

177

COPY of all the CORRESPONDENCE between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor General of *Canada*, on the subject of the HAMILTON MUNICIPAL BONDS.

— No. 1. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Governor General Viscount *Monck*.

(No. 25.)

No. 1.  
His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Governor General Viscount Monck.  
21 February 1863.

My Lord,

Downing-street, 21 February 1863.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, for your information, the enclosed copy of a letter from the solicitors to the holders of certain bonds of the Municipality of Hamilton, together with a copy of the answer which has been returned to it by my direction.

You will see that I have informed the parties interested in this case that it is one on which Her Majesty's Government cannot exercise any interference. But, on their first application to me, I pointed out to them that it was open to them to address themselves to your Lordship, and as they state that they have done so without receiving any answer or acknowledgment, I think it right to call your Lordship's attention to the subject, and to request that you will furnish the applicants with such reply as may appear to you to be called for by the circumstances of their claim.

I should also be glad to receive, for my own information, any account which you may be able to give me of the true nature and merits of the case.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *Newcastle*.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Angel Court, Throgmorton-street, London, E.C.  
4 February 1863.

My Lord Duke,

As solicitors to the Committee of Hamilton Bondholders, we beg to forward to your Grace a print of the "Money Market Review" of the 31st ultimo, which contains a copy of a Memorial transmitted for presentation to the Houses of Legislature of Canada.

The fact of the Municipality of Hamilton having refused payment of the interest due upon their bonds is one upon which we have already had the honour of addressing your Grace on behalf of the Committee, and the circumstances connected with it are, no doubt, officially known to you.

Your Grace will observe, on reading the Memorial, that a year-and-a-half's interest is now due from the municipality to the bondholders; and that the municipality not only refuse payment of the interest, but are raising every obstacle to the collection of a rate by the sheriffs under the proceedings instituted on behalf of the bondholders for recovery of their interest.

On a former occasion of presenting a Memorial to his Excellency the Governor General and the Houses of Legislature, the Memorial was forwarded direct, at your Grace's suggestion, to the Governor General, but the Committee were not honoured by an acknowledgment of it; and they have, therefore, on the present occasion to beg your Grace's interference, so that the Memorials about to be presented to the Houses of Legislature in Canada may receive that attention which the special circumstances of the case and the unjustifiable conduct of the municipality entitle the bondholders to expect.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.  
&c. &c. &c.

We have, &c.  
(signed) *Dawes & Sons*.