

No. 2.

Marquis of
Normanby to
Sir John Colborne,
5 July 1839.

was last night read a second time in the House of Commons, and will go into Committee on Thursday next.

The Bill for reuniting the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, although introduced into the House, will not be pressed during the present Session to a second reading. Her Majesty's Government have decided on adopting this course, in deference to what appears to be the general sentiment of the people of Upper Canada, and in compliance with Sir George Arthur's recommendation that no unnecessary discussion should at the present moment be taken on the question of union; this Bill, therefore, will stand over until the next Session of Parliament, and, in the meantime, Her Majesty's Government will have an opportunity of ascertaining the views of the people of Canada on the proposed measure. I shall communicate further with you on this subject, when the Bill for amending the 1 Vict. cap. 9, shall have been advanced through its remaining stages.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Normanby.*

— No. 3. —

No. 3.

Sir John Colborne
to the Marquis of
Normanby,
28 July 1839.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-General Sir *John Colborne*, G.C.B.
to the Marquis of *Normanby*.

Government House, Montreal, 28 July 1839.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant, No. 55, with the copies of the two Bills introduced into Parliament. It is my intention to appoint 10 additional members to the Special Council; and there is every reason to believe that if the proposed increased number can be selected from the most influential persons in each district, the Special Council will be enabled to pass many important measures, which will afford general satisfaction, and be conducive to the welfare and future tranquillity of Lower Canada, with reference to the prospect of its union with the Upper Province. It is evidently desired by the British portion of the population that the union of the provinces should not be delayed. The French Canadians, who were strongly opposed to this change last year, are certainly by no means so averse to it as they were; their opinion, probably, has been much influenced by the late insurrectionary movements. The Canadian party connected with the revolutionists, express themselves decidedly favourable to the scheme of the union. In the Upper Province public opinion is much divided upon the subject; but I am persuaded most of the districts are looking forward to the union as a measure which will relieve them from their embarrassments, and prevent any interruption to their commercial undertakings.

— No. 4. —

(No. 107.)

No. 4.

Sir John Colborne
to the Marquis of
Normanby,
19 August 1839.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-General Sir *John Colborne*, G.C.B. to
the Marquis of *Normanby*.

My Lord,

Government House, Montreal, 19 August 1839.

In my despatch of the 28th ultimo, I communicated to your Lordship, as far as I could collect them, in my constant intercourse with individuals, the opinions in respect to the union of the provinces, which have been elicited by the public discussions on that subject.

I still entertain no doubt that in the Upper Province, the districts to the eastward of the river Trent and bay of Quinté are strongly in favour of measures being adopted for reuniting Upper and Lower Canada, and that the majority of the settlers to the westward of the midland district concur with them, although there are many of them altogether opposed to the project.

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