

I do not at present deem it incumbent upon me to prolong the correspondence, as another course will be shortly taken. Your communication of 26th February last, referred this matter a sixth time across the Atlantic; it was so sent.

A Quebec "Gazette," of 25th March, just to hand, gives me account of its introduction to the Legislative Assembly on 23d, by a motion "for papers connected with disputes connected with the Indian claims on the Grand River," when the Honourable F. Hincks, reiterating his assertion of 2d August 1851, said, "As to the Indian question, it was entirely under the control of the Imperial Government." And "Mr. Merritt also contended that the Indian affairs were out of the control of the Provincial Parliament." Thus confirming his own and Mr. Baldwin's views, as given to deputation in 1849.

Now, sir, this is the seventh reference of the case across the Atlantic, from the Colonial to the Imperial Authorities, and *vice versa*; and as I have been kept from 1843 in such an unenviable state of suspense—as a family of twelve are not kept, even in Canada, on air—as most of the poor fellows I represent, some of them occupying the lands from 1826 to 1832, have been almost ruined whilst this see-saw, Imperial, colonial, irresponsible, Indian Department policy has been carried on; and as yours of 26th instant informs me of an eighth reference back, viz. "case is one with which Her Majesty's Government must decline to deal." I should feel obliged if you, sir, or any other member of Her Majesty's Government could inform me who is to deal with the case? where the shuttlecock is likely to fix itself, or be fixed, terrestrially, territorially, or otherwise, on this side the year of Grace 1863?

I am, &c.

(signed) *Frederick John Cheshire.*

— No. 17. —

(No 26.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor the Earl of *Elgin*.

No. 17.
The Duke of Newcastle to Earl of Elgin.
25 April 1853.

My Lord,

Downing-street, 25 April 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 15, of the 25th February last, transmitting to you a letter which had been addressed to Mr. Cheshire respecting the complaints of certain settlers on the Grand River, I enclose, for your information, the copies of four further letters, which it has been necessary to address to Mr. Cheshire. It is not requisite to forward the applications by which these letters were elicited, as the tenor of them will be sufficiently apparent from the replies.

~~21 March 1853.~~
~~5 April 1853.~~
~~15 April 1853.~~
~~26 April 1853.~~

I have, &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*