

Correspondence respecting the Attack on St. Albans, Vermont;  
and Naval Force on the North American Lakes.

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No. 1.

*Viscount Monck to Mr. Cardwell.—(Received November 10.)*

Sir, *Government House, Quebec, October 27, 1864.*  
I HAVE the honour to report that on the morning of Thursday the 20th instant I received a telegram, dated the previous day, from Mr. Gregory Smith, Governor of the State of Vermont, of which I inclose a copy (Inclosure 1), informing me that a party of armed men from the Province of Canada had invaded the State, robbed the banks at St. Alban's, and committed other depredations.

As no mention of this outrage appeared in any of the morning papers of the 20th I was at first inclined to doubt the authenticity of the telegram, and therefore addressed to the Governor of Vermont the telegram, copy inclosed (Inclosure 2).

I at the same time caused a telegram to be addressed to Mr. Coursol, police magistrate at Montreal, desiring him to proceed immediately to the frontier with a force of police, and to assist in the arrest of the perpetrators of this outrage, if they should make their appearance on Canadian soil.

I also telegraphed to the Lieutenant-General commanding, requesting him to give directions to the military quartered at St. John's, to hold themselves in readiness to co-operate with Mr. Coursol and the police, should any necessity for their services arise, which request was at once complied with by Sir F. Williams.

Shortly after I had taken these steps a telegram was received from Mr. Coursol by the Attorney-General, informing him that he had been applied to for assistance in the detection and arrest of the perpetrators of the outrage by some of the inhabitants of St. Alban's, and that he had sent with them a force of police for that purpose, and very shortly after a telegram arrived from the same officer, announcing that several of the persons engaged in the attack on St. Alban's had been arrested, and a large amount of the money stolen from the bank had been recovered.

On receiving this information I sent to the Governor of Vermont the telegram, copy inclosed (Inclosure 3).

The steps adopted by the police authorities were successful, and thirteen of the parties concerned in the attack on St. Alban's have been arrested, and are now in custody in Canada. A large amount of the money stolen from the banks has also been recovered.

I received on the 21st from the Governor of Vermont the telegram, copy inclosed (Inclosure 4).

The preliminary investigation preparatory to a formal demand for the extradition of the prisoners is being held at St. John's, where the captured men are in confinement, and I have been notified by telegram from Her Majesty's Representative at Washington that an application for the delivery of these men to the authorities of the United States is now on its way from thence.

I am happy to be able to say that there is no reason to believe that any British subject has been in any way a participator in this affair.

I inclose extracts from several newspapers, which I think give a fair account of the transaction.

I also inclose a letter, copied from the "Evening Telegraph" of Montreal, and addressed to the editor of that paper by Mr. Bennett H. Young, one of the persons in custody, from which you will observe that he asserts that the enterprize was engaged in