

6-7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

to you, to carry into Execution, such as will not only relieve His Majesty's new Subjects from the uncertain, and consequently unhappy Situation, they are now in; but give them entire Satisfaction for the future, by securing to them their Property upon a stable Foundation, and rendering the Colony more flourishing and happy than it has ever been.

I have, in the mean Time, His Majesty's Commands, to express His Satisfaction in your prudent conduct relative to the Applications mentioned in your Letter N° 17. to have been made to you for a Commission of Bankruptcy, as it is impossible to conceive, that it could ever be His Majesty's Intention signified, either by the Proclamation, or by the Ordinance for the Establishment of Courts of Judicature, to extend Laws of that particular and municipal Nature to the Colony, even if the Intention had been to have overturned the Customs of Canada, and it would be full as reasonable to make a poor Rate under the 43rd of Elizabeth, or to execute any other Act of Parliament of England, in Quebec, however intended for any local or particular purpose in this Kingdom.

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His Majesty approves of every Sentiment expressed in your Letter N° 23. upon which is founded the Idea of the Ordinance, a Draught of which you transmit with that Letter¹; The Draught corresponds in almost every part with His Majesty's Opinions; But, as the whole State of the Colony will be immediately taken into Consideration, His Majesty's Pleasure is, that you should, for the present, postpone the enacting of that Ordinance; not doubting but you will, in the mean Time, continue to make use of every lenient and proper Argument, to convince His Majesty's new Subjects of His tender Concern for their Welfare and Security; and, by representing to them the natural Difficulties that must occur, in Regulations of so important a Nature, to be directed from so great a Distance, for the permanent Settlement of a Province, under Circumstances so uncommon and peculiar; prevail upon them to suffer patiently those Delays which are unavoidable.

I desire you will do me the Honor to accept my sincerest Congratulations upon your Appointment to the Government of Quebec.² I most truly rejoice at It, both on Account of His Majesty's Service, and the Prosperity and Happiness of His Mat'y's Subjects in that important Colony.

I am &c

HILLSBOROUGH

Lieutenant Governor of Quebec

Endorsed:—Dra^t to the Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec Whitehall
March 6th 1768.

¹ See p. 292.

² After acting as Lieutenant Governor of Quebec from April 1766 till the beginning of 1768, Carleton was appointed to the full position of "Captain General and Governor-in-chief of Quebec in America"—his appointment being dated Jan. 12th, 1768. See Calendar of Home Office Papers, 1766-69, p. 395.