

*British North American Association,
Temporary Offices, 21 Old Broad Street, E. C.
London, 1st March, 1862.*

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I am desired by the Council of the British North American Association to transmit to you the Rules and Regulations which were approved and adopted at a public meeting yesterday, as well as copies of the Resolutions passed thereat, and at the same time to invite, in the name of the Council, the cordial co-operation of the Government, and also as far as you may be able to influence it, that of the people of your Province who may approve of the objects the Association has in view. A considerable expense, variously estimated at from £1,500 to £2,000 will be incurred in the formation of the Association, but that liability defrayed, the Council have every hope that the annual subscriptions of the members, with such donations as they have reason to believe they will from time to time receive, will be sufficient to cover the current annual expenses.

At the first public meeting which was held to consider the advisability of establishing such an Association, the Hon. P. M. Vankougmet, the Canadian Delegate to England in the matter of the Intercolonial Railway, speaking on behalf of himself as well as yourself, and the Hon. Mr. Tilley of New Brunswick, was understood to say that he felt assured that when the question of the formation of the Association was brought under the consideration of the Provincial Governments, that they would, one and all, not only assist by a grant of money in its organization, but cordially co-operate in promoting its permanent establishment.

I am therefore desired to request that you will be good enough to obtain the views of your Government, at their early convenience, as the extent of the usefulness of the Association will in a great measure be determined by the amount of assistance the Council may expect to receive at the hands of Nova Scotia and the other Provinces.

The Rules which are enclosed herewith explain fully the objects in contemplation, and I am desired to add in connection therewith that the Council will be glad to receive at all times, any suggestions which may be considered likely to promote the interests and influence of the Association.

You will not fail to notice that one of the chief objects is the establishment of a library, particularly one of reference as regards British North America, and the Council beg that you will kindly make such arrangements as will insure the regular transmission of all parliamentary and other papers likely to be useful as affording statistical information regarding the Provinces. As the success of the undertaking will to some extent depend upon the number of its members, the Council are of opinion that steps should be taken to make known its existence and objects throughout the Provinces, for the purpose of obtaining members, and they will be glad to receive any advice or suggestions from you as to the best course to be adopted, to give effect to their views in this respect.

I shall not fail to keep you regularly advised of the proceedings of the Association, and in the meantime drawing your especial attention to Rules 3 and 4, as relating to the members of your Legislature desiring to become members of the Association.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient faithful servant,

JOSEPH NELSON,
Secretary, (*pro tem.*)

To Honorable JOSEPH HOWE,
Provincial Secretary,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.