

in this Province, but the Committee feel certain that if there be one view with regard to the Colonies which is more clearly and distinctly held than another by Her Majesty's Government and the people of *England*, if there be one wish on their part with respect to which there can be neither hesitation nor doubt, it is that the people of this Province, and of others, enjoying, through the wise liberality of *England*, Parliamentary Institutions and free self-government, should act in reference to their own affairs as seems to themselves most consistent with their duty to their Sovereign and most conducive to their own interests.

To confer on this Province a right of self-government would have been mockery if, in consequence of its claims to deference as a protector, the wish of the Mother Country was in all cases to be followed whenever expressed, whatever the opinion of those to whom the power of judging has been solemnly intrusted by the Sovereign and Legislature of *Great Britain*, and who, being on the spot, and fully conversant with the subject, considered themselves not unable to judge with respect to their own affairs when a wish is expressed by Her Majesty's Government it will be received with the deference which is due to suggestions emanating from so high a source, and will be considered with an anxious desire to meet the views of Her Majesty's advisers; but if such views should unfortunately, not coincide with the views of those on whom alone the responsibility of action in the Province falls, the Committee feel assured that Her Majesty's Government will expect and desire that the Government of this Province should act according to their own convictions of right, and in conformity with the sentiments of the people they represent.

R. D. WILMOT,
J. W. ANGLIN,
GEORGE L. HATHEWAY,
BLISS BOTSFORD,
W. H. ODELL,
R. HUTCHISON,
A. H. GILLMOR, Jr.

Fredericton, July 12th, 1865.

Mr. Cardwell to Lieutenant Governor, The Hon. A. H. Gordon.

[Copy—No. 91.]

DOWNING STREET, 4th August, 1865.

SIR,—I have received your Despatch, No. 52, of the 15th July, in answer to mine of the 24th of June.

It might perhaps have been well that that portion of the Executive Council who were in *New Brunswick* should have allowed the communication made to the Colony by Her Majesty's Government to be generally known, and considered in the Colony, before they returned so decided a reply.

The first paragraph of the Minute seems to me to require no other notice than the observation that by Despatch enclosed for the information of the Legislature of *New Brunswick*, the record of what had passed between Her Majesty's Government and the Ministers of *Canada*, on the subject of Confederation, and it was therefore impossible for any one to misunderstand the reference, or to suppose that it applied to another and different scheme.

Notwithstanding, therefore, your Despatch and its enclosure, I still confidently anticipate that the serious consideration of the Province of *New Brunswick* will be given to the earnest and friendly suggestions which, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, it has been my duty to convey to them, through you.

I have, &c.,
(Signed,) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Lieutenant Governor
The Hon. A. H. Gordon,
&c., &c., &c.