

Despatch from the  
Lieut.-Governor to  
Lord Glenelg.

The day after my late Executive Council resigned, I gazetted Messrs. Sullivan, Allan, Baldwin and Elmsley, in their stead, and appointed a day on which they were to be sworn in. On the morning of this day Mr. Sullivan called upon me, and said that he wished to retain the place in which his name had appeared in the Gazette; yet he wished it should be clearly understood, that in case of my death it was his intention to resign. My answer to him was, "When I am dead, you may all do what you like."

On assembling in the antechamber of the Council to be sworn in, Mr. Sullivan repeated his request, begged that his intention might be committed to writing before they were sworn in, and proposed that some person should be procured to write a memorandum of his wishes. I replied, "Surely any one can write that," and I accordingly took up a pen and wrote what he desired, which was signed in presence of the other Councillors, and delivered to Mr. Allan before any of them were sworn in. As soon as it was signed, I said, "This had better not be secret; it had better be made public;" and, accordingly, the following day Captain Baldwin stood up in the Legislative Council, and made public the whole arrangement.

About ten days afterwards the House of Assembly, at the request of the Committee to whom had been referred my correspondence with my late Executive Council, forwarded to me an Address, requesting that I would lay before their House "copies of any bond or agreement between your Excellency and any of your present Executive Council, or between any two or more of the said Council, by which it is stipulated in what manner the government shall be administered, or who shall administer the government of this province, in case of the above-named occurrence."

As I have stated to your Lordship, the paper which was signed in the antechamber of the council, and there delivered to Mr. Allan, without any minute in Council being made respecting it, did not stipulate in what manner the government should be administered "in case of my death;" nor did it stipulate who, in that event "should administer the government of this province." It merely stated Mr. Sullivan's whim or intention to resign, and as that had been made public in the way I have stated, I knew quite well that the Address of the House of Assembly, asking for my "bond," was merely intended to insult me.

I accordingly replied to the Address as follows:

Gentlemen,—I have entered into no bond or agreement of any sort with my present Executive Council; and I do not possess, nor does there exist in Council, any document of such a nature between two or more of the said Council.

This was strictly correct; for I myself had entered into no bond, nor did there exist in Council any document of the nature applied for.

It was by the advice of the Council, who read the Assembly's Address to me, as well as my reply, before it was sent, that the above answer was given; and after it was transmitted I gave Mr. Sullivan permission to go before the Committee (which he did), and explain to them exactly what had taken place; which he did in the following plain, honest evidence on the subject.

Question 1. Are you the Senior Member and Presiding Councillor of the Executive Council?—Answer. Yes.

Q. 2. Is there any written agreement existing between yourself and any of the other members of the Executive Council, by which it is stipulated on your part in what way the government of the province should be administered in the event of the death or removal from the province of the Lieutenant-Governor?—A. There is no agreement in existence by which it is stipulated how the government of the province shall be administered in the event mentioned in the question. At the time the Council were about to be sworn in I expressed a wish that it might be understood that, in either of the events mentioned, it was my intention to resign my place as Executive Councillor, as it was not my desire, in any event, to fill the situation of Administrator of the Government. At my request this intention was expressed in writing, and I signed it.

Q. 3. Is the instrument you mention under seal, or witnessed?—A. It is neither under seal nor witnessed.

Q. 4. Into whose hands did you deliver the document?—A. Into the hands of the Hon. William Allan.

Q. 5. Did any other person know of the existence of the document?—A. Yes; it was not intended that my intention should be secret. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was present when it was read and delivered to Mr. Allan.

Q. 6. Did his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor write the document, or was it written by

*A strange "secret" for the "public" eye.*

*It is stated.*

*As his suggestion of a bond was intended by him to administer the government of this province.*

*It is a matter of course.*

*As the Lieutenant-Governor stated.*