

CANADA.

which such quarantine shall be directed to be performed; and any word importing the singular number shall include a plurality of persons or things, unless there be something in the context inconsistent with such interpretation.

— No. 2. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Honourable the Earl of *Elgin* to Earl *Grey*.

Government House, Montreal, 24 April 1849.

(Received, 13 May 1849.)

No. 2.
Earl of *Elgin* to
Earl *Grey*,
24 April 1849.

My Lord,

As some misconception seems to exist in England with respect to the amount of tax levied under a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States on immigrants landing at New York, I have the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information, the copy a letter on the subject, which has been addressed to the President of the Executive Council of the Province, by a gentleman of New York, whose authority may be relied on.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Elgin & Kincardine*.

Enclosure in No. 2.

Encl. in No. 2.

My dear Sir,

New York, 10 April 1849.

YOUR favour of the 2d instant, is to hand. Since the late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, adverse to the hospital-tax levied from immigrants, ships landing passengers at this port, decline paying this tax of 50 cents a head.

A bill of it is still handed in, and the money asked by the Hospital Commissioners, but payment is not insisted on.

The Commutation Tax of \$ 1 per passenger, to the Commissioners of Emigration, is still levied here. The late decision, it is held, does not touch the law under which the tax is levied, though it is quite clear that it rests on the very same principle, and is liable to the same objections as the other.

The above were levied under the laws of the State of New York, not of the United States.

W. H. Merritt, Esq., Montreal.

Your's, truly,
(signed) *Rich Irrell*.

— No. 3. —

(No. 40.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Honourable the Earl of *Elgin* to Earl *Grey*.

No. 3.
Earl of *Elgin* to
Earl *Grey*,
1 May 1849.
* Page 12.

Government House, Montreal, 1 May 1849.

(Received, 22 May 1849.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch, No. 341,* of the 16th March, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter and enclosures, from the Chief Emigrant Agent, reporting on the points respecting which further information is required by the solicitor to the Board of Customs, in relation to the alleged infraction of the law in the case of the emigrant vessel "St. John."

I have, &c.

(signed) *Elgin & Kincardine*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

Sir,

Emigration Office, Quebec, 24 April 1849.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, enclosing the order of reference from Mr. Assistant-secretary Parent, on the case of the brig "St. Johns," and requesting that I should furnish you with the particulars of the proceedings taken by me against Captain Oliver, for the alleged infraction of the Imperial Passengers' Act.

I have