

person wholly in his own free, dashing, gubernatorial handwriting. He speaks therein of the Reciprocity Treaty, names Monklands, the Governor-in-Chief's temporary residence near Montreal, and asks for the draft of a dispatch. "Lord Elgin would wish the Act for the establishment of reciprocal Free Trade with the United States, and the Minute of Council with reference thereto, to be sent to Monklands this evening or to-morrow, Saturday; also the draft of Lord Elgin's dispatch sent a fortnight ago, covering a letter from Mr. Merritt."

Ap[ro]pos of drafts of dispatches:—I venture to give, from the original, a specimen of the irreverent way in which Secretaries at head-quarters sometimes speak of such things, one to the other. The following is from Mr. Governor's Secretary — to Mr. Provincial Secretary —, of Lord Sydenham's period, I think; and relates possibly to some great State Document which, after due manipulation, influenced subsequently perhaps the destinies of the whole country. "My dear —: I went to your room to ask you to read the enclosed and found you just gone. I wish you would look it over, if it is not too much trouble, and let me have it, if not to-night, early to-morrow. One point I assume, but you will correct me if I am wrong—that the surplus of £274,000 on the Loan was to go in aid of the Public Works Loan: indeed if it was not, I do not know where it should have gone. The enclosed is a rough draft, so pray have no hesitation in altering or adding to it. It wants a concluding sentence, which I will write afterwards—something about speaking strongly and public duty, &c. &c., and that kind of official balderdash. Yours ever truly, ——. Monday. P.S.—I have added the balderdash."—When we are thus admitted behind the scenes and learn some of the secrets of State, we can enter better into the spirit of old Oxenstiern's observation to his son:—"You are not aware, my child, with how little wisdom the world is governed!"

Of this era is a note which I produce, of Dominick Daly's, afterwards Sir Dominick, and Governor of Prince Edward's Island. He salutes in the following amiable manner his own successor in the post of Provincial Secretary under Lord Elgin, Mr. Sullivan: "My dear Sullivan," he says, "if I may not congratulate you, I certainly can the *Public*, upon your having waived your objections, and consenting to fill my late office. Should it happen that my knowledge of the details in any matter can be made available to you, I hope I need