

*Downing Street, 15th June, 1858.*

No. 3.

MY LORD,—

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, No. 36, of the 10th May, enclosing an Address to the Queen, from the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, on the subject of an Inter-Colonial Railway.

I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive this Address very graciously, and that the important subject to which it relates will engage the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government as soon as they are in possession of the communication which they have been led to expect from the Legislature of Canada.

I have, &c.

E. B. LYTTON.

Lieutenant-Governor the Right Honorable the EARL OF MULGRAVE, &c. &c.

*Government House, Toronto,  
24th August, 1858.*

MY LORD,—

I have the honor to transmit for your Excellency's information a copy of certain Resolutions adopted by the Legislative Council and Assembly of this Province, on which was founded a joint Address to the Queen on the subject of the Inter-Colonial Railroad.

I have, &c.

EDMUND HEAD.

His Excellency Lieutenant Governor the EARL OF MULGRAVE.

*12th August, 1858.*

1. *Resolved*, That the construction of an Inter-Colonial Railway, connecting the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia with Canada, has long been regarded as a matter of National concern, and ought earnestly to be pressed on the consideration of the Imperial Government.

2. *Resolved*, That during several months of the year, intercourse between the United Kingdom and Canada, can only be carried on through the territory of the United States of America, and that such dependence on, and exclusive relations with a foreign country, cannot, even in time of peace, but exercise an important and unwholesome influence on the status of Canada, as a portion of the Empire, and may tend to establish elsewhere that identity of interest which ought to exist between the mother country and her colonies.

3. *Resolved*, That while this House implicitly relies on the repeated assurances of the Imperial Government, that the strength of the Empire would be put forth to secure this Province against external aggression, it is convinced that such strength cannot be efficiently exerted during a large portion of the year from the absence of sufficient means of communication, and that should the amicable relations which at present so happily exist between Great Britain and the United States be ever disturbed, the difficulty of access to the ocean during the Winter months might seriously endanger the safety of the Province.

4. *Resolved*, That in view of the speedy opening up of the territories now occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company, and of the development and settlement of the vast regions between Canada and the Pacific Ocean, it is essential to the interests of the Empire at large that a highway extending from the Atlantic Ocean westward should exist, which would at once place the whole British possessions in America within the ready access and easy protection of Great Britain; while by the facilities for internal communication thus afforded, the prosperity of those great dependencies would be promoted, their strength consolidated and added to the strength of the empire, and their permanent union with the mother country secured.