

[Copy.]
No. 54.

DOWNING STREET,
8th September, 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge your Despatch No. 104, of the 16th ultimo, enclosing certified copies of 48 Commissions appointing the gentlemen therein named to the offices specified in the annexed list.

I have laid these Commissions before Her Majesty, and I have received the Queen's Commands to signify to you Her Majesty's approval of these appointments.

I have, &c.

E. B. LYTTON.

Governor

SIR E. HEAD.

[Copy.]
No. 55.

DOWNING STREET,
10th September, 1858.

No. 97, 10th July,
102, 9th ult.,
108, 16th "

SIR,

I have to acknowledge your Despatches of the numbers and dates in the margin with their enclosures, giving a detailed account of the political events which recently occurred during the Session of the Canadian Parliament ending with the appointment of a new administration composed of Messrs. Galt, Sherwood and other Gentlemen.

You are well aware that Her Majesty's advisers have no wish to interfere in any way in the domestic affairs of the great Province under your Government, and therefore while they have read with an interest proportioned to the gravity of the subject the documents thus communicated to them they abstain from expressing any opinion on their general contents.

With regard however to your own conduct in this crisis as an Officer of the Crown, they are of opinion that you acted in accordance with those principles of constitutional Government which obtain in this country as well as in Canada; nor have they any reason to doubt the soundness of your judgment in applying those principles, although this is not a point on which they are qualified to decide.

They are bound, however, not to pass over one subject without remark.

The question of the Federation of the Colonies is one in which Canada has no doubt a very deep interest, and in which any representations, proceeding from the legislature of that Province, will be received with the greatest attention. But it is necessarily one of Imperial character, involving the future Government of the other North American Colonies, equally bound with Canada by the common tie which unites all the members of that Empire. It is therefore one which it properly belongs to the executive authority of the Empire, and not that of any separate Province, to initiate. I do not however question the importance of the reasons which led you