

(Copy.)

Government House, Toronto, 1st May, 1851.

SIR—

24th April.

Earl Grey to the
Earl of Elgin, No.
569, 4th March,
1851.

(See Assembly Jour.
1851, Appendix p.
169.)

I have the honor to enclose herewith the copy of a Minute of the Executive Council of this Province which has reference to a Despatch from Earl Grey to me, the number and date of which is given in the margin, on the subject of the proposed Railway between Halifax and Quebec, the copy of which has, I understand, been furnished by his Lordship to your Excellency. Earl Grey has suggested that deputations from the Executive Councils of the two Lower Provinces should proceed to the Seat of Government in Canada, in order to confer with me and my Council on the proposition which he has submitted; and if you should see fit, after communicating with Sir E. Head, to act on this suggestion, I shall be glad to hear from you at what time I may expect the deputation from your Council to reach Toronto.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient

Humble Servant,

[Signed]

ELGIN & KINCARDINE.

Lieutenant-Governor Sir JOHN HARVEY, &c. &c. &c.

Extract from a Report of a Committee of the Honorable the Executive Council on Matters of State, dated 24th April, 1851, approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the same day.

On the Despatch of Earl Grey to your Excellency dated 14th March ultimo, No. 69, stating that Her Majesty's Government are prepared, on certain conditions, to recommend to Parliament that Imperial credit should be employed to enable Provinces of Canada, New-Brunswick and Nova-Scotia, to raise upon advantageous terms the funds necessary for the construction of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, the Committee of Council are respectfully of opinion that the suggestion of Earl Grey that a deputation from the Executive Council of the two Lower Provinces should proceed to the Seat of Government in Canada, in order to confer with your Lordship, and with your Council, for the purposes of coming to some agreement on this subject, which, after being approved by the Legislature of the several Provinces, might be submitted, for the sanction of Parliament, should be adopted. The great work, in the construction of which the Imperial Government is disposed to lend its powerful aid, has already been sanctioned to a certain extent by the Canadian Parliament. Any new proposition from the Imperial Government is entitled to the fullest and most respectful consideration; and the Committee of Council entertain no doubt that the respective Governments of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick will be prepared on the invitation of your Excellency to send deputations to consult with your Excellency, in this City, without unnecessary delay.

(Certified.)

[Signed]

J. JOSEPH, C. E. C.

Copy