

— No. 10. —

(No. 34.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-governor Sir *Henry Vere Huntley* to Lord *Stanley*.Government House, Prince Edward Island,
22 May 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship a printed Petition given into my hands by Mr. Cooper, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, at the same time that he also gave me the printed Addresses to Her Majesty upon the subjects of the fishery reserves and escheat.

I have also to transmit to your Lordship a manuscript Petition presented to me, in conjunction with the manuscript Addresses to Her Majesty; all the former professing to be copies of the latter.

Your Lordship will observe, that the manuscript Petition is an original document, and I have every reason to suppose was given to me in mistake, for the House could not have imagined that the Secretary of State would present it to the House of Commons, and a copy would have answered every purpose of making your Lordship aware of the existence of the Petition, if such was their object.

I do not trouble your Lordship with this additional despatch in order to scrutinize this Petition, because I believe that my observations upon the "Resolutions" upon which it is founded will equally apply to it; but more particularly for the purpose of pointing out a discrepancy of some material consideration, which I have marked in each paper by underlining; and it is necessary to state that the original manuscript Petition enclosed strictly corresponds with that now standing upon the Journals of the House, as it was delivered to me. Your Lordship will be pleased to bear in mind that the printed Petition, called a "true copy," which it certainly is not, although dated the "12th of April," was not printed until many days afterwards; indeed, I believe weeks had elapsed, because I felt it necessary to address the Speaker upon the delay in the delivery of the Resolutions connected with it, and these latter, with the said printed Petition, were then presented about the 20th of this month.

Having called your Lordship's attention to these documents, I now beg leave to bring forward an Address which the Legislative Council felt it their duty to present to me, in contradiction of that part of the manuscript Petition relating to conferences.

I have, &c.

(signed) *H. V. Huntley*,
Lieutenant-governor.

Enclosure 1, in No. 10.

To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island,

Respectfully sheweth,

THAT in 1840 and 1841, your Petitioners applied to your Honourable Body for the redress of heavy grievances affecting the cultivators of land in this colony, in consequence of the whole soil having been granted, in lots of 20,000 acres, to individuals whose management has proved most prejudicial to the interests of the colony, as an appendage of Britain, and most oppressive to the farmers. Printed copies of applications, made in past time to the Privy Council, and of sundry other documents, in proof of the statements of your Petitioners, were last year forwarded to Joseph Hume, Esq., and Resolutions, explanatory of the present state of the colony, are herewith forwarded. Encl. 1, in No. 10.

Your Petitioners are aware of the many important and difficult questions which, relating directly to your own constituents, have a preferable claim to your attention; but they earnestly entreat, that by means of a Committee, or in whatever way to your Honourable Body may seem meet, some steps may be taken this session towards the redress of the heavy grievances which have long oppressed this island.

Your Petitioners have further to submit, that the land on the sea-coast of this island was not granted on the same terms as the rest, but was reserved, part in the Crown, and part "for a free fishery for all British subjects;" that said land has, in many instances, been sold or leased by the grantees; that Lord Glenelg, by despatches dated in 1838, signified Her Majesty's pleasure, that the same should be thrown open, as originally intended, and required the Lieutenant-governor to recommend to the Legislature to pass

PRINCE EDWARD
ISLAND.

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Despatch from
Lieut.-governor
Sir H. V. Huntley
to Lord Stanley,
22 May 1842.

No. 1.

No. 2.