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CANADA.

Our respectful attention will also be given to the communication by your Excellency of the Despatch which you have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with reference to the addresses to the Queen from the two houses of the Legislature on the subject of the constitution of the Legislative Council, transmitted by your Excellency at the close of the last session of the provincial Parliament, in order that they might be laid at the foot of the throne.

We will also carefully consider the propriety of passing a law for bringing into early operation the Act of last session which extends the elective franchise, in order that a constitutional expression of opinion may be obtained as speedily as possible under the system of representation recently established on the various important questions on which legislation is required.

We learn with satisfaction that your Excellency during your sojourn in England received from all quarters striking proofs of increasing interest in Canadian affairs; and we have no doubt your Excellency's acquaintance with the province, derived from long residence within it, enabled your Excellency to render service in spreading more widely a knowledge of its resources and of the feelings of its inhabitants.

Although a state of warfare has a necessary tendency to restrict operations involving large expenditures of capital, we agree with your Excellency in feeling confident that the credit of Canada has attained a position in English opinion which it never before achieved, and that to enable us to retain it nothing is requisite but prudence in our undertakings, and the maintenance of the high character for fidelity to pecuniary engagements which the province has at all times borne.

Legislative Council, Wednesday, June 14, 1854.

Resolved,—That the said address be presented to his Excellency the Governor General by the whole house.

Ordered,—That such members of the Executive Council as are members of this house do wait on his Excellency the Governor General humbly to know what time his Excellency will be pleased to appoint to be attended with the said address.

(Attest) J. F. TAYLOR,  
Clerk of Legislative Council.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

Encl. 3 in No. 1.

Honourable Gentlemen,

I THANK you for your loyal address, and I rely on your support in all measures calculated to secure and advance the prosperity of the province.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor General the Earl of ELGIN AND KINCARDINE to the Duke of NEWCASTLE.

(No. 12.)

Government House, Quebec, June 22, 1854.

(Received July 10, 1854.)

MY LORD DUKE,

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith the copy of a speech which I delivered from the throne this day in proroguing the Parliament of the province, and I beg at the same time to solicit your Grace's attention while I state as succinctly as I can the grounds on which I formed the resolution which has given occasion for the delivery of this speech.

2. It may probably be in your Grace's recollection, that during the course of the last session of the Provincial Parliament, two Acts were passed which had for their object to effect very material changes in the constitution of the popular branch of the Provincial Legislature. The former of these Acts raised the number of parliamentary representatives from 84 to 130: this addition to the House of Assembly being so effected as to equalize to a greater extent than is now the case population and representation. By the terms of the Constitutional Act, an Act of this nature could not become law unless it received in each branch of the Legislature, on the second and third readings, the support of at least two thirds of the members. In the passage of this Act through the Provincial Parliament these conditions were complied with, and having received a notification of this fact by address in the mode prescribed by the Constitutional Act, I assented to it in Her Majesty's name on the 14th June 1853.

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