

very definite ground, I yet cannot altogether despair that the Assembly, or that some considerable portion of that House, may be disposed to abandon the course which they have so long pursued. If your Lordship should perceive any satisfactory reasons for such an anticipation, it might be wise to await for a short time the fulfilment of that prospect, even at the expense of leaving the demands of the public creditors for some short time longer unsettled.

Lord Glenelg to
Earl of Gosford,
14 July 1837.

Again, it is possible that, in the excitement which unhappily prevails, the Assembly may resort to measures of hostility which it will be indispensable to encounter with firmness, promptitude and decision. In any such emergency, it would be your Lordship's duty at once to proceed to liquidate the debts due to all his late Majesty's civil servants, by bills to be drawn upon the Lords of the Treasury for that purpose.

The time has passed away in which it was right to pause and to deliberate, and if no reasonable hope should present itself of an amicable close of this protracted discussion, it could not be too soon terminated by acting at once upon the Parliamentary vote. I have therefore to convey to your Lordship the authority of Her Majesty's Government, either to draw on the Lords of the Treasury immediately for the sum voted by Parliament, or to defer that measure, if for some brief interval. But it is only a very short postponement which I can, in any case or under any circumstances, sanction. The course on which Her Majesty's Government have most reluctantly entered has been taken under the influence of no light or ordinary motives. To retreat from it, even were retreat now practicable, would be inconsistent with their most deliberate sense of public duty. Deprecating, therefore, every appearance of vacillation where no doubt really exists, it is not without regret that I now convey to your Lordship instructions which contemplate even the possibility of further delay. You will, however, I am convinced, receive and act upon them in the spirit in which they are written, neither blighting any real promise of conciliation by undue haste, nor encouraging the disaffected by any appearance of alarm and hesitation. Either by a grant from the local legislature, or by drafts on the Lords of the Treasury, the payment of the public servants of the Crown in Lower Canada must be effected within a short time after my present Despatch shall have reached your Lordship's hands.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Glenelg.*

—No. 15.—

(No. 242.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord *Glenelg* to the Earl of *Gosford*, dated
Downing-street, 14 July 1837.

My Lord,

In my Despatch of this date, No. 241, I have authorized your Lordship to draw upon the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the amount of the Parliamentary grant for Her Majesty's service in Lower Canada, and I have also adverted to the possibility of avoiding this measure by a conciliatory adjustment with the House of Assembly. However faint that prospect may be, it is yet necessary that your Lordship should be prepared to encounter a difficulty which might present itself in carrying any arrangement of that nature into effect.

No. 15.

Lord Glenelg to
Earl of Gosford,
14 July 1837.

In your Lordship's Despatch of the 23d January, you have calculated at the sum of 142,160*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* the debt which on the 1st of April 1837 would be due to the civil servants of the Crown in Lower Canada. That calculation has been assumed as the basis of the Parliamentary vote. If your Lordship should be compelled to draw on the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the sum so granted by Parliament, your drafts will, of course, precisely correspond in amount with the vote, and will be applied in liquidation of all the demands which form the component parts of the general estimate.

Amongst these items may be particularly noticed the sum drawn from the military chest in 1834, which must of course be repaid to the commissariat. The demands of Lord Aylmer, of Colonel Craig, of Mr. Buchanan, the agent for emigration, and of Mr. Amyott, will be liquidated in this country by the Lords of the Treasury, and the portions of the Parliamentary grant due to those persons you will have to repay into the military chest. I collect from your

Lordship's