

COPIES or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor General of *Canada* respecting Alterations in the Organization of the INDIAN DEPARTMENT in *Canada*.

Despatches from the Governor General.

— No. 1. —

(No. 112.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor General Sir *Edmund Head*, Bart., to the Right Honourable *H. Labouchere*, M. P.

Government House, Toronto, 22 July, 1856.

(Received, 12 August 1856.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 130, 22 August 1856, page 39.)

WITH reference to your Despatch of the 21st February, No. 42,* respecting the reports of Mr. Oliphant and Lord Bury on the state of the Indians in this Province, I have the honour to inform you that I have appointed Messrs. Worthington and Talfourd to be Commissioners, in conjunction with the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, for the objects specified in the following Minute of Council:—

“Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council, dated 11th July 1856, approved by his Excellency the Governor General in Council on the 12th of the same month.

“On a memorandum dated 11th inst., from the Honourable the Attorney General for Upper Canada, suggesting the expediency of the issue of a commission under the statute 9 Vict. c. 38, for the purpose of inquiring and reporting upon the following points:—

“1st. As to the best means of securing the future progress and civilization of the Indian tribes in Canada.

“2d. As to the best mode of managing the Indian property, so as to secure its full benefit to the Indians without impeding the settlement of the country.

“The Committee recommend that a Commission issue for the purpose above set forth, and that the expense attending the same be defrayed out of the sinking fund in the Indian department.”

The “sinking fund” of which mention is made in this Minute relates to a per-centage which has since the 1st April last been, by my direction, deducted from the proceeds of the sales of Indian lands. The greater part of this it is intended to invest, and allow to accumulate for the purpose of ultimately forming a fund to meet the expense of management of the Indian property, and the incidental expenses connected therewith.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edmund Head*.

No. 1.
Governor General
Sir E. Head, Bart.,
to the Right Hon.
H. Labouchere,
M. P.
22 July 1856.

* *Vide* House of
Commons' Paper,
No. 247 of 1856,
p. 39.