

# CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

## CANADA.

No. 1.

CANADA.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir EDMUND HEAD to the  
Right Hon. H. LABOUCHERE.

Government House, Toronto, Canada West,  
June 20, 1856.

(No. 91.)

(Received July 7, 1856.)

SIR,

(Answered, No. 146, Sept. 16, 1856, page 5.)

I HAVE the honour to enclose a certified copy of an Act passed, I believe, without a division by both Houses of the Canadian Legislature, in pursuance of the views expressed in your Despatch of February 15th, No. 39,\* relating to the Church of England in this colony.

You will see, Sir, that the Bill consists of only two clauses. Indeed its brevity is such as may hereafter lead to doubts on its proper construction.

It is for Her Majesty's advisers in England to say whether a short Imperial Act is necessary to give full effect to its provisions, especially if it carries with it, or is supposed to confer on the Synods, the nomination of the bishops—a point not altogether clear.

Looking to the nature of the Act, and the manner in which it indirectly touches the rights of the Crown, I have thought it my duty to reserve it for the Queen's assent.

On the whole, however, as it has been introduced by the persons understood to be the friends of the Church of England, and has been adopted by the Legislative Council and Assembly, I recommend that it should receive the allowance of Her most Gracious Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND HEAD

The Right Hon. H. Labouchere,  
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Encl. in No. 1.

AN ACT to enable the Members of the United Church of England and Ireland  
in Canada to meet in Synod.

WHEREAS doubts exist whether the members of the United Church of England and Ireland in this Province have the power of regulating the affairs of their Church in matters relating to discipline, and necessary to order and good government, and it is just that such doubts should be removed, in order that they may be permitted to exercise the same rights of self-government that are enjoyed by other religious communities: therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:

I. The bishops, clergy, and laity, members of the United Church of England and Ireland in this province, may meet in their several dioceses, which are now or may be hereafter constituted in this province, and in such manner and by such proceedings as they shall adopt frame constitutions and make regulations for enforcing discipline in the Church, for the appointment, deposition, deprivation, or removal of any person bearing office therein, of whatever order or degree, any rights of the Crown to the contrary notwithstanding, and for the convenient and orderly management of the property, affairs, and interests of the Church in matters relating to and affecting only the said Church, and the officers and members thereof, and not in any manner interfering with the rights, privileges, or interests of other religious communities, or of any person or persons not being a member or members of the said United Church of England and Ireland: Provided always, that such constitutions and regulations shall apply only to the diocese or dioceses adopting the same.

\* Parliamentary Paper, House of Commons, No. 141 of 1856, page 7.