

to their notice. As the matter now stands, there is not, of course, the same motive for immediate action, but I may be permitted to state, that (for myself) I adhere to the opinions expressed in my confidential despatch with respect to the benefits which might be expected from a Legislative union of the Lower Provinces, no less than to those which I had the honour to submit to you in the same despatch, with respect to the probable results of a Federative union of all or of any of the Provinces.

I beg you, however, to understand that although I have long and anxiously considered the question, I have not in any way committed myself or Her Majesty's Government in the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. T. MANNERS SUTTON.

The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.  
&c. &c. &c.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from GOVERNOR SIR A. BANNERMAN to SIR E. B. LYTTON.

(No. 83.)

Government House, Newfoundland,  
October 11, 1858.

Sir,

(Received November 1, 1858.)

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th September, No. 17, with enclosures.

2. I have the honour to inform you that I received a letter from the Governor-General of Canada, enclosing copy of a report of a Committee of the Executive Council, dated the 9th of September, on the subject of a Federative union, and their proposal that Delegates should meet from each Colony to discuss the question.

3. The Executive Council of Newfoundland have passed a Minute, which I shall forward to the Governor-General, stating, that when authority is given by the Secretary of State for holding such a meeting, the Executive Council of Newfoundland will not fail to be represented at that meeting.

4. As the Minute of the Council of Canada bears, that the Government of each Colony should be informed of the Report they had made on the 4th of September, which was approved of by his Excellency the Governor-General, I considered it to be my duty to lay his Excellency's despatch before the Council, but explaining to them that the question was an Imperial one, and taking care that their Minute was sufficiently guarded to recognize only the authority of the Secretary of State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. BANNERMAN.

P.S.—It is understood on this side of the Atlantic that the proposition of a Federative union originated with the British Government; there could not be a worse tribunal for its discussion than Delegates chosen from the Executive Councils.

A. B.

The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart.,  
&c. &c. &c.