

Enclosure 2 in No. 38.

No. 38.
The Rt. Hon. C. P. J.
Thomson to Ld. John
Russell.
Dec. 7, 1839.
Enclosure No. 2.

To his Excellency the Right Honourable Charles Poulett Thomson, Governor-General of British North America, and Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Provinces of Upper Canada, Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency;

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, respectfully thank your Excellency for your gracious speech to both Houses of the Provincial Legislature, and offer to your Excellency our warm congratulations upon your Excellency's assuming the administration of the government of this province.

We humbly thank your Excellency for the zealous anxiety for the public service which has induced your Excellency in discharge of the duties of Governor-General of British North America, confided in your Excellency by our Gracious Sovereign, to take the earliest opportunity of visiting this province, and of assembling Parliament.

We receive, with the deepest feelings of gratitude, the assurance which your Excellency is commanded to convey to the Provincial Legislature, of the fixed determination of our gracious and beloved Sovereign to maintain the connexion between Her Majesty's North American possessions and the United Kingdom; and to exercise the high authority with which, by the favour of Divine Providence, she has been invested, for the promotion of the happiness of Her Majesty's subjects, and the security of Her dominions.

We learn with the most lively satisfaction that your Excellency has no grounds for apprehending a recurrence of those aggressions upon our frontier, which, to the indelible disgrace of their authors, lately disturbed the peace of these provinces.

We feel proud of the confidence which your Excellency's knowledge of the past enables you to express in the zeal and loyalty of the people of Upper Canada; in which, and the powerful protection of the Parent State, we see ample means of defence; should unforeseen circumstances again call for exertion.

We cordially unite with your Excellency in the hope that the present state of tranquillity will prove favourable to the consideration of the important matters to which the attention of the Legislature will be called during the present session.

We shall give our best consideration to the subject of the legislative re-union of this province with Lower Canada, recommended by Her Majesty to the Imperial Parliament; and we assure your Excellency, that any measure relating to that great question which shall come before this House, shall receive from us the calm and deliberate attention which its importance demands.

We shall receive and consider, with the greatest attention, the results of the investigation which your Excellency informs us has been instituted into the manner in which the duties of the public departments in this province are performed.

We learn with great pleasure that Her Majesty's Government have concluded an arrangement for opening a communication by steam between Great Britain and Her Majesty's North American dominions. In the completion of this arrangement we recognize the praiseworthy spirit which has allowed no consideration to interfere with the paramount object of conducting to the public advantage and convenience; and the liberality with which the Parent State has assumed the whole expense of the undertaking, we can assure your Excellency, is by us duly and gratefully appreciated.

We await with the greatest anxiety the answers to the various Addresses adopted by this House during the last session, and Her Majesty's decision on the Bills passed by the two Houses of the Legislature, but reserved for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure.

We are gratefully sensible of the arduous task undertaken by your Excellency in assuming the administration of the government of these provinces at the present time. The affairs of the Canadas, which have for some years back occupied much of the attention of the Imperial Parliament and of the Government, are most urgent; and we fully concur with your Excellency in thinking that their settlement upon a firm and comprehensive basis admits of no further delay.

We feel in duty bound to assist to the utmost of our power your Excellency's endeavour to effect that settlement upon terms satisfactory to the people of these provinces, and affording security for their continued connexion with the British Empire; and we feel assured that your Excellency does not appeal in vain to the loyalty and good sense of the people of this province to co-operate with your Excellency in the preparation and adoption of such measures as may, under Divine Providence, restore to this country peace, concord, and prosperity.

Legislative Council Chamber, 4th December, 1839.

Enclosure 3 in No. 38.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for this address, and for your congratulations on my assumption of the government of this province.

I shall proceed, without loss of time, to bring more fully under your notice the important subjects adverted to in my speech from the Throne, and I receive with satisfaction the assurance that they will command your attentive consideration.

Enclosure No. 3.