

I have detailed, will be better off than they were; that the position they occupy can *bona fide* be fortified against the encroachments of the whites; while, on the other hand, *there can be no doubt, that the acquisition of their vast and fertile territory will be hailed with joy by the whole province.*"

The dispatch received the following reply from the secretary of state for the colonies. It is evident that the judgment and benevolence, both of the Minister, and our late Sovereign, were completely deluded by the representations which were thus made to them.

*Lord Glenelg to Sir F. B. Head.*

"Downing Street, 5 October, 1836.

"I have received your despatch of the 20th August last, No. 70, reporting an expedition you had made in person to the shores of the Lake Huron, and the arrangements into which you had there entered with the various tribes of Indians. Assured of the vigilant humanity by which your conduct towards this helpless race of men, the survivors of the ancient possessors and lords of the country, could not but be directed, and conscious of the incomparable superiority of your means of forming a correct judgment how their welfare could be most effectually consulted, I have thought myself not only at liberty, but obliged, in deference to your opinions, to recommend for his Majesty's sanction the arrangements and compacts into which you entered; and influenced by the same consideration, the king has been graciously pleased to approve of them. *His Majesty, however, directs me to commend these tribes, in the strongest possible terms, to your continued care, and to signify his express injunction, that no measure shall be contemplated which may not afford a reasonable prospect of rescuing this remnant of the aboriginal race from the calamitous fate which has so often befallen uncivilized man, where brought into immediate contact with the natives of Europe, or their descendants.* Whatever intelligence or suggestions it may be in your power to convey, respecting the condition of these people, and the prospect of their being reclaimed from the habits of savage life, and being enabled to share in the blessings of Christian knowledge and social improvement, will at all times be received by his Majesty with the highest interest."

The extreme unfairness and injustice of the contract are so very palpable that they require no comment; but as the despatches of Sir F. B. Head are calculated to give an erroneous impression respecting the character of the Indians, and their readiness to become parties to his measures, and as they are likely to discourage attempts at conversion and civilization, it seems important to give extracts from the counter statements, which have been made and published in Canada by two highly respectable witnesses.