

LETTER from R. W. Hay, Esq., to the Honourable J. Stewart, &c. &c. &c.

Sir, Downing-street, July 27, 1829.
I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Murray to transmit to you the Copy of a Despatch from Lieutenant-General Sir Peregrine Maitland, enclosing the Memorial of the Shubenaccadie Canal Company, which has been established in the province of Nova Scotia by an Act of the Legislature of that province, for the purpose of uniting by a Canal the harbour of Halifax with the basin of Mines, praying the assistance of His Majesty's Government to enable them to complete that important work, in which considerable progress has already been made; and I am to request that you will lay the same before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, acquainting their Lordships that Sir George Murray is induced to recommend the Memorial of the Directors of the Shubenaccadie Canal Company to their Lordships most favourable consideration.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

R. W. Hay

LETTER from Sir P. Maitland to the Right Honourable Sir G. Murray, K.C.B. &c. &c. &c.

Sir, Halifax, 27th May, 1829.
IT is, I believe, known to you, that in the year 1826 a Company was incorporated in this colony, under an Act of the General Assembly, for the purpose of uniting by a Canal the harbour of Halifax with the basin of Mines, an undertaking of very great magnitude, when the means of the province are considered.
 So obvious, however, were the facilities afforded by nature, and so many the advantages the work was thought to promise, that investments to a considerable amount were readily made, and the Legislature having granted 15,000 *l.* in aid of the undertaking, the Company were encouraged to commence the work, which has made considerable progress in the last year; of the five sections into which it is divided, two are nearly finished. Having visited these, I have much pleasure in stating my opinion, that the sum expended, somewhat exceeding 25,000 *l.*, has been judiciously and economically applied.

According to the survey and estimate of the remaining portion of the improvement it is by no means of more difficult accomplishment than that which has been completed, but the further sum of 50,000 *l.* will be wanted to accomplish the work. The Company, seeing little prospect of obtaining so large a sum in this province, have addressed a memorial to me, in hope that their representation may induce His Majesty's Government to afford them some assistance.

This memorial, accompanied by a Map, Plan, and Estimate of the work, I have the honour to transmit for your consideration.

If it appeared to me that after the perusal of these documents any other light could be thrown upon the subject, I should be happy to anticipate the call for information, but I am satisfied that, added to your personal acquaintance with this country, more will not be necessary to enable a judgment every way better than mine to estimate fairly the value of the work, both in a commercial and military point of view.

I must not omit, however, in reference to the allusion of the memorialists as to the advantage which the completion of the work would afford to our naval establishment at Bermuda as well as at Halifax, to state to you, that the sentiments of the Admiral commanding on this station acquiesce with those expressed by the Company, and that that experienced officer has acquainted me that he is induced from considerations connected with the naval service to take a very lively interest in the undertaking.

I have, &c.

(signed) *P. Maitland.*