

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a LETTER from THOMAS FRASER Esq. to HERMAN MERIVALE Esq.

SIR,

Hudson's Bay House, London, September, 15, 1858.

In the absence of the Deputy-Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your letter to him of the 9th instant,* enclosing a copy of the instrument under the Royal Sign Manual revoking the Royal Grant to the Hudson's Bay Company of the 30th May 1838, for exclusive trading with the Indians, in as far as the same embraces the territories comprised within the colony of British Columbia.

* Page 20.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS FRASER,
Secretary.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a LETTER from H. H. BERENS Esq. to the Right Honourable Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON Bart.

SIR,

Hudson's Bay House, October 12, 1858.

WITH reference to a communication addressed to me under date the 3d ultimo,† the receipt of which I had the honour to acknowledge on the 7th of that month, I beg now to state that the Company can only re-assert their right to the privileges granted to them by their Charter of Incorporation, the extent and nature of which they have already fully explained in the papers which will be found amongst those printed by order of Parliament. I refer particularly to a letter addressed by Sir J. Henry Pelly, to Earl Grey, dated 13th September 1849,‡ enclosing a paper entitled "Statement of the Rights as to the territory, trade, taxation, and government claimed and exercised by the Hudson's Bay Company on the Continent of North America," and marked No. 2 among the papers on the affairs of the Hudson's Bay Company, printed by order of the House of Commons on the 12th July, 1850.

† Page 19.

‡ Vide House of Commons Paper No. 542, Session 1850, p. 3.

This Company cannot therefore be a consenting party to any proceeding which is to call in question rights so long established and recognized; but they will of course be prepared to protect themselves against any attempt that may be made on the part of the Canadian Authorities to deprive them, without compensation, of any portion of the territory they have so long been in possession of.

The Right Hon. Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. H. BERENS,
Deputy Governor.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a LETTER from H. H. BERENS Esq. to the Right Honourable Sir EDWARD BULWER LYTTON Bart.

SIR,

Hudson's Bay House, November 10, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Carnarvon's letter of the 3d instant,§ to which I now beg to reply, as I am anxious that the views and intentions of this Company should not be misunderstood.

§ Page 21.

In the year 1850 || a correspondence passed between the Colonial Office and this Company, in reference to the objections raised by certain parties in regard to the validity of the rights claimed by this Company under their Charter, and under date the 24th January 1850 Mr. B. Hawes, by desire of Lord Grey, transmitted to Sir J. H. Pelly, the then Governor of this Company, a copy of a letter proposed to be addressed by his Lordship, to Mr. Isbister, the person bringing forward the complaints referred to. In answer to that communication, the Secretary of this Company, under date the 29th January 1850,

|| Vide House of Commons Papers No. 542, Session 1850, p. 8.