

Office of Losses, 1837-8,  
Wardrobe of the Legislative Assembly,  
Montreal, 11 February 1846.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, by order of the Commissioners to inquire into the losses sustained by Her Majesty's subjects during the troubles of 1837-8, to be submitted to his Excellency the Administrator of the Province, the following questions, the answer to which will serve as their guidance in the execution of the duties imposed upon them.

The instructions of the 12th December last, transmitted to the Commissioners, differing essentially from the tenor of the Commission by which they have been appointed, as to the persons who have a right to indemnification?

What are the powers conferred on the Commission to establish the classifications required by the instructions?

What are the powers conferred on the Commissioners to call before them the necessary witnesses, and to procure the necessary evidence, in order to obtain an exact valuation of the losses?

Are the Commissioners to travel to the different parts of the district, in order to accomplish the object of the Commission?

Is the remuneration of the Secretary left to the discretion of the Commissioners, or reserved for the decision of his Excellency?

I have, &c.

(signed) J. G. Barthe,  
Secretary Commission of Inquiry, &c.

To the Hon. D. Daly, &c. &c. &c.

Secretary's Office,  
Montreal, 27 February 1846.

Gentlemen,

THE Administrator of the Government having had under consideration in Council the queries addressed in your behalf by your Secretary, in his letter of the 11th instant, I have received his Excellency's commands to communicate to you the following replies for your instruction and guidance:—

1st. In making out the classification called for by your instructions of the 12th December last, it is not his Excellency's intention that you should be guided by any other description of evidence than that furnished by the sentences of the courts of law.

2d. His Excellency considers that you have no power as Commissioners to call either for persons or papers; and that you must, therefore, be satisfied with such general evidence as the claimants may produce, or as may enable you to form a general estimate of the losses they have suffered.

3d. The object of the Executive Government in appointing your Commission, being merely to obtain a general estimate of the rebellion losses, the particulars of which must form the subject of more minute inquiry hereafter, under legislative authority, his Excellency cannot regard it as necessary that you should travel to the country parts of the district to obtain such particulars.

4th. His Excellency has been pleased to fix the rate of your Secretary's remuneration at 1*l.* currency per diem.

I have, &c.

(signed) D. Daly,  
Secretary.

Commissioners of Inquiry relative to Losses,  
in 1837-8.

(Immediate.)

Gentlemen,

Secretary's Office, Montreal, 2 April 1846.

I HAVE the honour, by command of the Administrator of the Government, to request from you, with the least possible delay, your Report upon the subject of your inquiry; his Excellency being desirous to be enabled, by its receipt, to come to an early decision as to the course to be taken by the Executive during the present Session of Parliament, in regard to the same.

I have, &c.

(signed) D. Daly,  
Secretary.

Commissioners of Indemnity Inquiry.