

—No. 3.—

(Separate.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord John Russell to the Right honourable
C. Poulett Thomson.

No. 3.

Lord John Russell
to the Right hon.
C. P. Thomson,
19 June 1840.

Sir,

Downing-street, 19 June 1840.

I HAVE received your despatch (No. 112) of the 26th of May, enclosing a return from the agent for emigrants at Quebec, and adverting to various points of importance which relate to emigration.

It is very satisfactory to observe the large increase over last year for the same period of time of 3,117 emigrants arriving in the province, and to learn from Mr. Buchanan's report, that of those comprised in the return comparatively few intended passing into the States.

It is universally admitted that the difficulty in finding employment for emigrants on their arrival in British North America, and the facility with which it is procured in the United States, are powerful reasons for the too frequent removal of British subjects into the adjoining country; hence it is gratifying to me to hear that there has been hitherto no difficulty in finding work for such of the emigrants as were disposed to remain in the Lower Province. Any measures which you can originate for the purpose of collecting and communicating information as to the best places for employment in either province will be highly advantageous to the country and to the settlers themselves; I am inclined to think that a system of registry offices would be the most convenient, and probably the least expensive mode of effecting this object, but your local knowledge will enable you to decide what course is the best for the attainment of the desired end. In the present exigency of the Canadas, and feeling strongly the importance of facilitating the settlement in the British Provinces of emigrants from the United Kingdom, I have to convey to you my approval of your intention to concede small portions of land to settlers, provided it can be accompanied by employment on some public work in the district on which they shall be located; but whilst I approve of your measures in this respect, I have to state that the whole subject of granting lands must be brought before the United Legislature of Canada, with a view to a permanent plan for the encouragement of immigration.

I have, &c.

(signed) J. Russell.

—No. 4.—

(No. 34.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-governor Sir George Arthur, K.C.H., to
Lord John Russell.

No. 4.

Sir G. Arthur to
Lord John Russell,
27 May 1840.

My Lord,

Government House, Toronto, 27 May 1840.

SINCE my despatch (No. 32) of the 6th instant, nothing has occurred to affect the perfect tranquillity on the frontier, and absence of excitement in the country generally, which I had then the honour to report to your Lordship, nor do I think there is any probability of much excitement in the public mind until the elections shall take place; all parties appear to be willing to await patiently the determination of the Imperial Legislature upon the important measures now before it.

Notwithstanding my intimation to your Lordship that I should refrain from renewing the reports upon the state of the province which I had been in the habit of periodically transmitting, yet as Her Majesty's Government must be anxious to learn the state of the public mind upon the important political measures now in contemplation, I feel myself bound to depart, in some degree, from the course I had laid down for myself.

The Bill for effecting the union of the two provinces has been received here, and, so far as the limited space of time since its receipt will allow of forming any opinion, I am inclined to think that it is viewed in a favourable light; of course various objections have been taken, chiefly applicable to the curtailment of the power of the Assembly as regards the money votes. These objections are of a desultory