

surrender the contract, I am directed to inform you that an Order of the Hon. the Privy Council has been passed (copy enclosed) accepting the relinquishment of the contract.

It will be observed that the Minute of Council authorizes you to take the necessary steps to have such arrangements made that all the works on that part of the Canal, especially the Aqueduct over the Chippewa River at the Town of Welland, can be carried on in a prompt, economical and efficient manner.

With a view to effecting these objects you will please to proceed at once to the place, and when there make such examinations as will enable you to determine what is best to be done, and then take the necessary action for the early resumption of the works as well as to obtain such information as will enable an equitable settlement to be made with the late contractors.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
F. BRAUN, Secretary.

OTTAWA, 12th November, 1880.

SIRS,—I am directed to inform you that under the authority of an Order in Council, passed on the 27th ultimo, you have been permitted to relinquish your contract for the works embraced in Section No. 27 on the Welland Canal, upon terms to be hereafter arranged.

I am, Sirs, your obedient servant,  
F. BRAUN, Secretary.

MESSRS. HUNTER, MURRAY & CLEVELAND,  
St. Catharines, Ont.

(Telegram.)

WELLAND, 1st March, 1881.

To Hon. Sir C. TUPPER:

Have met Mr. Page at Welland Works. In reading over his letter of instructions. Is of opinion that he requires discretionary powers to enable him to effect a settlement of our matter. We would, therefore, be obliged by your telegraphing him such authority as will permit him to exercise his judgment in effecting a settlement in the premises.

HUNTER, MURRAY & CLEVELAND.

OTTAWA, 2nd March, 1880.

HUNTER, MURRAY & CLEVELAND, Welland.

Will you accept Mr. Page's decision if discretionary powers to settle with you as stated in your yesterday's telegram are given him.

F. BRAUN, Secretary.

(Telegram.)

ST. CATHARINES, March 3rd, 1881.

F. BRAUN, Esq., Secretary.

In answer to your telegram of yesterday we understood from Mr. Page that he was not possessed of sufficient authority to look into our matters with a view to effect a settlement. We asked that sufficient power be granted him to do so. If our request is not in accord with the views of the Minister we will not urge it.

HUNTER, MURRAY & CLEVELAND.