

which may be said to consider themselves entitled to selection as the Seat of Government, I have caused a circular (of which a copy is annexed to this despatch,) to be addressed by my Secretary to the Mayor of each of these cities. I have asked each Corporation to set forth the reasons in favour of their own city, and to forward the statement of such reasons to the Secretary of State before the 1st of July.

13. In doing this I have perhaps presumed too much on the probability of Her Majesty complying with the request of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly. If so I must entreat forgiveness, but I have thought it important that no time should be lost. The question, of course, must be decided after calm and deliberate consideration of the interests of the whole Province, not of those of any particular city or place.

14 It would evidently be improper to convey to the Queen's advisers in England, any opinion or advice in this matter as on the part of the Executive Council here. The whole reference is, as I have observed, of an exceptional character, and if it were to be finally decided on the advice of persons, any of whom are responsible to the Parliament of *Canada*, the great object of removing it beyond the cross-action of local politics and sectional jealousies would be altogether frustrated.

15. I annex to this despatch copies of the votes and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly relative to this matter in this and the preceding session.

16 This dispatch has been shown to the Members of my Council and concurred in by them. With this observation I again submit my recommendation that Her Majesty may be advised to comply with the prayer of the addresses now transmitted.

I have the honor, &c., &c.,  
(Signed.)

The Right Honorable  
H. LABOUCHERE, &c., &c., &c.

EDMUND HEAD.

Copy.

Circular.

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARY'S OFFICE.  
Toronto, C. W., March 28th, 1857.

SIR,—You are probably aware that the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Canada have addressed Her Most Gracious Majesty to exercise Her Prerogative in the selection of a permanent Seat of Government for the whole Province.

In the event of Her Majesty complying with the prayer of these Addresses, His Excellency is anxious that Her advisers in England should be enabled to place before Her a full and fair statement of the claim of each separate City, which may be considered a candidate for the honor of becoming the future capital of Canada.

As a matter of course, the final selection must depend on a comprehensive survey of the interests, not of any one place, but of the whole Province, as part of British North America.

The claims, however, of each City are likely to be stated by the persons most interested in supporting them better than they would be by any other party.