

—No. 17.—

COPY of a LETTER from *A. Y. Spearman*, Esq., to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 17.
Letter from
A. Y. Spearman,
Esq. to the Under-
Secretary of State
for the Colonies.
8 March 1838.

Sir,
Treasury Chambers, 8 March 1838.
THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having had under their consideration your letter, dated 3d ultimo, with the enclosed application from the Hudson's Bay Company, soliciting a renewal of the Charter of exclusive trade which they hold under the provisions of the Act 1 & 2 Geo. 4, c. 66, I have it in command from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request you will state to Lord Glenelg, with reference to the suggestion which his Lordship has submitted to this Board that they should enter into communication with that Company respecting the amount of rent which should be paid in conformity with the second section of the said Act for the proposed extension of their exclusive privilege of trading in the North-west territory of North America, that my Lords apprehend that no further information respecting the establishments or proceedings of the Company can be obtained than is afforded by the statements which have been submitted to his Lordship on behalf of the Company; and that as his Lordship has been enabled to determine on the expediency of renewing their exclusive privilege, he will be more competent than their Lordships to form an opinion as to the utility and value of the Company's establishments for the suppression of crime among the hunters and traders, the improvement and civilization of the Indians, and the maintenance of the British influence in the territories to which the privilege in question extends, or the charges which the Company may incur for these purposes, and as to the propriety, with reference to these considerations, of demanding rent from the Company, or of granting the Charter which they apply for, with the reservation of the nominal rent only, provided for in the draft Grant which accompanied your letter.

I am directed, therefore, to request you will move Lord Glenelg to favour my Lords with a communication of the opinion which his Lordship may entertain on the subject.

I am, &c.
(signed) *A. Y. Spearman*.

—No. 18.—

COPY of a LETTER from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to *A. Y. Spearman*, Esq.

No. 18.
Letter from the
Under-Secretary
of State for the
Colonies to
A. Y. Spearman,
Esq.
14 March 1838.

Sir,
Downing-street, 14 March 1838.
I AM directed by Lord Glenelg to acknowledge your letter of the 8th inst., referring for his Lordship's decision the question of the rent to be paid by the Hudson's Bay Company for the Royal License of exclusive trade in certain parts of North America. In reply, I am to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter on the same subject from the Secretary to the Board of Trade, and to inform you that Lord Glenelg concurs in the opinion of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, that the rent to be demanded from the Hudson's Bay Company should be merely nominal. I am, therefore, to request that you will move the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to instruct their solicitors to co-operate with the proper officers of the Company in carrying the proposed arrangement into execution, with a due observance of all the necessary forms of law, and with a reference to the suggestions contained in my letter of the 3d ult.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Stephen*.

—No. 19.—

COPY of a LETTER from *Denis Le Marchant*, Esq. to the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 19.
Letter from *Denis
Le Marchant* Esq.
to the Under-
Secretary of State
for the Colonies.
6 March 1838.

Sir,
Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,
Whitehall, 6 March 1838.
WITH reference to your letter of the 15th August 1837, on the subject of the proposed License of exclusive trade to the Hudson's Bay Company, I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to request that