

Frederick Elliot,
Esq.

No. 2.—COPY of a DESPATCH from Viscount *Goderich* to Lord *Aylmer*,
dated Downing-street, 1st December 1830.

My Lord,

28 April 1834.

Separate.

In reference to my Despatch, No. 1, I now proceed to convey to you my suggestions as to the best mode of proceeding with respect to the items of expense which the Legislature of Lower Canada have refused to grant during the last two years. They are enumerated in the enclosed list which was transmitted to Sir George Murray by your predecessor in his Despatch of the 13th April 1830.

With respect to No. 1 and No. 2 of the enclosed list, it is proposed to abolish these two situations, as being no longer necessary for the conduct of the public service; but I cannot forbear from indulging a hope that the Legislature will feel that the ready abolition of these two offices by His Majesty's Government will be deemed to establish a just claim upon the Legislature for the payment of the arrears for the last two years, and for some compensation for the loss to which the parties now holding these offices will be subjected by the abolition of them. The amount of the compensation to be asked must be left to depend upon what you think may be obtained, and if the Assembly refuses to grant the full arrears, it cannot be unreasonable to expect that the compensation should commence from the period at which the salary was first refused.

Nos. 3 and 4 of the list refer to the Auditor's department. This appears to me to be a matter which may with perfect propriety be left (both as regards the nature and duties of the office and the payment of all salaries to the officers belonging to it) to the discretion of the Legislature, which must necessarily feel deeply interested in the proper discharge of the duties of such a department, and the proper remuneration of those upon whom such important duties devolve. But it might be suggested to them that it has been found by experience in this country, in regard to a corresponding department, that great advantage has been derived by regulating the Audit Office by the provisions of a specific Act of Parliament, by one of the provisions of which the salaries of the principal officers are made permanent, and not liable to annual votes.

No. 5. No estimate need be proposed for the portion of the salaries referred to.

No. 6. The same observation applies to this as to No. 5.

No. 7. It seems to me to be very doubtful whether there is any necessity for maintaining the salaries assigned in 1823 to this office; but if, upon an examination of the nature and extent of the duties belonging to it, it should appear to be necessary to continue it upon its present footing, the question may be re-considered. I should wish to be furnished by you with some information upon the subject.

No. 8. This could not be proposed with any prospect of success.

Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12. These chairmen have, I understand, been discontinued; and if the effect of that discontinuance should be prejudicial to the due administration of justice, it can scarcely be doubted that the Provincial Legislature would take the necessary steps for remedying any such evil, particularly as I believe that their objections to the vote have rested more upon personal grounds than upon any fixed opinion of the inutility of the situations themselves.

Nos. 13, 14 and 15. It would probably be quite useless to propose any vote for these pensions, and it is not very easy to say upon what fund at the disposal of Government they could be charged. The general question of pensions is one of considerable importance, and I must postpone any definite opinion until I have more time to look into the subject.

No. 16. These items should not be proposed again.

I have thought it material to furnish you, by the present mail, with the instructions contained in the present Despatch, with full confidence that the Legislature will see, in the course pointed out, the sincere desire by which His Majesty's Government is animated, to meet the wishes and feelings of the Province, wherever it appears to be practicable, without impairing the efficiency of the public service and the due administration of the government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Goderich*.

LIST of ITEMS of EXPENDITURE objected to by the House of Assembly of *Lower Canada*,
in the Supply Bill for the Year 1830.

	£.	s.	d.
1.—Salary of the Lieutenant-Governor of Gaspé, for the year 1829	£. 300		
Ditto - - for 1830 - - - - -	300	600	- -
2.—Salary of the Provincial Agent in London, for 1829 and 1830	-	400	- -
3.—Ditto of the Auditor-General of Accounts, for 1829 and 1830	-	800	- -
4.—Ditto for a Clerk for ditto - - - - -	-	200	- -
5.—Part of the Salaries of the Provincial Judges for the districts of Gaspé and St. Francis, for 1829 and 1830	-	400	- -
6.—Part of the Circuit Allowances to the Judges for 1829 and 1830	-	1,141	13 4
7.—Salary of the Advocate-General for 1829 and 1830	-	400	- -
8.—Ditto of the Clerk of the Courts in the District of St. Francis, for 1829 and 1830	-	100	- -
9.—Ditto of the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions at Quebec, for 1830	-	500	- -
10.—Salary	-	-	-