

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

Whereas there was this Day read at the Board, a Report from the Right Honorable the Lords of the Committee of Council, dated the 19<sup>th</sup> of this Instant, in the words following, viz<sup>t</sup>

“Your Majesty having been pleased by Your Order in Council &c. &c. . . . .  
 . . . . . 1791.”<sup>1</sup>

His Majesty this Day took the said Report into His Royal consideration, and approving of what is therein proposed, was pleased, by and with the Advice of His Privy Council to Order, that the Province of Quebec be divided into Two distinct Provinces, to be called the Province of Upper Canada, and the Province of Lower Canada, by separating the said Two Provinces according to the Line of Division inserted in the said Order.

And His Majesty is hereby further pleased to Order, that the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, One of His Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State, do prepare a Warrant<sup>2</sup> to be passed under His Majesty’s Royal Sign Manuel to Authorize the Governor or Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Quebec or the Person administering the Government there to fix and Declare such day as They shall judge most adviseable for the Commencement within the Province of Upper Canada, and the Province of Lower Canada respectively, of the said Act passed in the last Session of Parliament entitled “An Act to repeal certain parts of An Act passed in the Fourteenth year of His Majesty’s Reign, entitled An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province”—Provided that such Day, so to be fixed and declared for the Commencement of the said Act, within the said Two provinces respectively, shall not be later, than the Thirty first Day of December, One thousand seven hundred and ninety one.

### COMMISSION TO LORD DORCHESTER AS GOVERNOR OF UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.<sup>3</sup>

Guy Lord Dorchester }  
 Commission. } George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain  
 France and Ireland King Defender of the faith and so forth To Our Right Trusty and Welbeloved Guy Lord Dorchester Knight of the most honorable Order of the Bath Greeting Whereas wee did by our Letters Patent under our Great Seal of Great Britain bearing date the twenty second Day of April in the Twenty sixth year of our Reign Constitute and appoint you Guy Lord Dorchester (then Sir Guy Carlton) to be our Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over our Province of Quebec in America comprehending all our Territories Islands and Counties in North America then bounded as in our said recited Letters Patent was mentioned and expressed<sup>4</sup> Now Know ye that wee have revoked and determined and by these Presents

1. 1791. The Report of Aug. 19, given above is here repeated.

2. For the Warrant, see Canadian Archives, Q. 59 B, p. 199.

3. From the Patent Roll 31, Geo. III, Part 10, No. 4. Copy in the Canadian Archives, M. 229, p. 54.

4. For the commission to Lord Dorchester of 1786 with the definition of the boundary of the Province of Quebec, see the Canadian Archives, M. 229, p. 51. The boundary was originally defined in the Proclamation of 1763 but was subsequently modified by the Quebec Act and the Treaty of Paris of 1763. Since then, however, circumstances had arisen which made the definition of the boundaries of the new provinces a very delicate matter. Owing to the non-fulfillment of its treaty obligations by the United States, Britain still retained posts south of the boundary line and was not at this time prepared to commit herself regarding their disposal. (See *Constitutional Documents, 1759-1791*, Shortt & Doughty, 1907, pp. 667, note, and 690). By the Jay-Grenville Treaty of 1794, Britain agreed to withdraw from all the posts within the territory of the United States. By the Quebec Act the Labrador Coast, formerly annexed to Newfoundland, was included within the province of Quebec. An Imperial Act of 1809 (49 Geo. III, ch. 27) restored to Newfoundland the Labrador coast and the adjacent islands, except the Islands of Madeleine. A further Act of 1825 (6 Geo. IV, ch. 59) provided