

COPY of all CORRESPONDENCE which has taken place between the Imperial Government and the Colonial Government of *Canada* on the Subject of the CLAIMS of Mr. *Ryland*.

Despatch from the Officer Administering the Government of Canada.

— No. 1. —

(No. 15.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Officer Administering the Government of Canada to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

Quebec, 18 February 1861.

(Received 8 March 1861.)

(Answered, No. 154, 17 March 1861, page 6.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, at the request of Mr. G. H. Ryland, a communication addressed to your Grace by that gentleman, respecting certain unsatisfied claims which he believes himself to have on Her Majesty's Government.

I also forward a copy of his letter to me which accompanied it.

I do not know that it is necessary for me to make any remarks upon these papers, and I merely place them in your Grace's hands.

I have, &c.

(signed) *W. F. Williams*,

Lieut. General Administering the Government.

No. 1.
The Officer administering the Government of Canada to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
18 February 1861.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Encl. 1 in No. 1.

My Lord Duke,

Montreal, 28 January 1861.

On the 28th* of November last I had the honour to address a letter to your Grace * 21st? suggesting a compromise of my long standing claim.

Considering that the case was one which concerned the Imperial Government only, I addressed my communication direct to yourself, instead of through the official channel here, which would have been the course had I considered that the Government of this country had anything to do with the question at issue.

Having, however, within the last few days received a private note from Mr. Edward Ellice, dated Nice, 26 December, in which he suggests that the Government may experience some difficulty in re-opening my case, I feel bound, in order to place my protest against such an idea more clearly on record, to address your Grace in a more formal manner than I have hitherto done on the subject.

Had my case been really closed, a suggestion as to a possible difficulty in re-opening it might have been worthy of consideration in delivering me from the pursuit of an unattainable object. But the case never has been closed, and never can be, until an arrangement satisfactory to both parties has been arrived at.

It is not, I respectfully maintain, for a Government like that of England, in the face of facts, in the face of law, equity, and justice, to say we have done this or we have done that, and therefore the petitioner must be satisfied.

The question is, has right been done? You must, my Lord Duke, in your own mind, feel that it has not.

Rejecting, then, the idea that because the British Government has the power, it will exercise it to crush my petition for right; I again appeal to your Grace for justice, and in order that no part of the question may escape your consideration, I shall take the liberty of again briefly recapitulating a few leading facts connected with the case.