

IV.—Letters to the Hudson's Bay Company.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a LETTER from H. MERIVALE Esq., to H. H. BERENS Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, August 4, 1858.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton to acknowledge your letter of the 27th ultimo,* requesting that in the event of my consulting the Law Advisers as to steps to be taken to try the validity of the claims of the Hudson's Bay Company in North America, copy of the letter to those gentlemen might be sent to you, for the purpose of communication to the Company.

* Page 9.

I am directed by Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton to say, that he appreciates the reasons which you give for this proposal, and the importance of concert between Her Majesty's Government and the Company, so far as this is attainable; and he has no wish to keep secret from you the nature of the questions which he proposes to put to the Law Advisers. The letter, therefore, when prepared, shall be shown you, if you wish it, before it is sent. But Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton does not think it would be expedient, or consistent with the usual proceedings of Her Majesty's Government in consulting their own Legal Advisers, that copy of the draft letter should be communicated to you for the purpose of laying it before the Company.

H. H. Berens, Esq.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. MERIVALE.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a LETTER from the Earl of CARNARVON to H. H. BERENS Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, August 5, 1858.

EVENTS with which you are familiar, which have occurred in the territory west of the Rocky Mountains, having imposed upon the Imperial Parliament the duty of authorizing the establishment of a Government in that quarter of the Queen's Dominions, I am directed by Secretary Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton to request that you will announce to the Directors of the Hudson's Bay Company the intention of Her Majesty's Government to revoke the right of exclusive trade with the Indians, which was given to the Company in the Royal Licence of the 30th May 1838, over so much of the territory in question as is comprised within the Colony of British Columbia.

I am to add, that the revocation will be effected by an instrument which Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton will transmit to the Colony, but not to have operation until received and published there.

H. H. Berens, Esq.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CARNARVON.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a LETTER from H. MERIVALE Esq., to H. H. BERENS Esq.

SIR,

Downing Street, September 3, 1858.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. B. Lytton to transmit, for the information of the Hudson's Bay Company, and for any observations which they may have to offer, the copy of a joint address to the Queen from the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada on the subject of the Company's territory in that Province.

Enclosure.

H. H. Berens, Esq.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. MERIVALE.