

PAPERS, &c.

No. 1.

(No. 89.)

No. 1.
Earl of Gosford
to
Lord Glenelg.
9th August 1836.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of GOSFORD to Lord GLENELG.

Government House, Montreal, 9th August 1836.

My Lord, (Received 12th September 1836.—Answered 20th September 1836, No. 129.)

* Page 98.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 19th of May No. 89*, received on the 28th ultimo, enclosing an application to your Lordship from the Reverend Mr. Ryland, on behalf of his father, the registrar and clerk of the Executive Council of this province, who solicits permission to resign his office in favour of his son, the assistant clerk of the Council, and requesting that I would consider and report upon the enclosed documents; I have the honour, in compliance with these wishes, to acquaint your Lordship that I have no reason to doubt the truth and correctness of the statements made by the Reverend Mr. Ryland respecting the long and tried services of his father; and I concur with your Lordship in thinking that Mr. Ryland senior, who has with so much fidelity and zeal served the public in various situations for a period extending over more than half a century, is entitled, in his extreme old age, to the notice of His Majesty's Government. At the same time, however, I feel bound to state that in my opinion the proposed arrangement is an objectionable one; not that I entertain the slightest personal objection to Mr. George H. Ryland, who for the last fifteen years has filled the situation of assistant clerk, but simply because I am averse to the principle of hereditary succession to office; a principle which I have always considered ought to be discountenanced as fraught with injurious tendencies to the public service, and which, if now acted on, would, I am persuaded, be viewed in this province as an abuse of patronage. I would also be unwilling to recommend the arrangement in the present instance, lest it should be pressed upon the provincial government as a precedent in other cases of a similar description.

It is true that in 1829 Sir James Kempt, upon the recommendation and at the instance, as I am informed, of Mr. Speaker Papineau, appointed Mr. Lindsay to the situation of clerk of the House of Assembly, on his father's retiring to to make way for him; and the house, having never that I am aware of made any remark against the appointment, may be said in some degree to have impliedly sanctioned the principle in question in that case. Still, however, this does not remove my objections to it; and admitting, as I do fully, the claims of the Messrs. Ryland to the favourable consideration of His Majesty's Government, on account of their public services, I regret that it is not in my power, consistently with the sentiments I entertain on the subject, to advise that they should be rewarded in the manner suggested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GOSFORD.

No. 2.

(No. 84.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant General Sir J. COLBORNE, K.C.B., to the Marquess of NORMANDY.

No. 2.
Sir J. Colborne
to
the Marquess of
Normanby,
8th June 1839.

Government House, Montreal, 8th June 1839.

My Lord, (Received 28th June 1839.—Answered 3d July 1839, No. 53., Page 99.)

WITH reference to the enclosed communication from Mr. Ryland, clerk of the Executive Council of this province, I have the honour to request that your Lordship will be pleased to cause the necessary instrument to be prepared and transmitted to me, appointing Mr. Ryland to that office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. COLBORNE.

6th June 1839.