

A measure for the payment of members of Assembly was early brought forward in the House of representatives but was strongly objected to by the Secretary of State on the ground that payment for their services lowered the dignity and, therefore, lessened the influence of the members. Bills to provide for the payment were rejected by the Council, leading to disputes between the two Houses. The Assembly, in order to force the Council to pass the appropriation for the payment inserted it in the supply bill, but the Council, on the ground of the unconstitutionality of such a course rejected the bill absolutely, leaving the province without the means of carrying on the government. In reference to this dispute the Secretary of State, in a dispatch dated 9th June, 1796, laid down the constitutional mode of dealing with money bills. As the abstract in the calendar at that date gives the important part of the dispatch, reference may be made to it on that subject. It was not till the session of 1798 that the Assembly separated the item for the pay of members from the general supply bill and the Council on this change being made, in order apparently to put an end to the dispute, agreed to concur in the measure.

In respect to education, there are in the documents relating to Nova Scotia, details of proposals for the establishment of a college in that province and for the constitution of foundations in the two great English universities for completing the education of promising students from British North America. Governor Carleton was also communicated with on the subject, so far as it related to New Brunswick, and on the 20th August, 1790, he reported that steps had been taken to form an institution for higher education in that province and that a charter for a college had been in preparation but abandoned in consequence of a dispatch from the Secretary of State. Of the lands set apart for the endowment of a college, he reported that a portion was let at a rent of £100, the rest of the lands being a wilderness and unproductive, that a grammar school had been in operation and that the trustees hoped to enlarge the plan of instruction. Apparently in answer to this, a dispatch dated 8th November, 1792, informed Carleton that the grammar school would meet with due consideration and that the benefits of the foundations in the universities were to extend to all the North American provinces. He was further desired to send a copy of the proposed charter for the public seminary and details of the work done at the grammar school; these were sent on the 9th of March, 1793.

The disputes respecting the boundaries between New Brunswick and the United States were begun very shortly after the close of the war, Massachusetts having asserted, without a conference with the other side, that the most easterly of the three rivers falling into Passamaquoddy Bay was the western boundary of New Brunswick (that is of Nova Scotia before the division), an assertion with which Carleton did not agree, but which he did not think it desirable to discuss with the authorities of Massachusetts at that time. The proceedings of the commissioners subsequently appointed to determine the boundary, of which Chipman was the British agent, are too voluminous to admit of any satisfactory summary being made. All the papers will be copied, including the negotiations following on the treaty of Ghent, the documents coming down to 1850, special permission having been obtained to have copies made of those subsequent to 1842. It will be some time, however, before they are completed for transmission here.

In anticipation of an attack on British North America in consequence of the declaration of war by France, Carleton, on the 8th of February, 1793, was instructed to raise a corps of 600 men for the defence of the province, the deficiency in the supply of