

of the Hudson's Bay Company might continue unimpaired, until it was replaced by the Canadian Government, as represented by you.

I have the honor also to send you an Order in Council, passed this day, on the subject of Customs duties.

You will now be in a position, in your communications with the residents of the North-West, to assure them:—

1. That all their civil and religious liberties and privileges will be sacredly respected.
2. That all their properties, rights, and equities of every kind, as enjoyed under the Government of the Hudson's Bay Company, will be continued them.
3. That in granting titles to land, now occupied by the settlers, the most liberal policy will be pursued.
4. That the present tariff of Customs duties will be continued for two years, from the 1st January next, except in the case of spirituous liquors, as specified in the Order in Council above alluded to.
5. That in forming your Council, the Governor General will see that not only the Hudson's Bay Company, but the other classes of the residents, are fully and fairly represented.

6. That your Council will have the power of establishing municipal self-government at once and in such manner as they think most beneficial to the Country.

7. That the Country will be governed, as in the past, by British law, and according to the spirit of British justice.

8. That the present Government is to be considered as merely provisional and temporary, and that the Government of Canada will be prepared to submit a measure to Parliament, granting a liberal constitution so soon as you, as Governor, and your Council have had an opportunity of reporting fully on the wants and requirements of the Territory.

You had, of course, instructions on all the above-mentioned points, excepting as regards the tariff, before you left Ottawa, but it has been thought well that I should repeat them to you in this authoritative form.

Trusting that ere long you may be in a position to carry these liberal propositions practically into the administration of the affairs of the North-West,

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH HOWE.

DEPARTMENT OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE PROVINCES.

OTTAWA, Dec. 8th, 1869.

To the Honorable Wm. McDougall, C.B.

SIR,—Enclosed you will find the original Proclamation referred to in my letter of yesterday's date, in English and French.

It may be as well that you should have the original Proclamation in your hands.

I have, &c.,

JOSEPH HOWE.

PROCLAMATION.



V.

R.

By His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir JOHN YOUNG, Baronet, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor General of Canada.