

not in TEEMANE

EARL AMHERST.

RETURN to an ADDRESS of the Honourable The House of Commons,  
dated 12 March 1838;—for,

COPY of a DESPATCH, and its Enclosures, addressed to Earl *Amherst* by  
the Earl of *Aberdeen*, on the 2d April 1835.

Colonial-office, Downing-street, }  
15 March 1838. }

G. GREY.

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COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of *Aberdeen* to Earl *Amherst*.

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

Downing-street, 2 April 1835.

THE King has been pleased to select your Lordship for a very important service, in the performance of which great judgment and discretion may be requisite. The persuasion that these qualities are possessed by your Lordship in an eminent degree, has induced me to submit your name for His Majesty's gracious approbation.

Earl of Aberdeen  
to Earl Amherst.  
2 April 1835.

It is now my duty to explain to your Lordship the objects of your mission, and to furnish you with such instructions as appear to be the best calculated to lead to their attainment.

I think it unnecessary in this place to enter into any historical review of the rise and progress of the unfortunate differences which for some years have existed between the Province of Lower Canada and the King's Government. The papers already in your hands will afford all the information upon this subject which you can require. It will probably be admitted that throughout the various stages of growing discontent, the Government of the mother country has been constantly animated by a sincere desire to promote the welfare and happiness of the Province; and that the increased degree of acrimonious feeling which now prevails in Canada cannot be attributed to any absence of good-will, or to any neglect on the part of Great Britain.

Notwithstanding the desire entertained by the Legislature of this country, and the successful efforts of my predecessors in the office which I now hold, to improve the general condition, and to carry into effect many substantial reforms in the administration of Lower Canada, I readily acknowledge that there are complaints still unredressed, which may be put forward by the Province, and that these are neither few nor inconsiderable. To meet and to remove all such; to apply a prompt and efficacious remedy to every such grievance; and to effect a permanent adjustment of differences which may prove satisfactory to all reasonable men, is the main object of your mission.

Your Lordship is fully aware of the spirit in which this undertaking has been conceived, and I will not now pause to develop further those principles, with which you are already familiar. The general views and feelings of His Majesty's Government upon this subject will be sufficiently apparent by a reference to the despatch which I have recently addressed to Lord Aylmer, and a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

Enclosure, No. 5.

I will, therefore, proceed at once to deal with the various topics which have been brought under the consideration of His Majesty's Government; I trust, in such a spirit of fairness and conciliation as may insure the successful termination of our endeavours; and if we should ultimately fail, it will at least be a consolation to believe that we shall have deserved the approbation and support of every man of candour and impartiality.

Lord Aberdeen's  
Despatch to Lord  
Aylmer, 14 Feb.  
1835.

In entering upon a subject so comprehensive as the present, I have thought it right to divest your Lordship's instructions as far as possible of the various details, historical and legal, with which the question is necessarily encumbered. Confining myself in this place to those more prominent topics to which your Lordship's attention must be chiefly given, I have embodied in a series of Minutes, which accompany this despatch, all those collateral statements and discussions to which, in the discharge of your mission, you will probably have occasion to refer. This arrangement leaves me free to advance immediately to the consideration of those

Enclosure, No. 1.  
Enclosure, No. 2.  
Enclosure, No. 3.  
Enclosure, No. 4.