

that a strict legal construction
of the act must relieve us from
any charge especially after our
having by the Union act appor-
portioned assets to Ontario and
Surplus equal to their surplus
debts. I have always thought it
was a great mistake for the
Dominion Govt. to negotiate about last mail
crediting the Govt. here with
the cost of the New Custom House
& Post Office as the case is I think
covered in the clearest manner
by the express terms of the act.
Any way it is not desirable that
Nova Scotia should be too much
straitened while Ontario has a
surplus million already to invest.
In a word do all you can to
put us right & carry Mr. Howe
through with flying colours. You
should of course advise with
Howe as to the invitation to the
local &c. It is obviously ~~any way~~
better for Mr. Howe to go to Ottawa
than for Mr. Rose to come here as

1848

Halifax Nov. 2^d 1868

My dear Sir John

I hasten to ^{write} ~~write~~ ^{you} ~~write~~
your letter of Nov. 20th which
I had the pleasure of receiving by the
mail. I met Mr. Howard
at dinner at the Acker-
bishops & told him that I was
ready at any time when he thought
I could assist him to carry out
the pledge I gave him in London
to give him a loyal & hearty
support. But that I had hitherto
felt that the first thing to be
accomplished was to obtain the
aid he could get from the Anti-
Union party & that work I could
not assist in. He is very cordial
with me & I think knows that he
can rely on the fulfilment of my
promise at any sacrifice. He
may wish to accomplish his work
without my aid but I hope
he can only ultimately succeed.

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