

Of these, the Magistrates may for some purpose be considered a class apart, of whom I shall speak presently. The other five officers will probably all be displaced, except, perhaps, Mr. Hamby, the Collector of Customs, whose services I think your Government will very likely be glad to retain, and who, I believe, will not be unwilling to serve under them at some slight increase to his present salary, which is now six hundred and fifty (£650), and might fairly be increased to eight hundred pounds (£800). That amount is only equivalent in value here to about four hundred pounds (£400) in Canada.

4. Mr. Trutch would, I believe, not be unwilling to take an appointment from the Canadian Government equal in value to the one he now holds. I regard him as being an able public servant, who would be a valuable acquisition to any administration, and I should think that it might not be impossible to find an appointment which may be acceptable to him. Probably Mr. Ker, the Auditor General, may, in like manner, be suited with employment under the Government of the Dominion which will leave him in no worse position than the one he now occupies. There will then remain the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney General, for whom it will be far more difficult to provide, and for whom pensions would be necessary, unless the Secretary of State should find it possible to afford satisfactory employment for them in some other colony.

5. The Stipendiary Magistrates form another class of officers who, notwithstanding their value, would almost certainly be disturbed in their appointments on the introduction of responsible government. These Magistrates are not only Justices of the Peace, but County Court Judges, Indian Agents, Assistant Commissioners of Lands and Works, Collectors of Revenue in the different departments of the public service at the several stations hundreds of miles apart and in very extensive districts. I think that these appointments are singularly well filled, and I regard the successful administration of this Government, and the remarkable maintenance of law and order, as compared with the neighbouring territories, as mainly due to the services of these officers.

6. As the supreme government of the colony, as well as the administration of all affairs relating to the Indian tribes, will rest with the Dominion, I regard it as of the greatest importance to the tranquility of the Province and the success of the Union, that these officers should be officers of the Dominion, and not be transferred to the control or caprice of local party government, who, through mistaken motives of economy, by the substitution of unpaid irresponsible magistrates, or some such policy, might entail upon the Government at Ottawa an amount of trouble and expense not easily to be computed.

7. I propose, therefore, that these officers should be officers of the Dominion, as they naturally would be in their character of County Court Judges and Indian Agents. The question may arise whether it is desirable they should any longer discharge other duties which will be within the jurisdiction of the Local Government. But if it should not be thought objectionable to unite service to the Local Government to responsibility to the Federal authority, they might continue to render aid under the direction of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Chief in the administration of local affairs, as they do now in the business of the Lands and Works, the Collection of the Revenue, and other miscellaneous duties. But I would have them paid by Canada, and not amenable to the control of the Local Administration, except through the Lieutenant Governor, representing the central authority.

8. This being conceded, I should seek for an assurance to these officers from the Government of the Dominion, that their appointments will be considered permanent; and that in the event of any organic change in official arrangements, they will either be provided with appointments of equal value, or allowed to retire on pensions of two-thirds of their present emoluments, which may be estimated in each case as five hundred pounds (£500) per annum, though in some instances an extra allowance has been made on account of the greater expense of living in distant districts.

9. As regards the subordinate officers in Public Departments, I assume that they will continue to hold their present posts, whether the officers to which they belong should be transferred to the Dominion, or remain under the administration of the Local Government.