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CANADA.

a prominent argument with a Government only desirous to benefit the province by the connexion which is apparently threatened; and, if it be not correct to assert that the allegiance and attachment of Her Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects of Canada depends upon the successful competition of one route of commerce with another, it is peculiarly unfortunate that, in forwarding to the Imperial Government memorials, recommending measures in which his Excellency takes at least as lively an interest as the memorialists, he should be forced, in justice to the Canadian subjects of Her Majesty, to express his dissent from a proposition contained in the Memorials, in which he cannot believe the people of Canada could, under any circumstances, be induced to concur.

F. A. Willson, Esq., Secretary Montreal Board of Trade,      I have, &c.,  
&c.      &c.      &c.      (Signed)      R. B. SULLIVAN.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl GREY to the Right Hon. the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

MY LORD,

Downing-street, July 3, 1848.

I HAVE received your Lordship's Despatch of the 31st May, No. 71, transmitting a memorial from the Board of Trade at Montreal to the Queen, on the subject of the Navigation Laws, and similar memorials from the same body to the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament. I have also received copies of the correspondence between your Lordship and the Secretary to the Board of Trade, on the occasion of those memorials being forwarded to you.

Having laid before the Queen the memorial addressed to her, I have to direct your Lordship to inform the memorialists, that Her Majesty has been pleased to receive the same very graciously. Your Lordship will further inform the Board of Trade, that it is contrary to the usage of the Houses of Parliament in this country, to receive documents addressed to them as "memorials;" and that I have, therefore, been prevented taking the necessary measures for communicating the original memorials to the respective Houses, in the formal manner desired by the Board of Trade. Copies of them will, however, be included in the papers on this subject, which are on the point of being presented to both Houses of Parliament, by the command of Her Majesty.

I have perused with much satisfaction, the answer which your Lordship directed to be returned to the letter of the Secretary to the Montreal Board of Trade, and highly approve the observations which you thought proper to make on that occasion.

The Earl of Elgin and Kilcardine.      I have, &c.,  
&c.      &c.      &c.      (Signed)      GREY.

(No. 77.)

No. 4.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor-General the Right Honourable the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to Earl GREY.

Government House, Montreal,  
June 13, 1848.

MY LORD,

(Received July 6, 1848.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for presentation to Her Majesty, a petition to the Queen from the Board of Trade of the city of Quebec, praying for the removal of all restrictions which the Navigation Laws impose on the free navigation of the River St. Lawrence, and on the free carriage of goods by sea to and from the United Kingdom and its possessions abroad, and Canada.

The declaration which this petition contains, that the petitioners firmly believe that the merchants, shipowners, and ship-builders of Canada have no cause to fear the competition of foreigners on fair and equal terms, in either external or internal navigation, is highly important, and will not fail, emanating from such a quarter, to be appreciated by your Lordship.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,      I have, &c.,  
&c.      &c.      &c.      (Signed)      ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.