

Extract from a despatch from the Right Hon. Sir E.B. Lytton to Governor Douglas, dated 31st July, 1859;

\*\*\*\*\*"Let me not omit to observe that it should be an invariable condition in all bargains and treaties with the Natives for the cession of lands possessed by them, that sustenance should be supplied to them in some other shape, and above all, that it is the earnest desire of Her Majesty's Government that your early attention should be given to the best means of diffusing the blessings of the Christian religion and of civilization among the natives.

(e) When the Mexican Government was overthrown by the Spaniards, the title to all lands in Mexico, which had been under control of that Government, vested in Spain by right of conquest; and likewise when the Government of Peru was overthrown. But in North America there was no one or two Governments or nations, the overthrow of which could by international law be held to vest in the conquerors the title to any vast territory. There were small independent nations and confederacies, whose numerical strength in no recorded case exceeded ten thousand warriors, and whose territories in no case extended over a few hundred square miles. There were vast areas of North America unclaimed by any Nation or man. A well known Canadian authority on Indian Affairs Mr. William Clint, in a paper read by him before the Historical

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