

No. 11.

Lord Glenelg to
Earl of Gosford,
29 June 1837.

public interest, to proceed during the present session with several important measures already under the consideration of Parliament, but still in an incomplete state; and no less so to introduce any new measure, the immediate necessity for which is not so urgent as to render even a temporary postponement impracticable. Under these circumstances, it has been determined not to submit to Parliament during the present Session the Bill to which I referred in my despatch of the 22d ultimo, and which was to have been founded on the resolutions of both Houses of Parliament on the affairs of Lower Canada. While postponing measures of great public interest and importance connected with the affairs of this country, Her Majesty's Government cannot but think that it would be unadvisable to adopt a different course with regard to a measure affecting the privileges of the Legislature of Lower Canada. Much as they have always lamented the necessity of adopting such a measure under any circumstances, they would at the present moment feel a peculiar reluctance in resorting to it, as they would deeply regret that one of the first legislative acts of the reign of Her most gracious Majesty should carry even the semblance of an ungracious spirit towards the representatives of Her Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects in that province. At the same time, Her Majesty's Government have not overlooked the necessity of making immediate provision for the discharge of the arrears due for public services in the colony; and with this view they have resolved to propose to The House of Commons, that a vote of credit should be passed for the advance, by way of loan, from the funds of this country, of the sum required for the payment of the arrears. An estimate for this purpose has been already laid on the table of the House, and I have every reason to anticipate that it will be readily sanctioned by Parliament. I shall take the earliest opportunity of informing you of the decision of The House of Commons, which will probably be obtained on Friday the 30th inst., that being the next day on which the Committee of Supply will set. In the event of the vote being acceded to, I shall have to address to you further instructions with reference to the appropriation of the money to the purposes for which it is required. In the mean time, I will only express my earnest hope that the House of Assembly may recognize, in the course recommended by Her Majesty's Government, a sincere desire to abstain from any interference with their rights and privileges which is not imperatively demanded by the force of existing circumstances, and that the result of the approaching session of the Provincial Legislature may be such as to relieve Her Majesty's Government from the necessity of submitting to Parliament in a future session any enactment founded on the eighth of the series of resolutions which have been agreed to by Parliament.

It will afford Her Majesty the most sincere satisfaction if the commencement of her reign should be marked by the restoration of that confidence and goodwill between the House of Assembly in Lower Canada and the Executive Government, the existence of which is so essential to the prosperity of the Province.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

— No. 12. —

(No. 239.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to the Earl of *Gosford*, dated
Downing-street, 14 July 1837.

No. 12.

Lord Glenelg to
Earl of Gosford,
14 July 1837.

My Lord,

I HAVE recently had under my consideration that portion of the General Report of the Canada Commissioners which relates to the Court of Escheats in Lower Canada, and in which the propriety of calling that Court into operation is discussed at some length. After attentively weighing the arguments adduced on this subject, both in the report and in the letter from Mr. Cochran, I cannot hesitate to express my concurrence in the views adopted by your Lordship and your colleagues. I have therefore to desire that you will take steps for abolishing the office of Commissioner of Escheats, by revoking the letters patent under which Mr. Cochran was appointed.

It is not without regret that I adopt a measure which, in a pecuniary point of view, will be seriously prejudicial to Mr. Cochran. The high testimony which
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