

Enclosure 2 in No. 11.

Encl. 2 in No. 11.

COPY of a REPORT of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council, dated 4th September, 1858, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General.

THE Committee of Council are respectfully of opinion that it is expedient to bring the subject of the union of the British North American Colonies under the notice of Her Majesty's Government with as little delay as possible, and to inform the Government of each such Colony that the attention of Her Majesty has been called to the subject by your Excellency.

That your Excellency should submit to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies the propriety of authorizing a meeting of delegates on behalf of each Colony, and of Upper and Lower Canada respectively, for the purpose of considering the subject of such Federative union, and reporting on the principles on which the same could properly be based.

That such delegates should be appointed by the Executive Government of each Colony, and meet with as little delay as possible.

That the report of such delegates should be addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that a copy of it, as soon as it is prepared, should be placed in the hands of the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor of each Colony, in order that they may lay the same before the Provincial Parliament, with as little delay as possible.

Enclosure 3 in No. 11.

Encl. 3 in No. 11.

MEMORANDUM.

To his Excellency the Honourable J. H. T. Manners Sutton, &c.

THE Committee of Council have had under consideration the despatch of the Governor-General, of the 9th instant, containing the report of the Executive Council of Canada on the subject of a Federative union of the British North American Provinces.

The Council are deeply impressed with the importance of the subject, requiring, as it does, the most deliberate and mature consideration.

The British North American Provinces have each attained a great degree of material prosperity under their present constitution; and the increased power of self-government recently conferred upon them, has left them nothing to envy in the political condition of the citizens of the neighbouring Republic.

The Council are of opinion that the interests of this Province, and of all the British North American Provinces, require that when the question of a Federal or Legislative union of the Provinces is formally brought before the people, it should be raised in such a manner, and at such a time, as would afford a reasonable prospect, at least, of arriving at a speedy and satisfactory conclusion.

And without expressing any opinion as to the practicability or effect of such a union as that referred to in the Memorandum of the Council of Canada, the Council would state that, although the subject of a union of the Colonies has to some extent been discussed in the public press here, the attention of the Provincial Legislature has never been directed to this matter, nor has it been a prominent subject of consideration among the constituencies, and in this respect New Brunswick occupies a very different position from Canada.

And it may be remarked that if the recommendation of the Canadian Government be adopted by the Secretary of State, the question of a Legislative union with any or all of the other Provinces must be excluded from consideration by the Commission.

Under these circumstances, the Council would respectfully submit,