

in the government of the whole as renders it wise to incorporate the two Canadas, the artificial work which would, in fact, supersede the lower part of the St. Lawrence, as the outlet of a great part of the Canadian trade, and would make Halifax, in a great measure, an outport to Quebec, would surely in the same way render it advisable that the incorporation should be extended to Provinces through which such a road would pass.

Union
desirable
to Prince
Edward's
Island and
New-
foundland.

With respect to the two smaller Colonies of Prince Edward's Island and Newfoundland, I am of opinion, that not only would most of the reasons which I have given for an union of the others, apply to them, but that their smallness makes it absolutely necessary, as the only means of securing any proper attention to their interests, and investing them with that consideration, the deficiency of which, they have so much reason to lament in all the disputes which yearly occur between them and the citizens of the United States, with regard to the encroachments made by the latter on their coasts and fisheries.¹

Opinion
of H.R.H.
the late
Duke of
Kent.

The views on which I found my support of a comprehensive union have long been entertained by many persons in these Colonies, whose opinion is entitled to the highest consideration. I cannot, however, refrain from mentioning the sanction of such views by one whose authority Your Majesty will, I may venture to say, receive with the utmost respect. Mr. Sewell, the late Chief Justice of Quebec,² laid before me an autograph letter addressed to himself by Your Majesty's illustrious and lamented father,³ in which his Royal Highness was pleased to express his approbation of a similar plan then proposed by that gentleman. No one better understood the interests and character of these Colonies than his Royal

¹ These disputes, arising out of the interpretation of the terms of the Fisheries Convention of 1818, were the subject of arbitration before the Hague Tribunal in 1910.

² As to Chief Justice Sewell, see above, p. 235, note.

³ The Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, served in Canada for several years between 1791 and 1800. He commanded the forces in Canada for rather over a year in 1799-1800. He died in 1820.