

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

IN CONNECTION WITH THE

APPOINTMENT OF THE JOINT HIGH COMMISSION AND THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

No. 1.

SIR JOHN YOUNG to EARL GRANVILLE.

(No. 131.)

Government House, Ottawa, June 9, 1870.

(Received 22nd June, 1870.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, a copy of a Minute of the Privy Council, recommending that the Honourable Alex. Campbell, the Postmaster-General, should be authorized to proceed to England, in order to endeavour to "induce Her Majesty's Government to take prompt action in the several matters" which are set forth in the Minute.

2. Mr. Campbell is the Ministerial leader in the Senate, a gentleman of ability and standing, and well versed in Canadian affairs.

He leaves for England in ten days or so from this date.

The Earl Granville, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN YOUNG.

CANADA.

No. 1.

June 9, 1870.

Enclosure in No. 1.

COPY of a REPORT of a COMMITTEE of the Honourable the PRIVY COUNCIL, approved by His Excellency the GOVERNOR-GENERAL in COUNCIL on the 9th June, 1870.

Enclosure in
No. 1.

The Committee of the Privy Council having recently had under their consideration a number of questions of great importance to the Dominion, among which are the proposed withdrawal of Imperial troops from Canada, the question of fortifications, the recent invasion of Canadian territory by citizens of the United States, and the previous threats and hostile preparations which compelled the Government to call out the Militia, and to obtain the consent of Parliament to the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, the systematic trespasses on Canadian fishing grounds by United States' fishermen, and the unsettled question as to the limits within which foreigners can fish under the Treaty of 1818, are of opinion that it is desirable that their views on all these questions should be personally represented to Her Majesty's Government by a member of the Privy Council, and they recommend that the Honourable the Postmaster-General be requested to proceed to England, and to endeavour to induce Her Majesty's Government to take prompt action in the several matters above referred to, in accordance with the views expressed in the Minutes of Council relating thereto, and in any other Minutes which may hereafter be referred to him.

The Committee of Council are of opinion that the Postmaster-General should call the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the Reports of the 15th and 20th of December last from the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and should urge the importance of securing, with as little delay as possible, the restoration to Canada of the rights which she enjoyed prior to the Reciprocity Treaty, under the interpretation given to the Treaty of 1818 by the Crown Law Officers of England.

The Committee of Council cannot conceal their apprehension that if the citizens of the United States are any longer permitted, as they have been doing the last four years, to fish in waters where, according to our interpretation of the Treaty of 1818, they are trespassers, it may be more difficult to obtain an amicable solution of the point in dispute.

The Committee of Council are fully alive to the importance of taking action at an early period with regard to the construction of a Pacific railroad through Canadian territory; but they think it better to postpone the consideration of the subject until after the departure of the delegates from British Columbia, when instructions will be sent to the Postmaster-General on this important subject.

Certified,
(Signed) WM. H. LEE, Clerk, P.C.