesty feels that this testimony must be doubly gratifying to you as proceeding from the legislature of a province with which you were long intimately connected, and the inhabitants of which have consequently had ample opportunity of estimating your public services.

I have, &c.

Sir John Colborne, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed)

NORMANBY.

No. 5.
Marquis of Normanby
to Sir John Colborne,
May 15, 1839.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Marquis of NORMANBY to Lieutenant-General
Sir JOHN COLBORNE, G.C.B.

SIR,

Downing-street, 12th June, 1839.

AS I am aware of your anxiety to be informed of the measures contemplated by her Majesty's Government for the settlement of the affairs of Canada, I avail myself of the opportunity afforded by the departure of the "Liverpool" steam-vessel, to communicate with you on the subject.

It had been the intention of Her Majesty's Government to introduce into Parliament the Bill, of which I enclose you a copy, and which, if agreed to, would have reunited the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, and would have made effectual provision for their future government. Late events, however, and especially the recent proceedings in the legislature of Upper Canada, of which intelligence was received on the 3d instant, have induced Her Majesty's ministers so far to modify this Bill as to defer for the present those provisions which relate to the reunion of the Provinces and their future government. Accordingly, the Bill will be divided into two parts; the first extending the authority of the Special Council of Lower Canada, and prolonging its existence to the year 1842; the second providing for the future reunion of the Canadian Provinces on the principles of a free and representative government. The first Bill only will be immediately pressed on the attention of Parliament, and will, I trust, meet with their concurrence. The second will be brought in, but will not be proceeded with during the present session, nor until the Legislative Council and Assembly of Upper Canada, and the Special Council of Lower Canada shall have had an opportunity of communicating to Her Majesty's Government their views respecting it.

I shall take an early opportunity of communicating with you further on this subject, and of apprizing you of the proceedings in the Imperial Parliament. My present communication is necessarily restricted to a mere indication of the intentions of Her Majesty's Government; but I could not allow this opportunity to pass without apprizing you of them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

NORMANBY.

Sir John Colborne, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6.
Marquis of Normanby
to Sir John Colborne,
June 12, 1839.